

**661—251.201(100B) Firefighter certification and accreditation program.** There is established within the fire service training bureau of the state fire marshal division a firefighter certification program for the state of Iowa, known as the certification and accreditation program. The certification and accreditation program is accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro Board) and the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) to certify fire service personnel to accepted national standards. All certifications issued by the certification and accreditation program will be based upon nationally accepted standards.

NOTE 1: Participation in the certification and accreditation program is voluntary, and state law does not require certification to work or volunteer as a firefighter in Iowa. However, some fire departments within the state require certification for continued employment or promotion. Inquiries regarding such requirements should be directed to the hiring or employing department.

NOTE 2: Inquiries and requests regarding the certification and accreditation program should be directed to the fire service training bureau.

**251.201(1) Eligibility.** Any person seeking certification through the certification and accreditation program will be a current member of a fire, emergency, or rescue organization within the state of Iowa or enrolled in a fire science program within the Iowa college system and at least 18 years of age.

EXCEPTION: Persons not meeting the requirement of membership in a fire, emergency, or rescue organization may be granted exceptions to this requirement on an individual basis. Individuals seeking such exceptions will address these requests to the fire service training bureau.

**251.201(2) Registration.** Registration forms for each level of firefighter certification may be obtained from the fire service training bureau. In order to enter the certification and accreditation program, a candidate will submit a completed registration, accompanied by the required fee, to the fire service training bureau. The registration and fee will be submitted no less than two weeks prior to the date of any examination in which the candidate wishes to participate.

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