

DELAWARE
FIREFIGHTER - FIRE LINE OFFICER - ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
EMS CHIEF OFFICER AND FIRE POLICE
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Delaware State Fire Prevention Commission and the Delaware Volunteer Fireman's Association recognize the importance for standardization and credentialing of Delaware's Emergency Responders. The increase in responsibilities now expected of First Responders demonstrates the need to insure that all responders meet minimum requirements.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Each level of certification must be achieved before advancing to the next level as described in the Fire Certification program. Courses may be taken in any order in accordance with the sequential program and specified pre-requisites. Courses must be completed for certification requirements.
- Delaware Administrative Officer - Administrative Officers are to include the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and any member charged with making final financial decisions.
- Delaware Entry Level Fire Fighter – This is the first level of certification. An Entry Level Firefighter may serve as support personnel only. The Fire Dept. has the prerogative to qualify the member for responses. This level of certification is open to all current active Firefighters and Firefighters who in the future successfully complete Basic Firefighting Skills program at the DSFS or an approved equivalent.
- Delaware Fire Fighter I - Delaware Firefighters participating in Fire Suppression activities in enclosed structures including rescue operations are required to have successfully completed Basic Fire Fighting Skills, RIT Introduction and Structural Fire Fighting Skills. Delaware Firefighters performing rescue activities at an incident involving a Vehicle are required to have successfully completed Basic Fire Fighting Skills and Vehicle Rescue.
- Fire Fighter II is required for all Junior Officers. (*Junior Officers are defined as Captains or Lieutenants of the fire company, not officers in Junior or Cadet programs*)
- Fire Officer I is required for Assistant Fire Chiefs, Fire Officer II for Deputy Fire Chiefs and Fire Chiefs.
- Delaware EMS Officer, Delaware Fire Police, Apparatus Operator Certification
- RIT Team Member Certification - Optional
- Three year implementation period for the Delaware Standards.
- Current Officers (Line and Administration) may continue to serve in that position (elected or appointed) during the implementation period. After the implementation period if they leave office must meet the standard requirements to serve in that position again.
- Class equivalents – Firefighters, Line Officers, and Administrative Officers may be credited for certification at the various Certification Levels based on the programs offered at that time.
- DSFS Recognition Program – Individuals who received recognition under the former DSFS Program will be approved at that level for certification upon application.
- Application for “wavier” based on Service Equivalents or Life Experience will be accepted by the Review Panel for a period of 90 days after the implementation date.

- When an individual successfully completes the necessary requirement for a given level they may apply for that level. Application will be made on a form provided by the State Fire Prevention Commission. Once training is verified by the Delaware State Fire School, the applicant will be mailed the appropriate certificate, certification ID card, appropriate emblem and the recognition level will be noted on the applicants training record.
- The cost for the certification ID card, emblem will be invoiced to the applicant's Fire Company.
- Applications and certificates of certification will be coordinated and approved by an authorized individual appointed by the Fire Company.
- Establishment of Review Panel(s) for Certification application reviews.
 - Two members appointed by the SFPC for each County — total of six.
 - Applications will be assigned to the Review Panel members that are not from the applicant's County.
 - Panel may "approve" or "deny" or assign a level of certification to any application.
 - An applicant may appeal to the Standards Committee (current Committee members) for review.
 - A final appeal may be submitted to the State Fire Prevention Commission.
- Only courses conducted by the Delaware State Fire School or SFPC approved courses are considered for recognition.

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