

BASIC FIRE PROTECTION KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS CERTIFICATION PROCESS

4036

(No. 28 August 2012)

The purpose of this section is to ensure that CAL FIRE personnel in the following classifications maintain basic fire protection knowledge and skills to a recognized statewide standard as specified in Handbook 4300 CAL FIRE Fire Protection Training.

- Firefighter I
- Journey-level Firefighter II
- Firefighter II – Paramedic
- Fire Apparatus Engineer
- Fire Apparatus Engineer – Paramedic
- Fire Captains A and B
- Fire Captain - Paramedic
- Heavy Fire Equipment Operator

These positions are all required to successfully complete a standardized training program for their respective classifications.

INTENT

4036.1

(No. 28 August 2012)

The intent of the Basic Fire Protection Knowledge and Skills Certification Process is to

- Ensure that each Firefighter I and each non-JAC CAL FIRE employee in the
- classifications above demonstrate :
 - basic fire protection knowledge
 - the ability to safely and competently perform basic fire protection skills necessary to meet minimum performance standards
- Recognize knowledge and performance deficiencies and provide training support to meet or exceed the basic fire protection knowledge and skills standards.
- Acknowledge good performance and provide positive reinforcement to establish self-confidence through achievement.

EVALUATION OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS

4036.2

(No. 28 August 2012)

The Unit Chief or designee will evaluate the basic fire protection knowledge and skills of each Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Firefighter II – Paramedic, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Apparatus Engineer – Paramedic, Fire Captains A and B, Fire Captain – Paramedic and Heavy Fire Equipment Operator. It shall be the responsibility of the Unit Chief to evaluate the basic fire protection knowledge and skills each of those employees to ensure that they successfully meet or exceed each performance standard, and to take corrective action if there are deficiencies.

BASIC FIRE PROTECTION KNOWLEDGE ASSESSMENT

4036.3

(No. 28 August 2012)

Annually a Basic Firefighter Returnee Exam is generated by the 4300 Technical Advisory Working Group (TAWG) at their November meeting. The exam is provided to the Units by the CAL FIRE Academy no later than January 1 of each year. A textbook, class notes and other designated course materials may be used while answering questions during the examination. Each returning Firefighter 1 shall achieve a minimum score of 80 percent on the exam.

Bi-Annually a basic fire protection knowledge assessment certification examination will be provided by the CAL FIRE Academy (by January 1 of even-numbered years) to be administered at the Unit level. Each journey- level Firefighter II, Firefighter II-Paramedic, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Apparatus Engineer – Paramedic, Fire Captains A and B and Fire Captain – Paramedic and Heavy Fire Equipment Operator, and shall achieve a minimum score of 80 percent on a written exam equivalent to the third year JAC exam. No employee will be required to pass a basic skills component or written exam more often than once every 6 months.

BASIC FIRE PROTECTION SKILLS CERTIFICATION

4036.4

(No. 28 August 2012)

Annually each employee in the classification of Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Firefighter II – Paramedic, Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Apparatus Engineer – Paramedic, Fire Captain A, Fire Captain B, Fire Captain – Paramedic, and Heavy Fire Equipment Operator will be required to demonstrate proficiency in accordance with nationally accepted training standards in the skills designated for their job classification.

FIREFIGHTER I
(No.31 May 2013)

4036.4.1

Each Firefighter I will be required to demonstrate proficiency in the following basic fire protection skills:

- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Deployment of a fire shelter
- 16-foot or 20 foot 3-section ladder or 24-foot extension ladder
- Donning Structural Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- Donning Wildland PPE
- Deploying fire curtains
- Air drop position
- Chock blocks and seat belts
- Backing hand signals
- Mobile attack
- Two-person 500-foot wildland hose lay

FIREFIGHTER II, FIREFIGHTER II - PARAMEDIC
(No. 28 August 2012)

4036.4.2

Each Firefighter II will be required to demonstrate proficiency in the following basic fire protection skills:

- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Deployment of a fire shelter
- 16-foot or 20-foot 3-section ladder or 24 foot extension ladder
- Ropes and knots

and a minimum of one skill listed below:

- Hose evolutions - forward, reverse or wildland

**FIRE APPARATUS ENGINEER, FIRE APPARATUS
ENGINEER – PARAMEDIC, FIRE CAPTAIN A FIRE AND**

4036.4.3

CAPTAIN – PARAMEDIC

(No. 28 August 2012)

Each Fire Apparatus Engineer, Fire Apparatus Engineer – Paramedic, and Fire Captain A, or anyone performing in this capacity, will be required to demonstrate proficiency in at least the following basic fire protection skills:

- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Deployment of a fire shelter
- 16-foot or 20-foot 3-section ladder or 24 foot extension ladder
- Ropes and knots
- Air brake adjustment

and a minimum of one skill listed below:

- Hose evolution - Forward, reverse, or wildland
- Pumping from tank, from draft, or from hydrant

FIRE CAPTAIN B

(No. 28 August 2012)

4036.4.4

Each Fire Captain B, or anyone performing in this capacity, shall demonstrate proficiency in at least the following basic fire protection skills:

- Self Contained Breathing Apparatus
- Deployment of a fire shelter
- Air brake adjustment
- Pumping from tank
- Group shelter deployment

and a minimum of one skill listed below:

- Hose evolution - wildland
- Tool-up and personnel readiness
- 16-foot or 20-foot 3-section ladder or 24 foot extension ladder

HEAVY FIRE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

(No. 28 August 2012)

4036.4.5

Each Heavy Fire Equipment Operator shall demonstrate proficiency in at least the following basic fire protection skills:

- Deployment of a fire shelter
- Air brake adjustment

and a minimum of one skill listed below:

- Loading and unloading of bulldozer
- Bulldozer winching
- Cozad evaluation - unload trailer

REMEDIATION

4036.5

(No. 28 August 2012)

If an employee required by this section fails to achieve a minimum passing score, the employee will be given a remediation plan as soon after the documented failure as possible, but no later than 24 hours after the failure. A re-test will be administered within 1 week of the failure.

The remediation plan shall indicate:

- areas of substandard knowledge or performance;
- suggested materials to read, review and/or practice to gain the necessary knowledge or skill;
- date, time, and location to retake the basic fire protection knowledge assessment certification examination and/or basic fire protection skill not to exceed 1 week from the date of the first test.

If the employee fails the basic fire protection knowledge or skills assessment on the second attempt, the employee will be given an additional remediation plan no later than 24 hours after the failure, as set forth above and will again be retested within 1 week.

If the employee fails the basic fire protection knowledge or skills assessment on the third attempt the supervisor should consider the possible causes and develop an appropriate course of action.

Examination results and any subsequent remediation plans shall be documented and retained in the employee's official training file.

[\(see next section\)](#)

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[\(see Forms or Form Samples\)](#)