

Fire Certification Program

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# NFPA 1072

# Hazardous Materials/WMD

NFPA1072 Standard for Hazardous Materials/  
Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency  
Response Personnel Professional Qualifications  
Guide to Certification

*The following information contains excerpts from NFPA  
1072. The DPSST Fire Certification Program has  
provided an overview for the applicant to use in  
conjunction with the application process.*

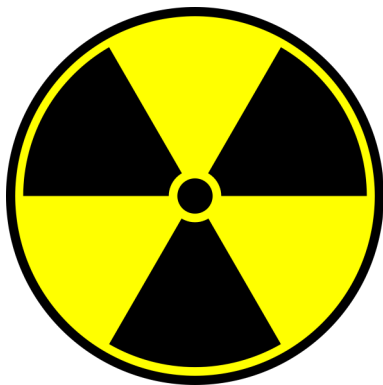
## NFPA 1006 HazMat Task Force Information

In the year 2017, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) introduced the Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications into the 1000 series for the first time, assigning standard number 1072 to its new title. Previously, Department of Public Safety Standards and Training (DPSST) adopted the 2008 version of NFPA 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents as the standard for which certifications were attained.

On June 2, 2017 DPSST hosted this Task Force to discuss the currently adopted NFPA 472 and the newly created NFPA 1072. It was the purpose of the Task Force to evaluate and determine what the impact would be on the Oregon fire service if the new standard was adopted into Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR) and what would occur to those who are certified under the previous 472 standard. After thoughtful discussion, the Task Force recommended to the Fire Policy Committee (FPC) and the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (Board) to adopt NFPA 1072.

## Explanation of NFPA 1072 HazMat Updates

The NFPA updates are significant and will have a certification impact to those who currently hold the NFPA 472 levels of certification. It was recommended by staff and supported by the Task Force to allow those who currently hold certifications within the NFPA 472 standard be permitted to retain NFPA Hazardous Materials Safety Officer, Tank Car Specialty, Cargo Tank Specialty, Intermodal Tank Specialty, and Marine Tank Specialty until the end of the Maintenance Re-Certification Cycle at which point they will lapse. All individuals who are certified as an NFPA Operations Level Responder will retain this level of certification and will be seen as the equivalent to holding NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness, NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations, and NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations Mission-Specific. Those who hold NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician and NFPA Hazardous Materials Incident Commander under NFPA 472 will retain these levels of certification as well. No new certifications will be issued to these individuals.



## Frequently Asked Questions

***Q: Will there be a “Historical Recognition” period?***

**A:** Yes. The Task Force and DPSST have determined that those certified in many levels of NFPA 472 will be seen as the equivalent to the currently adopted levels of certification within NFPA 1072. No new certifications will be issued to those that hold NFPA 472 certifications. Please see the equivalency chart on page 4 for further information on how NFPA 472 certifications transfer to the NFPA 1072 standard.

***How will this appear on my Maintenance Re-Certification Forms/SnapShot?***

**A:** Maintenance Re-Certification Forms/SnapShot records will continue to show certifications awarded at the time. Please see page 2 for additional information on NFPA 472 and NFPA 1072 levels of certification and their equivalencies.

***Q: Will there be any changes to the task book?***

**A:** Yes. Previously, many levels of the NFPA 472 standard did not have task books, but rather lengthy task sheets that were often difficult to accomplish. The newly adopted NFPA 1072 standard will now have task books that are in line with task books for other levels of DPSST certifications. For further information on Task Books, DPSST staff in conjunction with the NFPA HazMat Task Force have created a Task Book section of this guide.



## NFPA HazMat Certification Equivalency Chart

NFPA 472 2008 Edition	NFPA 1072 2017 Edition
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NFPA Operations Level Responder	NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness
	NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations
	NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations Mission-Specific
NFPA Hazardous Materials Incident Commander	NFPA Hazardous Materials Incident Commander
NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician	NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician
NFPA Hazardous Materials Safety Officer	N/A
Chapter 12 Tank Car Specialty	N/A
Chapter 13 Cargo Tank Specialty	N/A
Chapter 14 Intermodal Tank Specialty	N/A
Chapter 15 Marine Tank Specialty	N/A

# Revised Oregon Administrative Rule (OAR)

***NOTE TO READER:** Excerpts are specific to OAR for NFPA Hazardous Materials, therefore the numbering system will appear out of sync. These revised changes were reviewed by the Task Force, the Fire Policy Committee (FPC) and approved by the Board on Public Safety Standards and Training (Board). The proposed changes went through the public comment period from January 1st through 21st and approved as permanent on February 1, 2017.*

## **259-009-0005 Fire Service Personnel Certification**

(48) “NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness” means personnel who, in the course of their normal duties, could encounter an emergency involving hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and who are expected to recognize the presence of the hazardous material/WMD, protect themselves, call for trained personnel, and secure the scene.

(49) “NFPA Hazardous Materials Incident Commander” means a person who is responsible for all incident activities, including the development of strategies and tactics and the ordering and release of resources.

(50) “NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations” means a person who responds to hazardous materials or WMD incidents for the purpose of implementing or supporting actions to protect nearby persons, the environment, or property from the effects of the release.

(51) “NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations Mission-Specific” means responders assigned mission-specific responsibilities at hazardous materials/WMD incidents.

(52) “NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician” means a person who responds to hazardous materials or WMD incidents using a risk-based response process where they analyze a problem involving hazardous materials or WMD, select applicable decontamination procedures, and control a release using specialized protective and control equipment.



## **259-009-0062**

(dd) The provisions of the NFPA Standard 1072, 2017 Edition, entitled “Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications” are adopted subject to the following definitions and modifications:

(A) For certification in NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness, the candidate must complete the job performance requirements defined in sections 4.2 through 4.4.

(i) All applicants for certification must complete a task performance evaluation or a Department-approved task book for the NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness.

(ii) The evaluation or task book must be approved by the Agency Head or Training Officer before an applicant can qualify for certification.

(B) For certification in NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations, the candidate must be certified in NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness and complete the job performance requirements defined in sections 5.2 through 5.6.

(i) All applicants for certification must complete a task performance evaluation or a Department-approved task book for the NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations.

(ii) The evaluation or task book must be approved by the Agency Head or Training Officer before an applicant can qualify for certification.

(C) For certification in NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations Mission-Specific, the candidate must be certified in NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness and NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations, and complete the job performance requirements defined in section 6.1.5.

(i) All applicants for certification must complete a task performance evaluation or a Department-approved task book for the NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations Mission-Specific.

(ii) The evaluation or task book must be approved by the Agency Head or Training Officer before an applicant can qualify for certification.

(D) For certification in NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician, the candidate must be certified in NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness and NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations, and complete the job performance requirements defined in sections 7.2 through 7.6.

(i) All applicants for certification must complete a task performance evaluation or a Department-approved task book for the NFPA Hazardous Materials Technician.

(ii) The evaluation or task book must be approved by the Agency Head or Training Officer before an applicant can qualify for certification.

(E) For certification in NFPA Hazardous Incident Commander, the candidate must be certified in NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness and NFPA Hazardous Materials Operations, and complete the job performance requirements defined in sections 8.2 through 8.6.

(i) All applicants for certification must complete a task performance evaluation or a Department-approved task book for the NFPA Hazardous Incident Commander.



(ii) The evaluation or task book must be approved by the Agency Head or Training Officer before an applicant can qualify for certification.

(F) Historical Recognition of NFPA 472 Certifications.

(i) Effective February 1, 2018, no new certifications will be issued for NFPA 472 Operations Level Responder. Any person who holds a Department-issued NFPA Operations Level Responder certification may keep the certification active by completing the certification maintenance requirements. Any person who holds an active Department-issued NFPA Operations Level Responder certification will be recognized as equivalent to holding NFPA 1072 certifications in Hazardous Materials Awareness, Hazardous Materials Operations and Hazardous Materials Operations Mission-Specific.

(ii) Effective February 1, 2018, no new certifications will be issued for the following NFPA 472 certifications: Hazardous Materials Safety Officer; Tank Car Specialty; Cargo Tank Specialty; Intermodal Tank Specialty; and Marine Tank Vessel Specialty. All currently active certifications for these Department-issued NFPA 472 certifications will lapse after December 31, 2018.

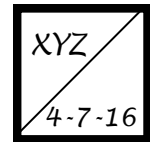
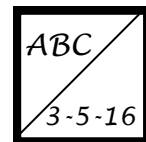
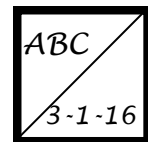


## Task Book Information

Each Task Book lists the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) for the specific certification level in a format that allows a candidate to be trained and **evaluated during one (1) to three (3) sequential sessions, depending on the number of boxes corresponding to each JPR.** Before a job performance evaluation can be taken, all requisite knowledge and skills must be satisfied. In addition, all relative task book evaluations must be checked off by the evaluator who is actively certified in the specialty in which they are signing off. Successful performance of all tasks, as observed and recorded by a qualified and approved evaluator will result in the candidate's eligibility for DPSST certification.

### JPR Evaluation Example

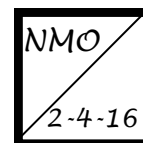
**4.2.2 Document the routine tests, inspections, and servicing functions, given maintenance and inspection forms, so that all items are checked for operation and deficiencies are reported.**



These skills are the job performance evaluations intended to be completed after the Requisite Knowledge and Requisite Skills have been successfully finished. This section should be accomplished during three separate dates at the firefighter's home department or, if no one at the home department is certified to sign off on the skills, at a neighboring department.

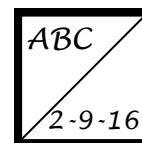


**(A) Requisite Knowledge.** Departmental requirements for documenting maintenance performed and the importance of keeping accurate records.



The Requisite Knowledge portions of the task book may be done during class and signed off by the instructor. Requisite Knowledge are the only JPR's that are intended to be signed off in class.

**(B) Requisite Skills.** The ability to use tools and equipment and complete all related departmental forms.



Requisite Skills are intended to be completed at the firefighter's home department or, if no one at the home department is certified to sign off on the skills, at a neighboring department.



# NFPA Hazmat Guide Appendix

## Qualifications to Sign Off on NFPA Hazardous Materials Task Books

For DPSST NFPA Task Books, anyone certified at the level being evaluated or above may observe and sign off tasks. Because a NFPA Hazmat Technician's training encompassed NFPA Hazmat Mission-Specific job performance requirements, an NFPA Hazmat Technician may sign off on an NFPA Hazmat Mission-Specific Task Book even if they do not hold an NFPA Hazmat Mission-Specific certification.

## Determining the Levels of Hazmat your Fire Service Agency Needs Based on NFPA

According to NFPA: Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional qualifications, 2017 Edition – Chapter 3 Definitions, the following are the responsibilities of various Hazmat levels of certification:

*3.3.4 Awareness Level Personnel. Personnel who, in the course of their normal duties, could encounter an emergency involving hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) and who are expected to recognize the presence of the hazardous materials/WMD, protect themselves, call for trained personnel, and secure the scene.*

*3.4.2 Operations Level Responders. Persons who respond to hazardous materials/weapons of mass destruction (WMD) incidents for the purpose of implementing or supporting actions to protect nearby persons, the environment, or property from the effects of the release.*

*3.4.1 Mission-Specific Competencies. The knowledge, skills, and judgment needed by operations level responders who have completed the operations level competencies and who are designated by the authority having jurisdiction (AHJ) to perform mission-specific tasks, such as decontamination, victim/hostage rescue and recovery, evidence preservation, and sampling.*

If you look further into the appendix of the standard, A.6.1.5 states: *Operations level responders need only be trained to meet the competencies in Chapter 5. All the competencies listed in Chapter 6 (mission-specific competencies) are not required for qualification as operations level responders and should be viewed as optional at the discretion of the AHJ, based on an assessment of local risks. The purpose of Chapter 6 is to provide a more effective and efficient process so that the AHJ can match the expected tasks and duties of its personnel with the required competencies to perform those tasks.*

For the above statement within NFPA, it is important to keep in mind that a firefighter can be certified as an NFPA Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations and not any NFPA Mission-Specific levels. However, in order to be a certified NFPA Fire Fighter I, part of the training must have included NFPA Hazmat Awareness, Operations, as well as Mission-Specific Section 6.2 Personal Protective Equipment and Section 6.6 Product Control. Personal Protective Equipment and Product Control are both job performance requirements that appear in the NFPA Hazmat Mission-Specific standard. Though these levels must be trained to for NFPA Fire Fighter I certification, completion of the Task Books for NFPA HazMat Awareness, Operations, and Mission-Specific ONLY need to be completed if applying for those levels of certification.

# NFPA Hazmat Guide Appendix

Going further, NFPA 1072 A.6.1.6: *Although some of the mission-specific JPRs in this chapter are taken from Chapter 7 of NFPA 472, the technical committee wants to clearly state that operations mission-specific responders are not replacements for or qualified as hazardous materials technicians. Operations mission-specific responders can perform some technician skills, but they do not have the broader skills and competencies required of a hazardous materials technician, particularly regarding risk assessment and the selection of control options. The following two options are examples of how guidance can be provided to ensure that operations mission-specific responders do not go beyond their level of training and equipment:*

*Direct guidance. Operations mission-specific responders are working under the control of a hazardous materials technician or an allied professional who has the ability to (1) continuously assess and/or observe their actions and (2) provide immediate feedback. Guidance by a hazardous materials technician or an allied professional can be provided through direct visual observation or through assessment reports communicated by the operations mission-specific responders to them.*

*Written guidance. Written standard operating procedures or similar guidance should clearly state the rules of engagement for operations mission-specific responders' competency. Emphasis should be placed on the following:*

*Tasks expected of operations level responders*

*Tasks beyond the capability of operations level responders*

*Required PPE and equipment to perform the expected tasks*

*Procedures for ensuring coordination within the AHJ ICS*

To summarize A.6.1.6, be sure if your fire service agency determines that some of your firefighters should be certified in NFPA Hazmat Mission-Specific levels that they do not exercise outside of the scope of their training.

Considering the hazardous conditions with which hazardous materials response can entail, it is important to follow the guidance and direction of an NFPA Hazardous Technician on scene. NFPA Hazmat Mission-Specific responders do not have the depth of understanding and preparedness that an NFPA Hazmat Technician does. To avoid confusion during an incident, it is best practice to have standard operating procedures (SOP) prior to responding to hazardous materials calls. If you do not have an SOP on hazardous materials, speak to your local Training Association and/or a neighboring department to see what they have outlined and if it could be tweaked to fit your fire service agency's needs. This ties into the requirements within Oregon OSHA Division 2L which we highlight next.

## **Determining the Levels of Hazmat your Fire Service Agency Needs Based on Oregon OSHA Division 2L**

There are a few areas to highlight when reviewing Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA) General Occupational Safety and Health rules within Division 2, Subdivision L (Division 2L) related to

## NFPA Hazmat Guide Appendix

hazardous materials response. Please keep in mind that though participation with DPSST is voluntary, meaning you are not required to obtain certifications for your firefighters in order to be a firefighter and respond to calls, the requirements found in Division 2L are Oregon law and must be followed.

### *1910.155 Scope, Application and Definitions Applicable to This Subdivision*

*(c)(41) Training means the process of making proficient through instruction and hands-on practice in the operation of equipment, including respiratory protection equipment, that is expected to be used and in the performance of assigned duties.*

The above definition is included in this discussion to highlight the importance of having the proper resources and personnel if your fire service agency determines they are ready and equipped for hazardous materials response. Questions to ask yourself include: are we prepared for instruction and hands-on practice in the realm of hazmat response? Can we complete that hands-on practice with the needed equipment? Do we have access to the needed equipment for hands-on practice as well as response?

### *437-002-0182 Oregon Rules for Firefighters*

#### *(11) Firefighting Education and Training.*

*(a) The employer must develop and implement a policy for appropriately educating and training all department firefighting classifications (ranks) before they perform assigned duties.*

The above OSHA rule goes on to detail specific responsibilities for interior structural firefighting and live fire training which are not included here because we are focusing on hazardous materials response, but please refer to the remainder of this section for more requirements on interior structural firefighting and live fire training.

### *1910.156 Fire Brigades*

#### *(c) Training and education.*

*(1) The employer shall provide training and education for all fire brigade members commensurate with those duties and functions that fire brigade members are expected to perform. Such training and education shall be provided to fire brigade members before they perform fire brigade emergency activities. Fire brigade leaders and training instructors shall be provided with training and education which is more comprehensive than that provided to the general membership of the fire brigade. (2) The employer shall assure that training and education is conducted frequently enough to assure that each member of the fire brigade is able to perform the member's assigned duties and functions satisfactorily and in a safe manner so as not to endanger fire brigade members or other employees. All fire brigade members shall be provided with training at least annually. In addition, fire brigade members who are expected to perform interior structural fire fighting shall be provided with an education session or training at least quarterly.*

# NFPA Hazmat Guide Appendix

437-002-0182 Oregon Rules for Firefighters

*(22) Hazardous Material Response Plan.*

*(a) Fire departments that expect or plan to respond to hazardous material incidents must develop and implement a written response plan, and comply with additional requirements of Division 2/H, 1910.120(q), Emergency response to hazardous substance releases.*

*(b) The written response plan must contain the policies and procedures for:*

- (A) Pre-emergency planning and coordination with outside parties,*
- (B) Personnel roles, lines of authority, training, and communication,*
- (C) Emergency recognition and prevention,*
- (D) Safe distances,*
- (E) Scene security and control,*
- (F) Evacuation procedures,*
- (G) Decontamination,*
- (H) Emergency medical treatment and first aid,*
- (I) Personnel withdrawal procedures,*
- (J) Critique of response and follow-up, and*
- (K) Personal protective equipment and emergency equipment and response procedures.*

*(c) The incident commander must be responsible for:*

- (A) Identifying of the hazardous substance and condition,*
- (B) Implementing emergency operations,*
- (C) Ensuring personal protective equipment is worn,*
- (D) Limiting access of hot zone to those with a specific mission assignment,*
- (E) Implementing decontamination procedures,*
- (F) Designating a safety officer,*
- (G) Using appropriately trained personnel, and*
- (H) Providing on-scene medical surveillance for emergency responders*

As stated previously under the NFPA requirements, OSHA Division 2L has reiterated the importance and requirements of creating a response plan within your fire agency's SOPs. Though many of you reading this are not considered a Fire Brigade, it is included in the excerpts above as a good general rule to follow. Though this article is focused on hazardous materials response, it is important to keep in mind the employer's responsibility when it comes to all firefighting and the above can be applied to any level of response from your fire service agency. Developing and implementing a policy for education and training as well as maintaining that education and training is required as stated in 437-002-0182(11)(a) above. Also seen above is 1910.156 (c)(1)(2) which gives a good framework for your policy for education, training, and maintenance. If it works for your department, you may choose to include DPSST fire certification and the biennial Maintenance Re-Certification into your policy, though it is not required.

## NFPA Hazmat Guide Appendix

If your agency already has one, we encourage you to work with others in your fire agency, surrounding departments, and/or your local Training Association to get one developed that is realistic and fits your agency's needs while working within the rules of the standard.