

**COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION**

**ACCREDITED FIREFIGHTER  
CERTIFICATION PROGRAM**



**KENTUCKY FIRE COMMISSION  
STATE FIRE RESCUE TRAINING**

**DRIVER OPERATOR  
PUMPER  
CANDIDATE HANDBOOK**

July 2011

The purpose of this manual is to provide information for successful participation in accredited certification testing. Content herein outlines the pre-requisites, testing and application process, and provides you with a study guide reference list.

Accredited certification is administered by the Kentucky Fire Commission with accreditation issued by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).

In accordance with *KRS Chapter 95A*, the Kentucky Fire Commission is the certifying agency of firefighters within the Commonwealth of Kentucky. The fire commission establishes fire service personnel standards and education and administers firefighter certification, both through training and certification through testing. This manual is related solely to the accredited certification through testing process. Authority for conducting and maintaining the accredited certification process is delegated to State Fire Rescue Training.

## **Application Process**

1. Prior to certification, candidate shall submit a completed application for Driver Operator-Pumper certification to the Accredited Certification Office of the Kentucky Fire Commission, P.O. Box 248, Morehead, KY 40351. Applications are available online at [www.kyffcert.com](http://www.kyffcert.com) or by contacting an area office of KCTCS-State Fire Rescue Training. Applications can also be obtained by calling the accredited certification office at 888-301-2946.
2. Application shall be signed by the training instructor, agency head or designee.
3. All components of the application shall be completed.
4. Application shall be submitted with the skills testing documents.

## **Pre-requisites to certify**

1. Eligibility to certify to NFPA 1002 Chap 5 Driver Operator-Pumper requires the candidate be:
  - a. Affiliated with a Kentucky fire department, or
  - b. Enrolled in a fire science program through an office of State Fire Rescue Training within KCTCS or Eastern Kentucky University.
2. Eligibility to certify is based upon completion of a series of components, including:
  - a. Written examination
  - b. Skill performance evaluation
  - c. Completion of application for certification

## **Pre-requisites to test**

1. Eligibility to test to NFPA 1002 Chap 5 Driver Operator-Pumper requires the candidate be:
  - a. A Minimum of eighteen (18) years of age, and
  - b. Affiliated with a Kentucky fire department, or
  - c. Enrolled in a fire science program through an office of State Fire Rescue Training within KCTCS or Eastern Kentucky University, and
  - d. Payment of required testing fees.

## **Course of study**

Being a certification eligible through challenge testing, the Kentucky Fire Commission does not require a specific course of study to test or certify to NFPA 1002 Driver Operator-Pumper. However, it is recommended that candidates have completed an Emergency Vehicle Driving course and extensive pumper operations training prior to testing. See study reference list on page 5 of this document.

## **Certification Testing**

### **1. Written Test**

- a. Written exams contain approximately 100 questions, scored at a minimum of 1 point each. Tests may consist of multiple choices, true/false and matching formats. Some questions may have multiple parts, causing some questions to be scored at more than 1 point. Examinations are scored based on a perfect score of 100%.
- b. A testing fee of \$15.00 is assessed per exam.
- c. Written exams are forwarded to the accredited certification office for electronic scoring.
- d. The passing score for the written exam is seventy (70) out of a possible one-hundred percent (100%).

### **2. Skills Test**

- a. Class-Based Testing
  - i. Driver Operator-Pumper skill testing consists of six (6) skills from Chapters 4 and 5 of NFPA 1002:2009 ed.
  - ii. Candidate shall show competency for each skill required.
- b. Challenge Testing
  - i. Driver Operator skills testing consists of six (6) stations, one for each skill required under Chapters 4 and 5 of NFPA 1002:2009 Ed.
  - ii. Candidate shall attempt each skill station.
  - iii. Challenge testing is scheduled on an as needed basis.
- c. Candidate must pass all skills presented.
- d. Candidate shall be required to provide their own vehicle/apparatus for practical applications.

## **Re-testing for unsuccessful attempts**

### **1. Written Test**

- a. The candidate will need to contact the State Fire/Rescue Training Office of their choice to schedule a retest following a failing attempt.
- b. If you are unsuccessful and must retest, you must pay the \$15.00 testing fee for each subsequent attempt.
- c. Numbers of attempts are only limited by the candidate's willingness to continue or successful passage.

### **2. Skills Test**

- a. Candidates are permitted 2 attempts at each skill station. Retests will be performed on the same skill as failed.
- b. Retests may be attempted only at the same test site, on the same day initially failed.
- c. Two (2) evaluators will be utilized at all retests, neither of which performed the initial examination.

## **Accommodations**

The Kentucky Fire Commission Certification Program offers reasonable accommodations for the written certification exams for individuals with documented disabilities. Additional information can

be found within the Disability Accommodations Policy, located at [www.kyffcert.com](http://www.kyffcert.com), or by contacting the Accredited Certification office at 888-301-2946.

## **Certificates**

Certificates are issued through the fire commission accredited certification office and are mailed to the candidate through the candidate's agency training officer. Certification data is maintained on each candidate in a database at the fire commission accredited certification office.

## **Safety Policy**

For the safety and protection of all participants all equipment and Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) being used for testing must meet the NFPA or NIOSH standard at the time of manufacture. PPE will be inspected prior to being used for testing, and must be appropriate for the candidates job description.

## **Test Results/Release of Results**

The Kentucky Fire commission Accredited Certification office notifies candidates of their results in writing via electronic mail provided at time of test. If no email is available, a confidential letter will be sent by US Mail to the candidate's agency.

## **Study Reference List**

Since the examination is a test of knowledge of material and requirements contained in the NFPA Standard, and not a particular textbook, the following is a list of text materials that should be referenced, at a minimum, to prepare adequately for testing.

1. NFPA 1002, Standard on Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications, 2009 Ed.
2. NFPA 1911, Standard for the Inspection, Maintenance, Testing and Retirement of In-Service Automotive Fire Apparatus, 2007 Ed.
3. NFPA 1901, Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus, 2009 Ed.
4. IFSTA, Pumping Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
5. Delmar, Introduction to Fire Pump Operations, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition.
6. Jones and Bartlett, Fire Service Pump Operator, Principles and Practice, 1<sup>st</sup> Edition.
7. Kentucky Revised Statutes, Chapter 189, 2010 Edition
8. Skill Sheets are available on the accredited certification website, [www.kyffcert.com](http://www.kyffcert.com) or by calling the accredited certification office at 888-301-2946.

## **Additional Information**

1. Photo ID is required at the time of the written and skills testing.
2. Skills testing requires candidate to bring full protective clothing. PPE shall include safe, appropriate gear that was NFPA or NIOSH approved at the time of manufacture. Candidate shall bring, at minimum, full protective equipment appropriate for job description. Gear or components that were previously approved, but have since become inappropriate for protection, will not be permitted.
3. Dress appropriately. Skills testing may require extra dry clothes.
4. Additional information may be found on the fire commission accredited certification website at [www.kyffcert.com](http://www.kyffcert.com) .

Certification applications, skill sheets and test site contact information can be found at [www.kyffcert.com](http://www.kyffcert.com) .

If you have any additional questions or concerns about the testing process please contact the SFRT area coordinator at the area in which you chose to be tested at or the Kentucky Fire Commission Accredited Certification office by calling 888-301-2946.