

Below, along with attachments, are some vital points that we will hope you take the time to read and disseminate to your people. Please contact your Certification Specialist if you have any questions regarding this information.

1. OSFM Website Update

- a. A new feature has been added that allows firefighters to update their personal profile
- b. This option becomes available after someone goes through the steps to pull up their transcripts. The first option will be "Edit Profile Information"
- c. Please have everyone verify that their name, address, phone number, and email is updated

2. Two More Regional Tests Added to the Western Region

- a. Because of demand, I've added the following regional test dates and locations:
 - i. December 18th – Mitchell CC @9am
 - ii. December 23rd – Buncombe County Training Center @9am
- b. These are available for registration on our website

3. Firefighter Instructor Requalification Classes have been completed

- a. New lesson plans are posted as 2013 Lesson Plans
- b. New tests will be posted closer to the January 1st changeover
- c. Any instructor that missed the requalification classes must retake the qualification test at regional testing until January 1st, 2015, at which time, they will be required to attend a Qualification School (see below for info)
- d. Information on the new Firefighter Certification Program can be found at http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Fire_Rescue_Commission/Default.aspx?field1=Certification_and_Training_-_NC_Fire_Fighter_Certification&user=Certification_and_Training
- e. Other info found on this site
 - i. Requalification Powerpoint
 - ii. Hours for the new certification classes
 - iii. Explanation of Simulation

4. Qualification School

- a. Starting January 1st, 2015
- b. Registration will be done like regional testing
- c. Q-School Dates
 - i. January 5-9, 2015 at Randolph CC
 - ii. February 16-20, 2015 at Cape Fear CC
 - iii. March 2-6, 2015 at Buncombe County Training Center (Asheville-Buncombe Tech CC)
- d. Knowledge Test – 100 questions, 80% to pass
- e. Practical Skills Test – Randomly chosen practical skills will be demonstrated
- f. Practical Skills Grading – Candidate will grade other people on practical skills
- g. Upgrade Session

5. Hazmat Requalification

- a. There have been some technical issues with the online Hazmat Requalification
- b. It should be posted by December 1st
- c. Qualified instructors will be emailed when the online requalification becomes available

6. Fire Instructor 1&2 and Fire Officer 1&2

- a. After January 1st, 2015, students will no longer have to attend regional testing
- b. Testing will be done through the community college
- c. All prerequisites must be met prior to testing
- d. For those students who took the classes prior to January 1st, 2015, regional tests will still be offered during 2015

7. Fire and Life Safety Educator 1,2,&3

- a. After January 1st, 2015, students will no longer have to attend regional testing
- b. Testing will be done through the community college
- c. Each module will be tested individually and a cumulative level test will be discontinued
- d. Once the three modules are successfully completed, the certification will be issued
- e. For those students who took the classes prior to January 1st, 2015, regional tests will still be offered during 2015

8. Approved Fire Commission and Certification Board Minutes (Note: These will always run one meeting behind) attached for:

- a. July 2014 Commission
Meeting: [http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Fire_Rescue_Commission/Default.aspx?field1=Commission%2c Meetings And Policies - Fire And Rescue Commission](http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Fire_Rescue_Commission/Default.aspx?field1=Commission%2c%20Meetings%20And%20Policies%20-%20Fire%20And%20Rescue%20Commission)
- b. June 2014 Certification Board
Meeting: [http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Fire_Rescue_Commission/Default.aspx?field1=Commission And Boards, Meetings And Policies - Fire and Rescue Certification Board](http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/Fire_Rescue_Commission/Default.aspx?field1=Commission%2c%20Meetings%20And%20Policies%20-%20Fire%20And%20Rescue%20Certification%20Board)

9. Fire Department Delivery Agencies

- a. A moratorium was placed on granting delivery agency status to Fire Departments during the June Certification Board Meeting. This decision was rescinded during the September Cert Board Meeting.

10. Certification Programs Update:

- a. Rescue Officer – Currently running pilot classes
- b. Fire Marshal – Development has been suspended until further notice
- c. TR Program – Lesson plan updates are continuing. Expect requalification classes to be held during 2015
- d. Tanker Operations Certification – To be developed and added to the Driver Operator Certifications
- e. Fire Officer IV – Completed pilot class
- f. Instructor III – Pilot classes are being scheduled

11. Instructor Classes and Meetings – If you have these, the Certification Specialists would like to be invited to go over Policy of Testing as well as answer any questions about why things are done a certain way

12. OSFM Class Notifications – Make sure that you are reporting all classes and changes to your Certification Specialist!