

Select Year:

The 2019 Florida Statutes

Title XXXVII
INSURANCE

Chapter 633
FIRE PREVENTION AND CONTROL

[View Entire Chapter](#)

633.412 Firefighters; qualifications for certification.—A person applying for certification as a firefighter must:

(1) Be a high school graduate or the equivalent, as the term may be determined by the division, and at least 18 years of age.

(2) Not have been convicted of a misdemeanor relating to the certification or to perjury or false statements, or a felony or a crime punishable by imprisonment of 1 year or more under the law of the United States or of any state thereof or under the law of any other country, or dishonorably discharged from any of the Armed Forces of the United States. “Convicted” means a finding of guilt or the acceptance of a plea of guilty or nolo contendere, in any federal or state court or a court in any other country, without regard to whether a judgment of conviction has been entered by the court having jurisdiction of the case.

(3) Submit a set of fingerprints to the division with a current processing fee. The fingerprints will be forwarded to the Department of Law Enforcement for state processing and forwarded by the Department of Law Enforcement to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for national processing.

(4) Have a good moral character as determined by investigation under procedure established by the division.

(5) Be in good physical condition as determined by a medical examination given by a physician, surgeon, or physician assistant licensed to practice in the state pursuant to chapter 458; an osteopathic physician, surgeon, or physician assistant licensed to practice in the state pursuant to chapter 459; or an advanced practice registered nurse licensed to practice in the state pursuant to chapter 464. Such examination may include, but need not be limited to, the National Fire Protection Association Standard 1582. A medical examination evidencing good physical condition shall be submitted to the division, on a form as provided by rule, before an individual is eligible for admission into a course under s. [633.408](#).

(6) Be a nonuser of tobacco or tobacco products for at least 1 year immediately preceding application, as evidenced by the sworn affidavit of the applicant.

History.—ss. 8, 17, ch. 69-323; s. 1, ch. 70-110; ss. 1, 6, ch. 75-151; s. 1, ch. 77-116; s. 2, ch. 81-205; s. 10, ch. 84-243; s. 3, ch. 88-209; s. 1, ch. 89-89; s. 23, ch. 89-233; s. 7, ch. 91-189; s. 13, ch. 93-276; s. 2, ch. 2005-76; s. 57, ch. 2013-116; s. 60, ch. 2013-183; s. 24, ch. 2016-132; s. 76, ch. 2018-106.

Note.—Former s. 163.490; s. 633.34.

Essential Job Tasks and Descriptions from NFPA 1582, 2007 edition

1. Performing firefighting tasks (e.g., hose line operations, extensive crawling, lifting, carrying heavy objects, ventilating roofs or walls using power or hand tools, and forcible entry), rescue operations and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions while wearing personal protective ensembles and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), including working in extremely hot or cold environments for prolonged time periods.
2. Wearing an SCBA, which includes a demand valve-type positive-pressure face piece or HEPA filter masks, which requires the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.
3. Exposure to toxic fumes, irritants, particulates, biological (infectious) and nonbiological hazards, and/or heated gases, despite the use of personal protective ensembles and SCBA.
4. Climbing six or more flights of stairs while wearing fire protective ensemble weighing at least 50 lbs. or more and carrying equipment/tools weighing an additional 20 to 40 lbs.
5. Wearing fire protective ensemble that is encapsulating and insulated, which will result in significant fluid loss that frequently progresses to clinical dehydration and can elevate core temperature to levels exceeding 102.2°F (39°C).
6. Searching, finding, and rescue-dragging or carrying victims ranging from newborns up to adults weighing over 200 lbs. to safety despite hazardous conditions and low visibility.
7. Advancing water-filled 2 ½ diameter hose lines from fire apparatus to occupancy [approximately 150 ft.], which can involve negotiating multiple flights of stairs, ladders, and other obstacles.
8. Climbing ladders, operating from heights, walking or crawling in the dark along narrow and uneven surfaces, and operating in proximity to electrical power lines and/or other hazards.
9. Unpredictable emergency requirements for prolonged periods of extreme physical exertion without benefit of warm-up, scheduled rest periods, meals, access to medication(s), or hydration.
10. Operating fire apparatus or other vehicles in an emergency mode with emergency lights and sirens.
11. Critical, time-sensitive, complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments, including hot, dark, tightly enclosed spaces, that is further aggravated by fatigue, flashing lights, sirens, and other distractions.
12. Ability to give and comprehend verbal orders while wearing personal protective ensembles and SCBA under conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and drenching from hose lines and/or fixed protection systems (sprinklers), hear alarm signals, hear and locate the source of calls for assistance from victims or other firefighters.
13. Functioning as an integral component of a team, where sudden incapacitation of a member can result in mission failure or in risk of injury or death to civilians or other team members.