

**RULES
OF THE
TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON FIRE FIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 0360-04-01
EXAMINATIONS**

TABLE OF CONTENTS

0360-04-01-.01	General	0360-04-01-.06	Examination Form
0360-04-01-.02	Applications	0360-04-01-.07	Reserved
0360-04-01-.03	Character of Examinations	0360-04-01-.08	Written Examinations
0360-04-01-.04	Grading	0360-04-01-.09	Practical Examinations
0360-04-01-.05	Retesting		

0360-04-01-.01 GENERAL.

- (1) All training, practicals and examinations shall be based on the performance standards for the appropriate progression level as set forth in these rules and regulations and meet or exceed all applicable NFPA standards, including NFPA 1500. All practicals and written examinations will be given at a location reasonably proximate to local departments in an effort to make it as convenient as possible for applicants.
- (2) Generally, Commission representatives are prohibited from testing personnel from their affiliated department. However, Commission representatives may test personnel from their affiliated department only in a regional test setting and if a majority of the applicants come from other departments.
- (3) An applicant shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age in order to take a certification examination.
- (4) Applicants shall present a valid government-issued photo identification card prior to being admitted to any examination.
- (5) Commission members and Commission Representatives who wish to challenge a Commission-administered practical or written examination shall do so only under the proctoring of a Commission-approved person who shall create an examination that is used only once.
- (6) Any individual found cheating on a Commission examination shall be prohibited from participating in the Certification program for a period of two (2) years and shall be required to restart the certification level upon the expiration of the two (2) years. An individual found cheating a second time shall be barred from participating in the Certification program.
- (7) Applicants who do not successfully complete both practical and written requirements for a level of certification within one (1) year of the date the applicants first successfully passed the practical or written examination for that level of certification shall be required to start the certification process over and complete both practical and written examinations unless otherwise stipulated in these rules. Individuals called to active military duty shall have the time for which their practical examinations are valid towards a written examination to be extended for the amount of time the applicant was on active military duty. Furthermore, if the applicant is on active military duty for a period greater than six (6) months, the clock will restart on the time allowed for the practical examinations to be valid; the applicant will have one (1) year to complete that level of certification. A letter from the Fire Chief or Training Officer certifying this leave shall accompany the application for written examination. If an applicant has not completed the practical and written examinations for a level of certification

(Rule 0360-04-01-.01, continued)

no later than (6) six months after the date the Commission adopts a new standard, the applicant shall be required to complete successfully new practical and written examinations which comply with the latest standard adopted by the Commission unless the newly adopted standard is not significantly different as determined by the Commission from the previously adopted standard.

- (8) An applicant may request accommodation for a disability in taking a written examination offered by the Commission. The request for accommodation shall be made on the form provided by the Commission and submitted to the Director along with the application. Any documentation regarding an applicant's disability and his/her need for accommodation in testing shall be considered confidential.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018.

0360-04-01-.02 APPLICATIONS.

- (1) Any department electing to host an examination shall contact the Commission office or its representative to schedule an examination date. At the time of the examination, each individual applicant shall have a completed application submitted with appropriate documentation of necessary prerequisites.
 - (a) Except for examinations administered at TFACA at the conclusion of a Commission-approved training course, applications shall be received by the Commission a minimum of two (2) weeks before any anticipated examination date. The "Application for Examination" form shall be completed in its entirety with original signatures.
 - (b) The Commission office shall schedule the examination date based upon requested examinations.
 - (c) This examination date shall be open to other applicants unless a specific reason exists to have a closed examination. Approval of the Director shall be obtained in order to have a closed examination.
 - (d) The Commission Representative shall administer the examination on the examination date. At the end of the examination, the Commission Representative shall collect all examination materials and answer sheets and send them to the Commission for grading.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018.

0360-04-01-.03 CHARACTER OF EXAMINATIONS.

- (1) Written - shall include a written demonstration of each applicant's knowledge and skill in the progression level tested.
 - (a) The Commission shall validate written examination test banks in the following manner:

(Rule 0360-04-01-.03, continued)

1. A Commission representative or designee shall chair a committee of fire service personnel certified at or above the level of certification being validated;
 2. The committee shall ensure that:
 - (i) Each examination question is appropriately referenced to the NFPA Standard;
 - (ii) Each examination question is properly referenced to the reference manual(s) cited by the Commission;
 - (iii) Terminology used in the question is appropriate for all manuals cited;
 - (iv) The answer indicated is correct for all manuals cited;
 - (v) The question is job relevant to Tennessee; and
 - (vi) There is only one correct answer.
 3. The Commission shall review and approve the work of the committee.
- (2) Oral - may be used to supplement the written examination to obtain information regarding the abilities of the applicant that are not readily determined in a written examination at a particular progression level.
- (3) Practical - may be used to supplement the written examination to determine the ability, manual skills, and leadership of the applicant to perform the work at a particular progression level.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018.

0360-04-01-.04 GRADING.

- (1) Written - The Commission will prepare a list with the correct answer to each question. Commission office personnel will be responsible for the actual grading of each examination. The passing grade shall be seventy percent (70%) on each section of the examination. Any questions concerning the examination or grading thereof shall be resolved by the Commission.
 - (a) Disputes over the validity of any question(s) on the Commission's written examinations shall be submitted to the Commission, in writing, with the proper referencing materials supporting the dispute within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the results of the examination. The Commission shall review the dispute and render a decision on the dispute. The decision of the Commission shall be forwarded to the individual.
 - (b) Individuals wanting to review their examinations:
 1. Shall submit to the Commission a written request within thirty (30) days of receipt of their score which includes the applicant's name, Public Safety Identification (PSID) number, phone number and examination date;

(Rule 0360-04-01-.04, continued)

2. Shall make an appointment with the Commission Office, for no more than thirty (30) minutes, with the Commission office personnel after submittal of the written request;
 3. Shall score at least sixty-five percent (65%) on each section of the examination;
 4. Will be allowed to take notes when reviewing the examination but shall not leave the Commission office with the notes;
 5. Will be allowed to see the answer sheet;
 6. Will be allowed to review the examination only one (1) time; and
 7. Will only be allowed to review the most recent examination taken.
- (c) Scores shall not be released over the telephone.
- (2) Oral - The Commission or its designee will conduct the oral examination where applicable. This portion of the examination will be graded on a pass-or-fail basis.
 - (3) Practical - The Commission will designate a qualified individual to conduct the practical examinations. The Commission will require that each examinee perform these activities and grade that performance on a pass-or-fail basis.
 - (a) Disputes over the grading/validity of any written practical shall be submitted to the Commission in writing with the proper referencing materials supporting the dispute within thirty (30) calendar days of receipt of the results of the examination. The Commission shall review the dispute, determine the merit of the dispute and determine the appropriate corrective action to be taken, if any is needed, within thirty (30) days of receipt of a dispute. The decision of the Commission shall be forwarded to the individual.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018.

0360-04-01-.05 RETESTING.

An applicant failing any examination may retake such examination at the next regularly scheduled examination or any other examination thereafter. An applicant may not retake the examination until at least fifteen (15) days after the initial examination.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-106 and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1990. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed April 25, 2005; effective July 9, 2005. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018.

0360-04-01-.06 EXAMINATION FORM.

- (1) The examination for Fire Fighter I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Fighter I as adopted in standards in Chapter 0360-06-01.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (a) The practical examination requirements for Fire Fighter I shall consist of all of the following:
 1. A practical administered on a regional basis. This practical shall be developed by the Commission based on and meeting the standards in NFPA 1001.
 2. A live fire practical shall be completed. One (1) of the following options shall be completed:
 - (i) Successful completion of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy's Firefighter I Live Burn course or Firefighter I and II Live Burn course. A Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination"; or
 - (ii) Successful completion of the live fire objectives in NFPA 1001 for Fire Fighter I during a live fire training. All of the exercises listed on the Live Fire Suppression Verification Sheet for the appropriate level shall be completed through the local department's training program. A Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination." The department shall provide the submitting an Application for Live Fire Training by e-mail, US mail, or fax. A Commission or staff member may witness any live fire exercises conducted by a department. This option shall be completed during a training exercise; no working fires shall be utilized for this option.
 - (b) A live fire practical, as part of the Fire Fighter I performance examination requirements, based upon standards of NFPA 1001, 2008 edition shall not be accepted after June 30, 2016. After June 30, 2016, a live fire practical, as part of the Fire Fighter I performance examination requirements, shall be based upon the current standard as adopted by reference in Chapter 0360-06-01-.01.
 - (c) An applicant shall obtain a Fire Fighter I certification within thirty six (36) months of completing a live fire practical. After thirty six (36) months, successful completion of another live fire practical shall be required in order to obtain a Fire Fighter I certification.
- (2) The examination for Fire Fighter II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Fighter II as adopted in standards in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination requirements for Fire Fighter II shall consist of all the following:
 1. A practical administered on a regional basis. This practical shall be developed by the Commission based on and meeting the standards in NFPA 1001.
 2. A live fire practical shall be completed. One (1) of the following options shall be completed:
 - (i) Successful completion of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy's Firefighter II Live Burn course or Firefighter I and II Live Burn course. A Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination"; or
 - (ii) Successful completion of the live fire objectives in NFPA 1001 for Fire Fighter II during a live fire training. All of the exercises listed on the Live

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

Fire Suppression Verification Sheet for the appropriate level shall be completed through the local department's training program. A Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination." The department shall provide the Commission with a minimum of fourteen (14) working days' notice by submitting an Application for Live Fire Training by e-mail, US mail, or fax. A Commission or staff member may witness any live fire exercises conducted by a department. This option shall be completed during a training exercise; no working fires shall be utilized for this option.

- (b) A live fire practical, as part of the Fire Fighter II performance examination requirements, based upon standards of NFPA 1001, 2008 edition shall not be accepted after June 30, 2016. After June 30, 2016, a live fire practical, as part of the Fire Fighter II performance examination requirements, shall be based upon the current standard as adopted by reference in Chapter 0360-06-01-.01.
 - (c) An applicant shall obtain a Fire Fighter II certification within thirty six (36) months of successfully completing a live fire practical. After thirty six (36) months, successful completion of another live fire practical shall be required in order to obtain a Fire Fighter II certification.
- (3) The examination for Fire Fighter I/II Combined shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Fighter I/II Combined as adopted in standards in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination requirements for Fire Fighter I/II Combined shall consist of all the following:
 - 1. A practical administered on a regional basis. This practical shall be developed by the Commission based on and meeting the standards in NFPA 1001.
 - 2. A live fire practical shall be completed. One (1) of the following options shall be completed:
 - (i) Completion of the Tennessee Fire Service and Codes Enforcement Academy's Firefighter II Live Burn course or Firefighter I and II Live Burn course. A Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination."
 - (ii) Completion of the live fire objectives in NFPA 1001 for Fire Fighter II during a live fire training. All of the exercises listed on the Live Fire Suppression Verification Sheet for the appropriate level shall be completed through the local department's training program. A Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination." The department shall provide the Commission with a minimum of fourteen (14) calendar days' notice by submitting an Application for Live Fire Training by e-mail, US mail, or fax. A Commission member or staff may witness any live fire exercises conducted by a department. This option shall be completed during a training exercise; no working fires may be utilized for this option.
- (4) The examination for Fire Department Instructor I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Department Instructor I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (a) Any applicant challenging the Fire Department Instructor I written examination shall complete the Fire Department Instructor I Practical Skills Checklist provided by the Commission. This practical is to be graded by an individual certified by the Tennessee Commission on Fire Fighting as either a Fire Department Instructor I or a Vocational and Higher Education Instructor. A completed copy of the checklist shall be attached to the "Application for Written Examination."
- (5) The examination for Fire Department Instructor II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Department Instructor II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for the Fire Department Instructor II shall consist of completing a prescribed Fire Department Instructor II workbook meeting the current standard.
- (6) The examination for Fire Department Instructor I/II Combined shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Department Instructor I/II Combined as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for the Fire Department Instructor I/II Combined shall consist of completing a prescribed Fire Department Instructor II workbook meeting the current standard.
- (7) The examination for Fire Department Instructor III shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Department Instructor III as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (8) The examination for Fire Officer I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Officer I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for Fire Officer I shall consist of completing projects which shall be administered by the Commission in conjunction with written examinations. The practical requirement shall be completion of two (2) projects assigned to the applicant at random which are derived from NFPA 1021. These projects will be graded by designated Commission representatives.
- (9) The examination for Fire Officer II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Officer II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for Fire Officer II shall consist of completing a project based on NFPA 1021 for Fire Officer II. The project may be obtained from the Commission. This project will be graded by the Commission.
- (10) The examination for Fire Officer I/II Combined shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Officer I/II Combined as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for the Fire Officer I/II Combined shall consist of completing a project based on NFPA 1021 for Fire Officer II. The project may be obtained from the Commission. This project will be graded by the Commission.
- (11) The examination for Fire Officer III shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested will be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Officer III as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (a) The practical examination for the Fire Officer III shall consist of completing a project based on NFPA 1021 for Fire Officer III. The project may be obtained from the Commission. This project will be graded by the Commission.
- (12) The examination for Fire Officer IV shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Officer IV as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) An applicant shall successfully complete the practical examination for Fire Officer IV as promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1021, Chapter 7.
- (13) The examination for Hazardous Materials Awareness Certification shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Hazardous Materials Awareness as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination for Hazardous Materials Awareness Certification may be part of the Fire Fighter I practical or administered separately and shall be based upon NFPA 472 or NFPA 1072 for the appropriate level.
 - (b) The written examination for Hazardous Materials Awareness Certification may be administered in conjunction with the Hazardous Materials Operations Certification written examination or may be administered separately.
- (14) The examination for Hazardous Materials Operations Certification shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Hazardous Materials Operations as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination for Hazardous Materials Operations Certification may be part of the Fire Fighter I practical or administered separately and shall be based upon NFPA 472 or NFPA 1072 for the appropriate level.
 - (b) The written examination for Hazardous Materials Operations Certification may be administered in conjunction with the Hazardous Materials Awareness Certification written examination or may be administered separately.
- (15) The examination for Airport Firefighter shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Airport Firefighter as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination requirements for Airport Firefighter shall consist of all the following:
 - 1. A practical administered on a regional basis. This practical shall be developed by the Commission based on the standards in NFPA 1003.
 - 2. A live fire practical shall be completed. One (1) of the following options shall be completed:
 - (i) Completion of a Federal Aviation Administration training course where, at minimum, all requirements of the Commission's Airport Live Fire Verification Sheet are accomplished; or

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (ii) All of the exercises listed on the Airport Live Fire Suppression Verification Sheet for the appropriate level shall be completed through the local airport fire department's training program. An Airport Live Fire Suppression Verification Form shall be completed and attached to the "Application for Written Examination". The department shall provide the Commission with a minimum of seventy two (72) hours prior notification of live fire exercises, either by e-mail, US mail, or fax. A Commission member or staff may witness any live fire exercises conducted by a department. This option shall be completed during a training exercise; no working fires may be utilized for this option.
- (16) The examination for Wildland Firefighter I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Wildland Firefighter I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for Wildland Firefighter I shall consist of one (1) of the following:
 - 1. Completion of a practical examination based upon NFPA 1051 which has been submitted to the Commission for approval; or
 - 2. Completion of the "Task Book for the Position of Firefighter Type 2" offered by the Tennessee Division of Forestry.
- (17) The examination for Wildland Firefighter II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Wildland Firefighter II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for Wildland Firefighter II shall consist of one (1) of the following:
 - 1. Completion of a practical examination based upon NFPA 1051 which has been submitted to the Commission for approval; or
 - 2. Completion of the "Task Book for the Position of Advanced Firefighter/Squad Boss" offered by the Tennessee Division of Forestry.
- (18) The examination for Fire and Life Educator I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire and Life Safety Educator I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for Fire and Life Safety Educator I shall consist of completing a project based upon NFPA 1035 for the appropriate level and returning it to the Commission for grading. The project may be obtained from the Commission.
- (19) The examination for Fire and Life Educator II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire and Life Safety Educator II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for Fire and Life Safety Educator II shall consist of completing a project based upon NFPA 1035 for the appropriate level and returning it to the Commission for grading. The project may be obtained from the Commission.
- (20) The examination for Fire Safety Compliance Officer I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Safety Compliance Officer I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (a) The practical examination for personnel assigned to fire suppression shall consist of:
 - 1. The applicant monitoring a minimum of eight (8) fire safety inspections conducted by a Fire Safety Compliance Officer II or an individual certified by the State Fire Marshal's Office in accordance with T.C.A. § 68-120-113 utilizing Standards outlined in NFPA 101 and 1031. Two (2) fire safety inspections of each of the four (4) occupancies, industrial, educational, general business, and institutional, as defined in the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, are to be conducted; or
 - 2. Becoming certified by the State Fire Marshal's Office in accordance with T.C.A. § 68-120-113.
- (21) The examination for Fire Safety Compliance Officer II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Safety Compliance Officer II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The practical examination for personnel assigned to fire suppression shall consist of:
 - 1. The applicant conducting a minimum of eight (8) fire safety inspections under the supervision of a Fire Safety Compliance Officer II or an individual certified by the State Fire Marshal's Office in accordance with T.C.A. § 68-120-113 utilizing standards outlined in NFPA 101 and 1031. Two (2) inspections of each of the four (4) occupancies, industrial, educational, general business, and institutional, as defined in the NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, are to be conducted. The evaluator shall evaluate each inspection on a pass/fail basis determining whether the applicant conducted a thorough and complete inspection ensuring compliance with NFPA Standards and any applicable local ordinances. In order to complete successfully the practical examination, the applicant must receive a passing grade for each of the inspections on each of the four (4) occupancies; or
 - 2. Becoming certified by the State Fire Marshal's Office in accordance with T.C.A. § 68-120-113.
- (22) The examination for Fire Apparatus Operator shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Apparatus Operator as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1002, Chapters 4, 5, and 6. In order to challenge this level, the applicant shall perform the evolutions on both pumper and aerial apparatus equipment.
- (23) The examination for Pumper Driver/Operator shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Pumper Driver/Operator as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1002, Chapters 4 and 5.
- (24) The examination for Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1002, Chapters 4 and 6.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (25) The examination for Safety Officer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Safety Officer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination for Safety Officer shall be the completion of a written outline of the Safety Officer's role, duties, and responsibilities in accordance with NFPA 1521, OSHA, and other standards given an incident scenario provided by the Commission. The applicant will be provided the incident scenario in a written examination setting. This outline will be evaluated by a Committee of the Commission which will meet in conjunction with a regularly scheduled Commission meeting on an as-needed basis. Successful completion of this outline shall qualify the applicant to take the written examination for Safety Officer.
- (26) The examination for Incident Safety Officer I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Incident Safety Officer I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination for Incident Safety Officer I shall be the completion of a written project of the Incident Safety Officer I's role, duties, and responsibilities in accordance with NFPA 1521, OSHA, and other standards given an incident scenario provided by the Commission. The applicant will be provided the incident scenario in a written examination setting. This project will be evaluated by a Committee of the Commission which will meet in conjunction with a regularly scheduled Commission meeting on an as needed basis. Successful completion of this project shall qualify the applicant to take the written examination for Incident Safety Officer I.
- (27) The examination for Health and Safety Officer I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Health and Safety Officer I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The practical examination for Health and Safety Officer I shall be the completion of a written outline of the Health and Safety Officer I's role, duties, and responsibilities in accordance with NFPA 1521, OSHA, and other standards given an incident scenario provided by the Commission. The applicant will be provided the incident scenario in a written examination setting. This outline will be evaluated by a Committee of the Commission which will meet in conjunction with a regularly scheduled Commission meeting on an as needed basis. Successful completion of this outline shall qualify the applicant to take the written examination for Health and Safety Officer I.
- (28) The examination for Rope Rescuer I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Rope Rescuer I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 4 and 5.
- (29) The examination for Rope Rescuer II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Rope Rescuer II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 6.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (30) The examination for Confined Space Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Confined Space Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 7.
- (31) The examination for Trench Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Trench Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 8.
- (32) The examination for Structural Collapse Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Structural Collapse Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 9.
- (33) The examination for Vehicle Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Vehicle Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 10.
- (34) The examination for Surface Water Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Surface Water Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 11.
- (35) The examination for Swiftwater Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Swiftwater Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 12.
- (36) The examination for Dive Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Dive Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 13.
- (37) The examination for Ice Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Ice Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 14.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (38) The examination for Surf Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Surf Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 15.
- (39) The examination for Wilderness Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Wilderness Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 16.
- (40) The examination for Mine and Tunnel Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Mine and Tunnel Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 17.
- (41) The examination for Cave Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Cave Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 18.
- (42) The examination for Machinery Rescuer shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Machinery Rescuer as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1006, Chapters 5 and 19.
- (43) The examination for Exterior Industrial Fire Brigade Member shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Exterior Industrial Fire Brigade Member as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1081, Chapters 4 and 6.
- (44) The examination for Interior Structural Fire Brigade Member shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Interior Structural Fire Brigade Member as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1081, Chapters 4 and 7.
- (45) The examination for Fire Inspector I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Inspector I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1031, Chapter 4.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (46) The examination for Fire Investigator I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Investigator I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1033.
- (47) The examination for Hazardous Materials Technician shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Hazardous Materials Technician as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 472 or NFPA 1072.
- (48) The examination for Hazardous Materials Incident Commander shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Hazardous Materials Incident Commander as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 472 or NFPA 1072.
- (49) The examination for Fire Inspector II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Inspector II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1031.
- (50) The examination for Fire Inspector III shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Inspector III as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1031.
- (51) The examination for Plans Reviewer I shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Plans Reviewer I as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1031.
- (52) The examination for Plans Reviewer II shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Plans Reviewer II as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1031.
- (53) The examination for Fire Marshal shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Fire Marshal as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
 - (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1037.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.06, continued)

- (54) The examination for Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) Driver/Operator shall consist of a practical and a written examination. The subjects tested shall be substantially derived from the performance standards for Aircraft Rescue Firefighting (ARFF) Driver/Operator as set forth in Chapter 0360-06-01.
- (a) The applicant shall complete a practical examination promulgated by the Commission utilizing the standards outlined in NFPA 1002, Chapters 4 and 9.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, 4-24-107, 4-24-110, and 68-1-102. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Amendment filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed October 14, 1994; effective February 28, 1995. Repeal and new rule filed April 25, 2005; effective July 9, 2005. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Amendments filed October 5, 2010; effective March 31, 2011. Amendments filed August 2, 2011; effective January 29, 2012. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed June 3, 2016; effective September 1, 2016. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018. Amendments filed January 22, 2020; effective April 21, 2020.

0360-04-01-.07 RESERVED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 4-24-207. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 27, 1979; effective October 10, 1979. Repeal filed November 8, 1990; effective December 23, 1990. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015.

0360-04-01-.08 WRITTEN EXAMINATIONS.

- (1) Written examinations shall be scheduled by the Commission office.
- (2) A site for a written examination shall:
- (a) Have sufficient space with tables/desks and chairs for the applicants;
 - (b) Have sufficient lighting;
 - (c) Be sufficiently free of outside noise or other distractions which could interfere with the examination;
 - (d) Be reasonably comfortable with respect to the environment so as not to provide a distraction from the examination; and
 - (e) Meet all ADA requirements.
- (3) The Commission representative shall ensure that the site meets these requirements prior to the start of the written examination.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018.

0360-04-01-.09 PRACTICAL EXAMINATIONS.

- (1) One department may administer a practical examination to another participating department and/or may enroll students from another department in an approved Recruit Training Program provided the following conditions are met:

(Rule 0360-04-01-.09, continued)

- (a) The administering department's practical examination and/or Recruit Training Program have been approved by the Commission;
 - (b) Both departments have agreed to allow the applicant(s) to utilize the administering department's practical examination; and
 - (c) Proof of successful completion of the practical examination is sent to the applicant's department and placed on file.
- (2) The application for a practical examination shall be submitted by the department of which the applicant is a member and the examination results will be forwarded to that department.
- (3)
 - (a) For practical or live burn practical examinations, compliance with 29 CFR 1910.134, Respiratory Protection Standard, is required. An applicant is required to have been SCBA fit tested for within twelve (12) months of the examination and a SCBA Fit Testing Verification form is to be completed. Appropriate documentation shall include:
 1. The signature of the Fire Chief from the applicant's sponsoring department; and
 2. Documentation from an authorized fit-testing entity.
 - (b) No one shall be allowed to participate in the practical or live burn practical examination in which a SCBA is used unless their fit testing is documented.
 - (c) Applicants for Tennessee State Fire Commission Certification in Fire Fighter I or II practical or live burn practicals, who have beards or facial hair in the area of the SCBA face piece seal (examples may include, but not be limited to: full-face beards, muttonchops, goatees, sideburns, mustaches, or even a few days growth of stubble) shall not be allowed to participate in the practical exam if the facial hair between the wearer's skin and the sealing surfaces of the face piece prevents a good seal with the respirator. A fire fighter shall not enter an area in which it has been determined that respirator protection is necessary when conditions prevent a good seal of the respirator face piece to the face. This provision shall be enforced regardless of the live fire skills being tested at any site. No exceptions to this provision shall be granted. This provision is in conjunction with 29 CFR 1910.134 Respiratory Protection Standard.
 - (d) Ordinary eyeglasses shall not be used with full face piece respirators. Eye glasses with temple bars or straps that pass between the sealing surface of a full face piece and the fire fighter's face will prevent a good seal. Special spectacle kits can be ordered and mounted inside a full face piece respirator.
- (4)
 - (a) For Regional Practical Examinations, a department shall furnish a minimum of one (1) evaluator for every two (2) applicants that the department submits for examination. If a department submits less than two (<2) applicants, that department will not be required to provide an evaluator but is strongly encouraged to do so.
 - (b) Evaluators shall be certified by the Commission at a minimum of Fire Fighter II level (Fire Fighter III for 1987 NFPA Standard or earlier) and are encouraged to be certified at the Fire Department Instructor I level.
 - (c) Evaluators shall successfully complete a Commission-approved examination before being allowed to serve as an Evaluator. The Evaluator training and examination may be available online over the Internet.
- (5) Regional Practical Examination Site Requirements. The department hosting a regional practical examination shall meet the following conditions:

(Rule 0360-04-01-.09, continued)

- (a) Have adequate space to conduct the practical examinations;
 - (b) Be able to provide all equipment required for the examination, excluding the equipment each applicant shall provide in accordance with Commission rules;
 - (c) A member of the host department shall have attended a regional practical examination before hosting one within the department;
 - (d) Provide a minimum of three (3) evaluators who are certified by the Commission at a minimum of Fire Fighter II level (Fire Fighter III for 1987 NFPA Standard or earlier) and are encouraged to be certified at the Fire Department Instructor I level;
 - (e) The proposed examination site was inspected by the Commission representative in order to ensure it meets the requirements of the program; and
 - (f) Provide for their fire fighters and for practical examinations equipment which has been inspected and meets all applicable NFPA safety standards.
- (6) A host department for a practical examination shall provide the Commission representative on the day of the practical examination a letter addressed to the Commission and signed by the Fire Chief or Training Chief certifying that all equipment used in the practical examination meets all applicable NFPA, OSHA and other applicable standards for safety and required inspections. Included in the letter shall be a certification statement that all equipment that is required to be tested according to said standard (e.g., ladders, hose, pumps, SCBA, etc.) has been tested according to the standard. Failure to provide this letter shall result in the cancellation of the practical examination for that day.
- (7) All instructors, evaluators, and approved applicants who participate in a live fire practical shall meet the requirements of Chapter 4, Section 4.3, Student Prerequisites, of the latest adopted edition of NFPA 1403. Written documentation of completion of this training shall be kept on file by the department and shall be subject to audit by the Commission. All requirements listed in the Live Fire Training Requirements Book shall be completed.
- (8) Practical skill sheets shall be available to all applicants through the Commission website.
- (9) Practical examination sites shall have adequate space to safely hold the examination. The site shall have an isolated holding area for the applicants waiting to take the examination and a separate area for applicants who have completed the examination. The Commission representative shall ensure that the site meets these requirements prior to the start of the examination.
- (10) Guidelines for Practical and Live Burn Practical Examinations
- (a) No fee shall be charged by the Commission for these examinations.
 - (b) Practical regional examination sites will be established in each Commission representative's territory, on an as needed basis, to meet the needs of the fire departments within their territories.
 - (c) Live Fire Practical examination sites will be established by the Commission representatives in conjunction with a department's ability to host these types of practical examinations which shall be NFPA 1403 compliant.
 - (d) Applicants may travel out of their region to take examinations at other sites.

(Rule 0360-04-01-.09, continued)

- (e) The Commission representative is to conduct a training seminar for evaluators prior to each practical examination to ensure the evaluators understand examination procedures, grading procedures, performance criteria, and instructions on completing required paperwork. The Commission will provide the Commission representative with documents to be utilized during this training. Any evaluator who fails to attend this training will not be allowed to serve as an evaluator.
- (f) Applications to challenge the practical examination shall be submitted to the Commission a minimum of two (2) weeks prior to the examination date. A minimum of ten (10) applicants shall be scheduled in order to conduct the practical examinations; a maximum of fifty (50) applicants may be tested per day. The Commission or Commission's designee may waive this requirement if justification exists.
- (g) An applicant who fails any evolution shall be notified immediately of his/her failure and will be allowed to leave the practical immediately.
- (h) Copies of the entire practical examination will be provided to all departments. A copy may also be requested by individuals from the Commission Office either by e-mail or US mail.
- (i) Applicants who complete the examination shall remain at the host facility until the end of the day to assist in cleaning and restoring the host facility to original condition prior to receiving test results. Leaving early will result in automatic failure unless the applicant is given permission to leave by the Commission representative.
- (j) Applicants who have completed their practical examination shall remain separate from those waiting to challenge the examination.
- (k) Applicants waiting to challenge the practical examination shall be secluded from the actual practical. Under no circumstances shall an applicant waiting to challenge the practical examination be allowed to see the practicals being administered or be in contact with any individual who has completed the practical.
- (l) The applicant or the applicant's sponsoring department shall provide at least one (1) SCBA and mask; and each applicant shall bring a mask which has been fit tested to them.
- (m) The applicant or the applicant's sponsoring department shall inspect each applicant's equipment to ensure it meets current additions of applicable safety standards. These standards include:
 - 1. NFPA 1981;
 - 2. NFPA 1971;
 - 3. NFPA 1976;
 - 4. NFPA 1977; and
 - 5. NFPA 1982.
- (n) Each applicant shall bring his/her own personal protective equipment (e.g., helmet, turnout gear, gloves, and coat) including SCBA.
- (o) The host department shall provide the equipment to be used for testing (e.g., adders, hose, etc.).

(Rule 0360-04-01-.09, continued)

- (p) The applicant shall assume liability in case of injury. A statement to this effect is included on the application which shall be signed by the applicant.
- (q) The Commission will solicit individuals who are Fire Fighter II or Fire Instructor I certified or individuals deemed by the Commission to be subject matter experts in the area of firefighting and are interested in serving as evaluators. Individuals shall submit their names and qualifications. This list of names will be maintained by the Commission office which will rotate through the names for each examination. Individuals may add their names at any time.
- (r) An applicant shall perform the practical skills examinations as required for each class of certification. An applicant may not refuse to perform a practical skills examination even if his/her department does not have the equipment specified to perform that practical skill.
- (s) The Commission representative shall have the authority to adopt these guidelines to address specific life safety problems as they arise.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015. Amendments filed July 27, 2018; effective October 25, 2018. Amendments filed January 22, 2020; effective April 21, 2020.