

Certification Testing: In response to Blueprint 2020 stakeholder comments, certification examinations will become a standard process statewide. SFT anticipates implementation of certification examinations for Chief Fire Officer Certification a future date.

Task Books/Application Form: Implementation of the new Chief Fire Officer (2014) requires that candidates complete a comprehensive task book. This task book covers all of the job performance requirements contained in the aforementioned professional qualification standards and CTS. The task book will be made available to candidates by SFT upon completion of all course work and with authorization from their employer. Occupational experience will be verified by the Fire Chief or designee on file signing the task book upon completion. In addition a new application form will be implemented.

TRANSITION PERIOD.....Effective July 1, 2015—December 31, 2016

SFT recognizes that many candidates are vested in the current Chief Officer Certification track and, therefore, the existing Chief Officer Curriculum and Certification requirements will be available for those candidates during the transition period. Candidates entering the certification system should enroll in the new Chief Fire Officer courses and comply with the new Chief Fire Officer Certification requirements. Cross over between courses will not be allowed.

COURSE PHASE OUT..... Effective December 31, 2016

Effective December 31, 2016 Chief Officer courses will no longer be delivered and the curriculum will be retired. Courses from this retired certification track with viable content may be reconfigured in some form as FSTEP courses.

CERTIFICATION PHASE OUT* Effective December 31, 2018

Effective December 31, 2018 Chief Officer Certification will no longer be supported by SFT and will be retired.

***SFT has extended the certification deadline from December 31, 2016 to December 31, 2018 to allow candidates who need additional time to complete the college degree or rank requirement.**

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS.....Effective July 1, 2015

Instructors for the new Chief Fire Officer courses must continue to meet the SFT requirements for Registered Instructor. All current registered instructors must attend an Instructor Update Course prior to instructing any of the new Chief Fire Officer courses. In addition, the following transition exceptions apply:

Human Resource Management for Chief Fire Officers: Current Instructors of Fire Management 2A or 2C are authorized to deliver this course. New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

Budget and Fiscal Responsibilities for Chief Fire Officers: Current Fire Management 2B Instructors are authorized to deliver this course. New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content .

General Administration Functions for Chief Fire Officers: Current Fire Management 2A or 2D Instructors are authorized to deliver this course. New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

Emergency Service Delivery Responsibilities for Chief Fire Officers: Current Instructors of either Command 2A, 2B, 2C, 2D or 2E , are authorized to deliver this course. New instructors will be required to either complete the new course or apply for a PACE II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content .

POTENTIAL AGENCY IMPACTS

Fire agencies utilizing the existing Chief Officer Certification or Curriculum as a requirement for their recruitment/promotion activities need to review the new Chief Fire Officer Curriculum and certification requirements to be sure that all agency training needs are being met. After review, Fire Agencies should update their job specifications and recruitment documentation to reflect these new courses and certification requirements. Fire agencies should also evaluate how these new courses and certification requirements will impact their existing labor agreements.

Accredited Regional Training Programs (ARTP), Accredited Local Academies (ALA), community colleges and all other local delivery venues need to review the curriculum and seek approval from their curriculum committee / program sponsor, as appropriate. ARTPs should review the new Chief Fire Officer curriculum and discuss potential impacts with their advisory committees.