Driver/Operator Certification Track
Implementation of New Curriculum and Certification Requirements

This document is intended to provide information for all State Fire Training (SFT) stakeholders on changes to the Driver/Operator curriculum and certification Track requirements. Stakeholders are encouraged to study this information carefully and seek clarification from SFT if questions arise.


**Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Pump Certification**
- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1A (40 Hours)
- Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1B (40 Hours)

**Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Aerial Certification**
- Aerial Apparatus Operations (40 Hours)

**Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Tillered Certification**
- Tiller Apparatus Operations (40 Hours)

**Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Wildland Certification**
- Wildland Fire Apparatus Operations (24 Hours)

**Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Water Tender Certification**
- Water Tender Fire Apparatus Operations (32 Hours)

**Certification Testing:** In response to Blueprint 2020 stakeholder comment, certification examinations will become a standardized process statewide. SFT anticipates implementation of certification examinations for the new Driver/Operator certification at a future date.

**Task Books/Application Form:** Implementation of the new Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Track requires that candidates complete a comprehensive task book for each level of certification. These task books cover all of the job performance requirements contained in the aforementioned professional qualification standards. Candidates wishing to obtain a task book will make application using the new application form and send it to State Fire Training. SFT will then issue the Task Book. Occupational experience will be verified by the Fire Chief or designee on file signing the task book upon completion.
Driver/Operator Certification Track Timeline

TRANSITION PERIOD.........................................................Effective October 1, 2015– July 1, 2017

SFT recognizes that during the transition period many candidates will be vested in the current Driver/Operator curriculum and certification process therefore both the existing and new tracks will be available throughout the transition period. Candidate entering into the system should enroll in the new Driver/Operator certification track. There is no cross over between these courses

COURSE/CERTIFICATION PHASE OUT..............................................Effective July 31, 2017

Effective July 1, 2017, Driver/Operator 1 Certification will be retired
Effective July 1, 2017, Driver/Operator 1A (2008) and 1B (2008) will be retired.
Effective July 1, 2017, FSTEP course Aerial/Tiller Truck Operations (2012) will be retired.

INSTRUCTOR REQUIREMENTS.............................................................. Effective October 1, 2017

Driver/Operator 1A and 1B - current registered instructors for these courses are authorized to instruct the new curriculum. New instructors will be required to either take the course or apply for a Pace II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

Aerial Apparatus Operations and Tillered Apparatus Operations - current registered instructor for FSTEP Aerial/Tiller Operations course will be authorized to instruct the new curriculum. New instructors will be required to either take the course or apply for a Pace II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.
**Wildland Fire Apparatus Operations** - New instructors will be required to either take the course or apply for a Pace II review of their instructor qualifications, including appropriate education and practical experience relating to course content.

**Water Tender Operations** - New instructors will be required to either take the 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 Driver/Operator 1 as a minimum qualification for promotional need to review the new Driver/Operator curriculum to be sure that all agency training needs are being met. If not, the local agency may need to augment the curriculum at the local level. Fire agencies should also research and understand the new task book processing procedures.

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 Driver/Operator Certification Track and curriculum and discuss with their advisory committees to determine if the curriculum must be expanded to meet local needs. ARTPs and ALAs should insure they are prepared to conduct capstone testing and understand their role in the process.