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CHAPTER 259

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY STANDARDS AND TRAINING

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FILING CAPTION: Amending DPSST Requirements for Accreditation of Fire Service Agency Training Programs

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AMEND: 259-009-0087

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RULE SUMMARY: Accreditation of a fire service agency's training programs allows the fire service agency to teach DPSST approved training courses as in house training that can be used for fire service professional certifications. The accreditation agreement between DPSST and the fire service agency serves to consolidate course certification, instructor certification, and fire service professional certification processes.

Section (1) provides a purpose statement to help define accreditation. It includes identification of the DPSST R-1 Form, which is used to conduct accreditation reviews and provides guidance for the review process.

Section (2) lists the requirements that a fire service agency needs to meet and maintain in order to have accredited training programs.

Section (2)(f) adds clarification for the accredited training program instructor requirements. Section (2)(e) states that the fire service agency needs to have at least one currently certified NFPA Fire Instructor I. Requiring someone to be qualified as an NFPA Fire Instructor I doesn't always mean that the person will have the knowledge or experience needed to teach a certification level. Training needs to be conducted by a qualified instructor. Section (2)(f) defines who may be considered a qualified instructor by providing several options that recognize combinations of experience in the certification level (holds certification or is a content expert) and experience for teaching the certification level (NFPA Fire Instructor I or equivalent instructor experience or training).

Section (2)(g) adds clarification that task books and task performance evaluations (TPEs) need to be the DPSST approved versions that correspond with the requirements for certification. Connecting the task books and TPEs to the certification requirements helps recognize that there isn't a TPE option for every certification.

Section (2)(h) addresses the requirements for training record retention. Section (2)(h) recognizes that the fire service agency may already have a records retention policy in place that fits their needs. If they don't, the rule recommends

keeping the records for five years from separation. The recommended retention schedule recognizes the importance of keeping training and certification records for the entirety of a fire service professional's time with the fire service agency, not just five years from the date training was completed.

Sections (3) and (4) address DPSST issuance of a written accreditation agreement, the three year accreditation period, and the process to request renewal of the accreditation agreement.

Section (5) outlines DPSST termination of an accreditation agreement and a fire service agency's opportunity to appeal the termination.

Section (6) addresses DPSST access to a fire service agency's training records. The language recognizes the DLO as a DPSST designee for the purpose of reviewing training records. Additional language states that the access to training records is for the purpose of verifying that training, certification, and accreditation standards are met.

CHANGES TO RULE:

259-009-0087

Accreditation of Fire Service Agency Training Programs ¶

~~(1) The Department may accredit fire service agency training programs which~~ A fire service agency may request accreditation for a training program that is delivered by the fire service agency to meet the following training requirements:¶

~~(a) The training program is under the direction of a designated training officer for a level of certification found in OAR 259-009-0062.¶~~

~~(a) Requests to receive or renew accreditation may be submitted to DPSST or a District Liaison Officer;¶~~

~~(b) DPSST or the District Liaison Officer will review the fire service agency has at least one currently certified NFPA Fire Instructor I to instruct the accredited's training programs to determine if the training is eligible for accreditation.¶~~

~~(c) Accreditation reviews are conducted using the DPSST R-1 Form.¶~~

~~(2) DPSST may accredit, or renew the accreditation of, a fire service agency's training programs;¶~~

~~(e) When the fire service agency has met the maintenance re-certification all of the following requirements as defined in OAR 259-009-0065;¶~~

~~(d) The t:¶~~

~~(a) The fire service agency has a designated Training officer has validated successful completion of training with a task performance evaluation or a task book at the conclusion.¶~~

~~(b) The fire service agency's training schedule demonstrates delivery of the training program or as a part of the accredited training in accordance with that are approved under the accreditation agreement.¶~~

~~(c) The fire service agency has curriculum that meets the standards and procedures adopted by the Department;¶~~

~~(e) Fire service personnel training records for certification found in OAR 259-009-0062 and has access to the equipment and qualified instructors necessary for accredited fire service agency training programs must be maintained by the employing fire service agency for at least five years; h of the training programs that are approved under the accreditation agreement.¶~~

~~(fd) The fire service agency must possess has at least one triple combination pumper that conforms to the minimum standards for automotive fire apparatus as outlined in the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Pamphlet #1901; and FPA Standard 1901, 2016 Edition, entitled "Standard for Automotive Fire Apparatus.¶~~

~~(e) The fire service agency has at least one currently certified NFPA Fire Instructor I.¶~~

~~(gf) A written accreditation The fire service agency's accredited training programs agreement must be prepared by the Department, defining the specific requirements of accreditation, including the specific training the fire service agency is accredited to deliver. T instructed by a qualified instructor. A "qualified instructor" means: ¶~~

~~(A) A person who has completed the NFPA Fire Instructor I training requirements and holds a certification for the level of training they are teaching;¶~~

~~(B) A person who has completed the NFPA Fire Instructor I training requirements and is a content expert, per the AHJ, in the level of training they are teaching;¶~~

~~(C) A person who has equivalent instructor training or experience and holds a certification for the level of training they are teaching;¶~~

~~(D) A person who has equivalent instructor training or experience and is a content expert, per the AHJ, in the level~~

of training they agreement must be signed by the Department's designee and the training officer or the fire service agency designee.¶

(2) The accreditation agreement must be reviewed every three years teaching;¶

(E) A person who holds a certification for the level of training they are teaching and is observed by a certified NFPA Fire Instructor I while teaching the accredited training; ¶

(F) A person who is a content expert, per the AHJ, in the level of training they are teaching and is observed by a certified NFPA Fire Instructor I while teaching the accredited training; or¶

(G) For NWCG levels of certification, a person who meets the instructor qualifications defined in the NWCG Standards for Course Delivery, PMS 901-1. ¶

(g) The fire service agency validates each fire service professional's successful completion of an accredited training program using a DPSST-approved task book or a DPSST-approved task performance evaluation that meets the standards for certification found in OAR 259-009-0062.¶

(ah) The fire service agency accreditation review must be conducted by the District Liaison Officer or Department designee. This review consists of: maintains training records for its fire service professionals per the retention schedule adopted by the AHJ. If the fire service agency doesn't have a retention schedule for training records, DPSST recommends that the fire service agency maintain the training records for five years from the date that the fire service professional left the fire service agency.¶

(Ai) EvaluatThe fire service agency is ing course outlines and subject content;¶

(B) Validation of curriculum; compliance with the maintenance re-certification requirements as defined in OAR 259-009-0065.¶

(C3) Verification of training records;¶

(D) Identification of certifications approved to be instructed by the fire service agency; and¶

(E) Verification of instructor qualifications. When DPSST approves accreditation of a fire service agency's training programs, DPSST will prepare a written accreditation agreement defining the specific requirements of accreditation, including the specific training the fire service agency is accredited to deliver. ¶

(a) The agreement must be signed by DPSST and the fire service agency's Agency Head and Training Officer. ¶

(b) The signed copy must be returned to DPSST for the accreditation status to be valid. ¶

(bc) Changes to an agency accreditation agreement may result in acquire additional fire service agency accreditation agreement review review before approval. ¶

(d) A fire service agency that no longer wants to maintain an accreditation agreement may notify DPSST in writing and request the agreement be voluntarily ended. ¶

(4) Accreditation agreements are valid for three years and may be renewed.¶

(ea) The Department, upon finding good cause, o renew an accreditation agreement, the fire service agency must schedule an accreditation review with DPSST or the District Liaison Officer.¶

(b) DPSST may extend an accreditation agreement for up to one additional years six months if the fire service agency or the District Liaison Officer submits a written request for an extension that identifies why the required review cannot be completed in accordance with this rule before the current accreditation agreement ends.¶

(35) The DPSST may terminate an accreditation agreement allows the Department access to the fire service agency's personnel training records to verify training received by fire service agency personnel and to monitor testing processes if the fire service agency no longer meets the standards for accreditation or the fire service agency violates the terms of the accreditation agreement. ¶

(a) DPSST will provide the fire service agency with a written notice of the termination.¶

(b) The Agency Head may appeal the termination of an accreditation agreement. The appeal must be in writing and submitted to DPSST.¶

(4c) The Department may terminate a fir Appeals are reviewed administratively by DPSST. DPSST may rescind the termination, uphold the stervice agency accreditation agreement for cause.¶

(5) The agency head, on behalf of mination, or continue the accreditation agreement conditionally, while the fire service agency completes steps to be in compliance with this rule and the agreement. ¶

(d) If an accreditation agreement is terminated, the fire service agency; will have the right to appeal the termination of an accreditation agreement. The appeal must be in writing and addressed to the Department.¶

(6) The Department may work with the fire service agency to correct any violbe able to request accreditation after meeting the accreditation requirements found in this rule.¶

(6) The accreditation agreement grants DPSST, or a District Liaison Officer as DPSST's designee, access to the fire service agency's training records for fire service professionals and instructors. DPSST or the District Liaison Officer may request access to the fire service agency's training records to ensure that training, certification, and continue the accreditation standards are met. Training records include records that agreement upon a f used to document training of good cause; other qualifications such as educational transcripts and experience.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 181A.410, ORS 181A.590

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 181A.410, ORS 181A.590