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WTCS Fire Service Education & Training FAQ's

regarding SPS330.08 Minimum Training and Education Standards

The October 2018 update to SPS 330 has generated a lot of questions regarding options for compliance with the training and education standards section (330.08). SPS33.08 and a few pertinent definitions are pasted in the boxes below for reference:

SPS 330.08 Minimum training and education standards. (1) No member may be permitted to participate in fire fighting activities until that individual has completed the minimum training and education requirements as specified by any of the following:

Note: Sub. (1) (intro.) is shown as amended eff. 10-1-19 by CR 17-067. Prior to 10-1-19 it reads:

(1) Any new fire fighter engaged in structural fire fighting shall meet the minimum requirements specified by:

- (a) An entry-level fire fighter course approved by the technical college system board.
- (bm) An approved state apprenticeship program.
- (cm) An in-house training program approved by the technical college system board.
- (d) NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications.

(2) No member may act as a pumper or aerial operator during an emergency operation until that individual meets the minimum training and education requirements as specified by any of the following:

Note: Sub. (2) (intro.) is shown as amended eff. 10-1-19 by CR 17-067. Prior to 10-1-19 it reads:

(2) Every new pumper operator or new aerial operator shall meet the minimum requirements specified by:

- (a) An entry-level driver/operator-pumper or driver/operator-aerial course approved by the technical college system board.
- (bm) An approved state apprenticeship program.
- (c) An in-house training program approved by the technical college system board.
- (d) NFPA 1002: Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications.

(3) Effective October 1, 2019, a fire officer appointed after October 1, 2018 may not act as a fire officer during an emergency operation until that individual completes NIMS training in accordance with s. SPS 330.14 and obtains the minimum training and education requirements as specified by any of the following:

- (a) A fire officer course approved by the technical college system board.
- (b) An approved state apprenticeship program.
- (c) An in-house training program approved by the technical college system board.
- (d) NFPA 1021: Standard for Fire Officer Qualifications.

History: Cr. Register, August, 1995, No. 476, eff. 9-1-95; CR 17-067: am. (title), renum. (1) (a) (intro.) to (1) (intro.), renum. (1) (a) 1. to 4. to (1) (a), (bm), (cm), (d) and am., r. (1) (b), (c), renum. (2) (a) (intro.) to (2) (intro.), renum. (2) (a) 1. to 4. To (2) (a), (bm), (c), (d) and am., r. (2) (b), am. (3), r. (4) Register September 2018 No. 753, eff. 10-1-18; CR 17-067: am. (1) (intro.) and (2) (intro.) Register September 2018 No. 753, eff. 10-1-19; republished to correct transcription error in (2) (a) Register October 2018 No. 754.

Relevant definitions from SPS330:

(12) "Fire fighting" means any activity related to controlling and extinguishing an unwanted fire or a fire set for training fire fighters, including any activity that exposes a fire fighter to the danger of heat, flame, smoke, or any other product of combustion, explosion, or structural collapse, but does not include any activities pertaining to fighting wildland fires. Fire fighting includes emergency operations and responses related to rescues, terrorism, and special hazards.

(14r) "Immediately dangerous to life or health" or "IDLH" means any condition that would pose an immediate or delayed threat to life, cause irreversible adverse health effects, or interfere with an individual's ability to escape from a hazardous environment.

(26) "Structural fire fighting" means fire fighting that involves buildings, enclosed structures, enclosed vehicles, or enclosed vessels.

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Note: Certification is NOT required for any course to satisfy SPS330.08.

What Firefighter course(s) does the WTCS provide to satisfy SPS330.08(1)(a)

- | | | |
|----------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1. Entry Level Firefighter | 60-hours | No certification available |
| -OR- | | |
| 2. Firefighter 1 | 96-hours | Certification available* |

What Driver/Operator Pumper and/or Aerial course(s) does the WTCS provide to satisfy SPS330.08(2)(a)

For Pumper:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------|----------------------------|
| 1. Entry Level Driver/Operator Pumper | 30-hours | No certification available |
| -OR- | | |
| 2. Driver/Operator Pumper | 66-hours | Certification available |

For Aerial:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Entry Level Driver/Operator Pumper | | |
| AND | | |
| Entry Level Driver/Operator Aerial | 36-hours total | No certification available |
| -OR- | | |
| 2. Driver/Operator Aerial | 36-hours | Certification available* |
| -OR- | | |
| 3. Driver/Operator Pumper | | |
| AND | | |
| Entry Level Driver/Operator Aerial | 72-hours total | |

What Fire Officer course does the WTCS provide to satisfy SPS330.08(3)(a):

- | | | |
|-------------------|----------|--------------------------|
| 1. Fire Officer I | 40-hours | Certification available* |
|-------------------|----------|--------------------------|

*Prerequisites must be met prior to certification.

How do I obtain the training I need?

The WTCS has sixteen technical colleges around the State that provide all of the training listed here, as well as additional courses. Department Chiefs/Training Officers should contact their local Technical College's Fire Coordinator to obtain the schedule and/or to request a training class. That information can be found at <https://mywtcs.wtcsystem.edu/fire-service/technical-colleges-centers-and-contact>.

For additional FAQ's, please visit <https://dsps.wi.gov/Documents/Programs/FireDeptSafetyHealth/FAQ.pdf>

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