

Fire Service Certification Program
January 2019



FIRE PROTECTION TECHNOLOGY
Certification Guide
Hazardous Materials Awareness



NFPA 1072
Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction
Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications
2017 Edition

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Basic Certification Information

Each individual seeking International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) accredited certification from Portland Community College (PCC), Fire Protection Technology (FPT) Program **MUST** do the following:

- **Register**; and
- **Submit an Application for Certification Testing Date**.

The Registration and Application for Certification Testing Date **MUST** be completed online. A list of current fees and the online registration and test date application forms may be found at: <https://www.pcc.edu/programs/fire-protection/certification.html>.

Once a person has **Registered** and submitted an **Application for Certification Testing Date**, PCC FPT will evaluate the registration and application to ensure the applicant meets the criteria for the certification level for which they applied. The requirements for **Hazardous Materials Awareness (HMA)** certification are located on page 4 of this guidebook. Following the evaluation, applicants will be notified whether they meet the criteria for admission into the **Certification Process**. Upon acceptance into the **Certification Process**, the applicant is considered a **candidate for certification** and has **one year to complete** the process.

During the **Certification Process** for HMA, candidates are responsible to know all Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) identified in Chapter 4, Awareness; NFPA 1072, *Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2017 edition (NFPA 1072-2017).

Certification candidates are given two opportunities to successfully complete the written portion of the certification examination component, including the original examination. The candidate must complete the written and retest, if required, within the 12-month certification period. Failure to successfully complete the written, and retest if required, within the 12-month period, will be deemed as failure of the attempted certification level.

Candidates that fail a certification level must reapply by submitting a new **Registration** and an **Application for Certification Testing Date**, including appropriate application fees.

HMA Certification Information:

The certification examination process for to become certified at the HMA level is as follows:

- Candidate must complete the online **Registration**.
- Candidate must complete the online **Application for Certification Testing Date**, including a statement of ability to perform skills at least 15 days prior to the requested test date.
- Candidate must take the HMA written examination.
- Written examinations **will not be scored** at the testing site.
- HMA certification written examination:
 - A score of 70 percent or more is required on the written examination to receive a passing grade on the written portion of the certification examination process.
 - A score of 69 percent or less on the written examination is deemed failing. Candidates that score 69% or less will be deemed to have failed the written portion of the certification examination process.
 - If the test (initial test) is failed, the candidate must schedule a second written test (retest) to occur between 21 days and 6 months following the first failed written test. This second test will be a new, randomly generated, written test.
 - If the second test (retest) is failed, the candidate will be considered to have failed the entire certification process.
- If the certification process is failed, the candidate must wait 12-months, from the original examination date (**not the Registration date**), to reapply for certification at the HMA level.

- If the first written examination is failed, the candidate is responsible for registering online for the retest.

Requirement for admission to the HMA certification written examination process, including retests:

An official government issued ID (state or federal) with picture must be presented for admittance to all examinations, including retests.

Certification Examination Instructions Hazardous Materials Awareness Level NFPA 1072-2017

Certification Prerequisites and Requirements:

Candidates seeking HMA certification from PCC, FPT must meet the following requirements:

1. Candidates must meet the age and residency requirement as identified in **Chapter Four**, of PCC, FPT *Certification Policy and Procedure Manual*, Revised 2017.
2. Successful completion of the written examination at the HMA level.

Candidates that meet the requirements identified above will be awarded certification at the HMA level and receive a certificate with an official IFSAC seal and registry number.

Certification Examination Process

Written Examination:

The HMA written examination component of the certification process consists of one written test based on JPRs listed in Chapter 4, Awareness; NFPA 1072, *Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2017 edition (NFPA 1072-2017).

- Candidates are required to score a minimum of 70% on the test.
- The HMA test contains 50 multiple choice test items covering HMA JPRs as identified in Chapter 4; NFPA 1072-2017.
- Candidates are allowed one (1) hour to complete the test.
- Test items are constructed using the multiple choice format.

Example:

1. How many tests items are on the Haz Mat Operations certification examination?
 - a. 25
 - b. 50
 - c. 75
 - d. 100

References and Textbooks:

- Department of Transportation, *Emergency Response Guidebook*, 2016 Edition.
- IFSTA, *Hazardous Materials for First Responders*, 5th Edition.
- NFPA 1072, *Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2017 Edition.

Written Examination Study Guide Hazardous Materials Awareness Level

Standard:

All written examination test items are based on Chapter 4, Awareness, NFPA 1072, *Standard for Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Emergency Response Personnel Professional Qualifications*, 2017 edition. Reference to the NFPA 1072 standard in the following study guide material is not the complete or official position of the NFPA. The official position of the NFPA is only represented by the “Standard” when printed in its entirety.

References:

1. Any textbook covering basic hazardous material first responder awareness and operations level knowledge and techniques appropriate for “fire academy” instruction can be used to prepare for the HMA written examination. However, PCC has chosen to adopt and reference the International Fire Service Training Association (IFSTA), *Hazardous Materials for First Responders*, 5th Edition, 2017.
2. The Department of Transportation (DOT), *Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG)*, 2016 edition, is required to answer specific test items included in the HM Awareness test. Candidates are expected to know how to use the ERG prior to the examination. Only a PCC FPT copy of the ERG issued at the time of the examination will be permitted to be used for certification testing. Candidates **will not** be permitted to use their personal copy of the ERG for certification testing.

NFPA Standard Section	IFSTA and DOT Reference Page(s)
<p>4.1.3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Role of awareness personnel at a hazardous materials/WMD incident • Location and contents of the AHJ emergency response plan • Standard operating procedures for awareness personnel 	<p>IFSTA: 14, 290, 291, 299 - 301, 589</p> <p>DOT: 1, 6 – 25, 370 – 372, 376 – 386</p>
<p>4.2.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What hazardous materials and WMD are • Basic hazards associated with classes and divisions • Indicators to the presence of hazardous materials including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Container shapes • NFPA 704 markings • Globally harmonized system (GHS) markings, • Placards and Labels • Pipeline markings and other transportation markings • Shipping papers with emergency response information and other indicators • Accessing information from the Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) (current edition) using: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of the material, • UN/NA identification number • Placard applied or container identification charts Types of hazard information available from the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERG • Safety data sheets (SDS) • Shipping papers with emergency response information • Other approved reference sources 	<p>IFSTA: 9, 11, 31, 46, 56, 65, 73-75, 76, 82-88, 94, 95, 99-102, 104, 105, 110, 114, 122-127, 134, 135, 140, 141, 145, 179, 180, 196, 244, 245, 250, 264</p> <p>DOT: 1, 6-25</p>

<p>4.3.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of the ERG, SDS, shipping papers with emergency response information, and other approved reference sources to identify precautions to be taken to protect responders and the public • Policies and procedures for isolating the hazard area and denying entry • The purpose of and methods for isolating the hazard area and denying entry 	<p>IFSTA: 4, 74, 113, 118-121, 123, 125, 126, 128, 129, 160, 164, 166, 180, 224, 240, 252, 274, 289, 292, 293, 296, 303, 320. 337-339, 361</p> <p>DOT: 1</p>
<p>4.4.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policies and procedures for notification, reporting, and communications • Types of approved communications equipment • The operation of that communications equipment 	<p>IFSTA: 113, 292, 293, 361</p> <p>DOT: 1</p>

Cumulative reading pages, for written test, in numerical order:

IFSTA, *Hazardous Materials for First Responders Handbook, 5th Edition:*

- Chapter 1: 8 – 31
- Chapter 2: 46 – 105
- Chapter 3: 110 – 127
- Chapter 4: 134 – 196
- Chapter 5: 224 – 274
- Chapter 6: 289 – -303
- Chapter 7: 320 – -339
- Chapter 8: 361
- Chapter 12: 589

DOT:

1, 6 – 25, 289 – 293, 363 – 364, 370 – 372, 376 – 386