

69A-37.062 Procedures for State Firefighter Certification Examination Day.

(1) Definitions. As used in this section:

(a) "Bureau" means the Bureau of Fire Standards and Training of the Division of State Fire Marshal, Department of Financial Services.

(b) "Examiner" means the person administering the examination.

(c) "Participant" means the person taking the examination.

(d) "SCBA" means self-contained breathing apparatus.

(e) "Training center" means the location at which the examination is being administered.

(2) Preparation for Examination.

(a)1. Training center staff shall have the apparatus and all equipment necessary for testing ready not later than 0730 hours on the morning of the state examination.

2. All tools specified in Rule 69A-37.060, F.A.C., are required at the testing site on the examination day.

3. It is recommended that two pallets be available for simulated roof or floor work.

(b) Training center staff shall have the participants present and prepared for testing not later than 0730 hours on the morning of the state examination.

(c) In the event of extreme or hazardous weather conditions that have the potential to compromise the effectiveness of the examination or expose the participants to injury, the examiner shall have full authority to postpone the examination to another date to be determined by the Bureau.

(3) Examination Sequence.

(a)1. Each participant shall be prepared to take any segment of the examination at any time during any day set for testing.

2. The weather and number of participants will be considerations that can alter the examination sequence.

(b) The examiner is permitted to administer the examination in any sequence the examiner deems necessary.

(4) Dress Code.

(a) All safety equipment, bunker gear, and other clothing as needed to participate in the state examination shall be furnished by the training center or the participant.

(b)1. Each participant shall wear at a minimum helmets, gloves, boots, and bunker pants while in the practical examination or staging area.

2. The examiner is permitted to designate a rehab area where participants are allowed to dress down.

(c) No bunker gear shall be worn in the classroom.

(d) Any time the helmet is worn during practical testing:

1. The flap shall be down to protect the back of the neck.

2. Helmet straps shall be in place under the chin and tightened.

(e) The helmet face shield shall be down to protect the eyes and face at any time the participant is involved in testing or any other activity unless a SCBA face piece is worn.

(f) Hoods are required during testing for proper donning of the SCBA and when participating in an evolution requiring the use of the SCBA.

(g) Sunglasses shall not be worn by participants in the practical examination area or in the classroom unless they are corrective prescription lenses.

(5) General Procedures.

(a)1. Each participant not involved in the examination or assisting with assigned duties shall be in a staging area.

2. Permission to leave the staging area for personal needs shall be requested of the examiner.

(b) While in the staging area, each participant shall remain standing, observing, and prepared to perform prescribed functions.

(c)1. The individual practical examinations are timed separately but the participant shall be prepared to begin upon reporting for each segment.

2. If a participant delays, the examiner shall inform the participant that the time will begin.

(d) Before and after taking his or her part of the practical examination, each participant shall assist in tasks assigned to the participant by the examiner or instructor in order to help the examination run safely and smoothly. Examiner or instructor supervision is required in these tasks.

(e)1. An examiner or instructor shall operate and pump each apparatus used on examination days.

2. The dress of the day shall be jump suit or work type uniform, and shoes or boots. Shorts, sandals, flip flops, and similar items of apparel or footwear are prohibited.

(f) Use of tobacco products by any state examiner or any state certified instructor is not permitted if such use can be viewed by any participant or other student.

(g)1. When invited, an instructor is permitted to accompany the examiner while the individual practical examination or team evolutions are being administered.

2. This instructor shall be properly attired, as directed by the examiner.

3. Each training center shall have an area designated as a staging area for visiting instructors.

(h) Equipment shall not be abused.

(i) Running is not permitted during the practical examination.

(j) No unauthorized personnel are permitted in any test area.

(k) No photographing, videotaping, or audiotaping of any test is permitted at any time under any circumstances.

(l) If an equipment malfunction occurs during the examination process, the participant will be stopped without penalty. After a reasonable recovery time the examiner will determine where and how the participant will restart the evaluation process.

(m) The face piece and hood shall be part of the personal protective ensemble any time the participant has the SCBA tank on the participant's back.

(n) A Personal Alert Safety System (PASS) shall be worn when a SCBA is used.

(o) No verbal encouragement from any student or instructor shall be permitted during the practical examination.

(p) Any participant who is absent at the time the orientation begins for the practical portion of the Minimum Standards State Certification Examination shall be required to take that portion of the examination at the Florida State Fire College during regional testing.

(q) Any participant who is absent at the time of the orientation begins for the written portion of the Minimum Standards Certification Examination shall be required to take that portion of the examination at the Florida State Fire College during the regional testing.

(6) Makeup Examinations.

(a) Retests of written examinations are given quarterly at Regional Testing sites.

(b) Retests of practical examinations or retests of written and practical examinations are given quarterly at the campus of the Florida State Fire College.

(c) The retest of the Minimum Standards State Certification Examination must be taken within 6 months of the initial examination date.

(d) A person reporting to the Florida State Fire College for a retest of the practical examination must have his or her own helmet, hood, gloves, boots, bunker coat, and bunker pants. It is recommended that each person bring his or her own SCBA.

(e) The dress code in effect at a training center on examination day applies during the Florida State Fire College regional retest examination.

(f) Safety: Firefighter safety is the paramount consideration of the Bureau.

Rulemaking Authority 633.128, 633.408(1) FS. Law Implemented 633.128, 633.408 FS. History—New 12-10-01, Formerly 4A-37.062.