

4765-20-10

**Firefighter certification by reciprocity.**

[Comment: For dates and availability of material incorporated by reference in this rule see rule 4765-25-02 of the Administrative Code.]

- (A) For purposes of granting reciprocity, the executive director may review firefighter licensing or certification requirements and firefighter training standards from another state, the District of Columbia, a United States territory, any branch of the United States military, or other firefighter training program approved by the executive director to identify those requirements and standards that are substantially similar to the curriculum and certification standards as set forth in Chapter 4765-24 of the Administrative Code and this chapter.
- (B) In accordance with section 5903.03 of the Revised Code the division shall consider substantially similar military experience, education, and training when determining whether an applicant who is a veteran or member of the armed forces has met all or part of the requirements for a certificate. An applicant who is a veteran or member of the armed forces shall provide all relevant documentation demonstrating his or her military experience, education, and training to assist the division in its determination.
- (C) The executive director shall issue a firefighter certificate through reciprocity pursuant to section 4765.55 of the Revised Code and this chapter, to an applicant who holds a current and valid firefighter certificate or license, that is in good standing, from another state, the District of Columbia, or a United States territory provided that the applicant meets all of the following:
- (1) The applicant is at least eighteen years of age;
  - (2) The applicant shall have successfully completed the following federal emergency management agency training courses:
    - (a) "National Incident Management System Course IS-700";
    - (b) "National Incident Management System Course ICS-100" or the online equivalent.
  - (3) The applicant shall have successfully completed a structured firefighter training course in another state, the District of Columbia, a United States territory, or other fire training program approved by the executive director that is substantially similar to the training standards and curriculum as set forth in Chapter 4765-24 of the Administrative Code. The training course shall have met all of the following:

- (a) The training course shall have included traditional classroom and practical skills training in the subject areas identified in the Ohio firefighter curriculum as set forth in Chapter 4765-24 of the Administrative Code;
  - (b) The training course shall have required the applicant to pass one or more written and practical skills examinations that test knowledge, skills, and ability to provide firefighter services;
  - (c) The training course shall have been significantly similar to the current curriculum requirements for the level of certification sought;
  - (d) The training course shall have been completed in the last thirty-six months or the applicant shall have been active with a fire department within the last thirty-six months.
- (4) The applicant shall meet the objectives as set forth in "Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Objectives" as approved by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the committee, and meeting the following:
  - (a) The course shall have consisted of a minimum of sixteen hours;
  - (b) The course shall have been consistent with the intent of "NFPA 1002" and "NFPA 1451" and shall have met the course objectives as approved by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the committee.
- (5) The applicant shall have successfully completed hazardous materials awareness and operations level training in accordance with the following:
  - (a) The training shall have consisted of a minimum of twenty-four hours;
  - (b) The training shall have met the mission-specific competencies specified in "NFPA 1072" as required by "NFPA 1001";
  - (c) The training shall have met the objectives as set forth in the "Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Course Objectives" approved by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the committee;
- (6) The applicant for firefighter requesting certification through reciprocity submits a completed "Firefighter Reciprocity Packet" including documentation that all requirements as specified in paragraph (C) of this rule have been met.
- (D) The executive director shall issue a firefighter certificate through reciprocity pursuant to section 4765.55 of the Revised Code and this chapter, to an applicant who received

a firefighter training course from any branch of the United States military, provided that the applicant meets all of the following qualifications:

(1) The applicant shall have successfully completed the following federal emergency management agency training courses:

(a) "National Incident Management System Course IS-700";

(b) "National Incident Management System Course ICS-100" or the online equivalent.

(2) The applicant shall have successfully completed a structured firefighter training course in any branch of the United States military that is equal to or exceeds the training standards and curriculum as set forth in Chapter 4765-24 of the Administrative Code. The training course shall have met all of the following requirements:

(a) The training course shall have included traditional classroom and practical skills training in the subject areas identified in the Ohio firefighter curriculum as set forth in Chapter 4765-24 of the Ohio Administrative Code;

(b) The training course shall have required the applicant to pass one or more written and practical skills examinations that test knowledge, skills, and ability to provide firefighter services;

(c) The training course shall have been significantly similar to the current curriculum requirements for the level of certification sought;

(3) An applicant that completed a structured training course in the United States military shall submit documentation indicating:

(a) The training course was completed in the last thirty-six months; or

(b) The applicant was on active duty with a fire department within the last thirty-six months.

(4) The applicant shall meet the objectives as set forth in "Emergency Vehicle Operations Course Objectives" as approved by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the committee, and meeting the following:

(a) The course shall have consisted of a minimum of sixteen hours;

- (b) The course shall have been consistent with the intent of "NFPA 1002" and "NFPA 1451" and shall have met the course objectives as approved by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the committee.
- (5) The applicant shall have successfully completed hazardous materials awareness and operations level training in accordance with the following:
  - (a) The training shall have consisted of a minimum of twenty-four hours;
  - (b) The training shall have met the mission-specific competencies specified in "NFPA 1072" as required by "NFPA 1001";
  - (c) The training shall have met the objectives as set forth in the "Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations Course Objectives" approved by the executive director, with advice and counsel of the committee;
- (6) The applicant for firefighter requesting certification through reciprocity submits a completed "Firefighter Reciprocity Packet" including documentation that all requirements as specified in this paragraph have been met.
- (E) Upon compliance with all requirements for certification in paragraph (C) or (D) of this rule the applicant will be issued a letter of authorization to test by the division.
  - (1) Within twelve months after the applicant is approved for testing the applicant shall pass the practical skills examination and the knowledge examination, as set forth in rule 4765-20-06 of the Administrative Code, at the level of certification sought.
  - (2) Practical skills and written examinations may be waived for applicants successfully completing training that meets the requirements of this rule through the United States Military within the last thirty-six months.
- (F) The applicant shall submit a completed "Firefighter Reciprocity Application" within ninety days of passing the practical skills examination and the knowledge examination.
- (G) In addition to the requirements set forth in paragraphs (C) to (F) of this rule, as applicable, an applicant for firefighter:
  - (1) Shall not have been convicted of any of the following:
    - (a) Any felony;
    - (b) A misdemeanor committed in the course of practice;

(c) A misdemeanor involving moral turpitude.

(2) Shall not have committed fraud, misrepresentation, or material deception in applying for or obtaining a certificate issued under section 4765.55 of the Revised Code and this chapter.

(3) Shall not have been previously revoked or denied a certificate by the executive director or the licensing organization in another state.

(H) In deciding whether to grant a firefighter certificate, the executive director, with the advice and counsel of the committee, has the following options:

(1) The executive director shall issue a firefighter certificate to an applicant who meets all of the requirements listed in paragraphs (C), (E), (F) and (G) or (D), (E), (F) and (G) of this rule;

(2) The executive director shall refuse to grant a firefighter certificate to an applicant who fails to meet one or more of the requirements listed in paragraphs (C), (E), and (F) or (D), (E), and (F) of this rule, as applicable;

(3) The executive director may grant, refuse to grant, or restrict a firefighter certificate to an applicant who meets the requirements listed in paragraphs (C), (E), and (F) or (D), (E), and (F) of this rule, but fails to meet one or more of the requirements listed in paragraph (G) of this rule.

(I) An applicant who is eligible for reinstatement is eligible to apply for certification by reciprocity at or below the level of the expired certificate.

Replaces: Replaces 4765-20-11 and part of 4765-24-03  
Effective: 1/1/2018  
Five Year Review (FYR) Dates: 10/01/2022

CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

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Certification

12/15/2017

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Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03  
Statutory Authority: 4765.55  
Rule Amplifies: 4765.55  
Prior Effective Dates: 07/03/1997, 09/25/2000, 09/30/2004, 01/24/2008,  
04/07/2014