

4765-20-11

**Firefighter certification by reciprocity.**

[Comment: For dates and availability of material incorporated by reference in this rule, see paragraph (CC) in rule 4765-11-01 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, or any branch of the United States military to identify those requirements and standards that are substantially similar to the curriculum and certification standards set forth in Chapter 4765-11 of the Administrative Code and this chapter.

(B) 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 qualifications:

(1) Submits a completed "Firefighter Reciprocity Application:"

(2) Submits documentation to the division demonstrating that the applicant has 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 equal to or exceeds the training standards and curriculum as set forth in Chapter 4765-11 of the Administrative Code. The training course shall meet 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 4765-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code;

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

(c) The training course shall be significantly similar to the current curriculum requirements for the level of certification sought.

(3) An applicant that completed a structured training course in another state, the District of Columbia, a United States territory, or other fire training program approved by the executive director shall meet one of the following:

(a) Submit documentation indicating the training course was completed in the last eighteen months; or

(b) Submit documentation demonstrating the applicant was on active duty

with a fire department within the last eighteen months.

(4) Meets all the requirements as set forth in paragraphs (A)(4) to (A)(6) of rule 4765-20-02 of the Administrative Code;

(5) Within twelve months after the applicant is approved for testing and the division issues a letter of authorization to test, the applicant shall pass the knowledge examination and practical examination, as set forth in rule 4765-20-06 of the Administrative Code, at the certification level sought. After twelve months, the applicant shall complete a new course of instruction at the level of certification sought.

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

(1) Submits a completed "Firefighter Reciprocity Application;"

(2) Submits documentation to the division demonstrating that the applicant has 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 4765-11 of the Administrative Code. The training course shall meet 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 4765-11 of the Ohio Administrative Code;

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

(c) The training course shall be significantly similar to the current curriculum requirements for the level of certification sought.

(3) An applicant that completed a structured firefighter training course in a branch of the United States military shall meet one of the following:

(a) Submit an application for reciprocity within eighteen months of discharge from the United States military; or

(b) Submit documentation indicating the training course was completed in the last eighteen months; or

(c) Submit documentation demonstrating the applicant was on active duty

with a fire department within the last eighteen months.

(4) The applicant meets all the requirements as set forth in paragraphs (A)(4) to (A)(6) of rule 4765-20-02 of the Ohio Administrative Code.

(5) Within twelve months after the applicant is approved for testing and the division issues a letter of authorization to test, the applicant shall pass the knowledge examination and practical examination, as set forth in rule 4765-20-06 of the Administrative Code, at the certification level sought. After twelve months, the applicant shall complete a new course of instruction at the level of certification sought.

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

(E) A firefighter certificate issued pursuant to this rule shall be issued in accordance with the certification cycles and pro-rated renewal requirements set forth in rule 4765-20-22 of the Administrative Code.

Replaces: 4765-20-11  
Effective: 04/07/2014  
R.C. 119.032 review dates: 01/16/2019

CERTIFIED ELECTRONICALLY

---

Certification

03/27/2014

---

Date

Promulgated Under: 119.03  
Statutory Authority: 4765.55  
Rule Amplifies: 4765.55  
Prior Effective Dates: 12/09/05, 5/1/75, 6/30/75, 1/1/89, 7/3/97, 9/25/00 and 1/24/08