

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
OHIO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES**

Date: February 18, 2014
Time: 10:00 a.m.
Location: Ohio Department of Public Safety
1970 West Broad Street, Room 134
Columbus, Ohio 43223

The Executive Director of Ohio Emergency Medical Services, with advice and counsel of the Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Committee, will conduct a public hearing for the purpose of soliciting comments on the following rules proposed for adoption to Chapters 4765-11 (Chartering of Firefighter and Fire Safety Inspector Training Programs), 4765-20 (Fire Service Training Programs), 4765-21 (Fire Instructor Training Programs), 4765-22 (Professional Standards), and 4765-23 (Disciplinary Actions) of the Ohio Administrative Code. These rules are being filed pursuant to a completed R.C. 119.032 five-year rule review.

Chapter 4765-11 provides definitions and referenced materials for rules pertaining to fire services, and sets forth the qualifications, course, and examination requirements for fire charter programs.

Chapter 4765-20 sets forth the qualifications and application processes for firefighter and fire safety inspector certificates.

Chapter 4765-21 sets forth the qualifications and applications processes for fire instructor, fire safety inspector instructor, and assistant fire instructor certificates.

Chapter 4765-22 sets forth professional standards for all fire service certificate holders.

Chapter 4765-23 sets forth EMS investigation and administrative action procedures.

In general, the proposed changes reorganize content of the rules for clarity and consistency, reflect changes in terminology, and address materials incorporated by reference for statutory compliance. Due to these changes, the majority of the rules are proposed for simultaneous rescission and adoption under their same rule numbers due to LSC rule-drafting requirements, which require a rule to be rescinded and adopted as new if more than fifty percent of the content is amended.

Proposed changes of a substantive nature include additional training requirements for firefighter and fire safety inspector certificates - a requirement for fire safety inspectors to complete training when a new fire code is adopted, a requirement for fire instructors and assistant fire instructors to complete training when they wish to participate in the instruction of live fire training evolutions, and a requirement for firefighters to complete training on the "Courage to be Safe, Sixteen Life Saving Initiatives;" a reduction in training hours to certify as a fire instructor or fire safety inspector instructor; increased flexibility in the delivery of fire instructor and fire safety inspector courses through optional online and distance learning, in addition to the traditional classroom setting; increased flexibility for renewal of non-affiliated and non-Ohio resident firefighter certificates; increased flexibility for the EMS Executive Director to review training for credit for Ohio certification; increased flexibility for the EMS Executive Director to accept surrender of certificates that are under investigation; the option to take continuing education courses in lieu of a

reinstatement examination in specific situations; and increased authority for the Division to investigate complaints regarding examinations with or without a known complainant.

Proposed for simultaneous rescission and adoption:

4765-11-01	Definitions
4765-11-02	Classification of firefighter, fire safety inspector and instructor training courses
4765-11-03	Qualifications for a fire charter
4765-11-04	Application for a fire charter
4765-11-05	Renewal of a fire charter
4765-11-06	Notification to executive director
4765-11-07	Reinstatement of an expired fire charter or classification
4765-11-08	Reinstatement of a revoked fire charter or classification
4765-11-09	Volunteer firefighter course
4765-11-10	Firefighter I transition course
4765-11-11	Firefighter I course
4765-11-12	Firefighter II transition course
4765-11-13	Firefighter I and II course
4765-11-14	Fire safety inspector course
4765-11-15	Fire instructor and assistant fire instructor course
4765-11-16	Fire safety inspector instructor course
4765-20-01	General Provisions
4765-20-02	Qualifications for a firefighter certificate
4765-20-03	Qualifications for a fire safety inspector certificate
4765-20-04	Application for a firefighter, fire safety inspector or instructor certificate
4765-20-06	Firefighter, fire safety inspector and instructor examinations
4765-20-07	Renewal of a certificate of firefighter or fire safety inspector certificate
4765-20-08	Reinstatement of a firefighter or fire safety inspector certificate
4765-20-09	Reinstatement of a revoked firefighter or fire safety inspector certificate
4765-20-10	Certificate in lieu of completing a chartered training program
4765-20-11	Firefighter certification by reciprocity
4765-20-13	Firefighter continuing education
4765-20-14	Continuing education option to upgrade a volunteer firefighter to a firefighter I
4765-20-15	Continuing education option to upgrade a firefighter I to a firefighter II
4765-20-16	Fire safety inspector continuing education
4765-20-17	Exemption from firefighter or fire safety inspector continuing education
4765-20-18	Voluntary surrender of a firefighter or fire safety inspector certificate
4765-21-02	Instructor training course entrance requirements
4765-21-03	Qualifications for an instructor certificate
4765-21-04	Renewal of a fire instructor, fire safety inspector instructor or assistant fire instructor certificate to teach
4765-21-05	Reinstatement of a fire instructor, fire safety inspector instructor or assistant fire instructor certificate to teach
4765-21-06	Fire instructor and fire safety inspector instructor trainers
4765-21-07	EMS instructor seeking fire instructor or fire safety inspector instructor certification
4765-21-08	Fire instructor or fire safety inspector instructor crossover certification

- 4765-21-10 Reinstatement of a revoked fire instructor and fire safety inspector instructor certificate
- 4765-22-01 Professional standards of conduct for firefighter and fire safety inspector certificate holders
- 4765-22-02 Professional standards of conduct for instructors
- 4765-23-03 Report of administrative actions

Proposed for adoption:

- 4765-11-17 Fire charter offsite locations
- 4765-11-18 Online education and distance learning for fire safety inspector and instructor training courses offered through a chartered program
- 4765-11-19 Written examination administration requirements
- 4765-11-20 Practical examination administration requirements
- 4765-21-11 Voluntary surrender of certificate to teach
- 4765-21-12 Reciprocity for fire instructor
- 4765-21-13 Exemption for continuing education

Proposed for amendment:

- 4765-20-05 Notification to the executive director of change of personal information
- 4765-20-22 Fire service training and certified instructor certification cycles and continuing education requirements
- 4765-23-01 Investigation process
- 4765-23-02 Administrative actions

Proposed for rescission:

- 4765-20-12 Equivalency for fire instructor
- 4765-20-19 Initial renewal of active firefighter certification on or before January 24, 2009
- 4765-20-20 Initial renewal of active fire safety inspector certification on or before January 24, 2009
- 4765-20-21 Initial renewal of active fire instructor certification on or before January 24, 2009
- 4765-20-23 Merging of fire service training, fire service instructor, and assistant fire instructor certificates with EMS certificates before March 11, 2011
- 4765-21-09 Qualifications for a certificate to teach as an assistant fire instructor

Any persons affected by the proposed adoption of these rules may appear at the hearing and be heard in person, or by an attorney, or both, or may present their position, argument, or contentions in writing. Persons may offer and examine witnesses and present evidence to show that the proposed rules will be unreasonable or unlawful if enacted.

The proposed rules may be accessed electronically via the Division of EMS website at http://www.publicsafety.ohio.gov/ems_rules_notices.stm. Questions and/or public comments regarding the proposed rules may be addressed to Linda Mirarchi at (614) 387-0648.