## FIRE EXTINGUISHER LICENSE & TEST INFORMATION

### USE OF THIS INFORMATION

This bulletin is an abbreviation of the fire extinguisher statute and rules and provides general information concerning the fire extinguisher licenses. If there is any conflict between this document and the statute and rules, the statute and rules will take precedence.

### FOR ASSISTANCE AND QUESTIONS

State Fire Marshal's Office  
P. O. Box 149221  
Austin, TX 78714-9221  
or call and ask for the  
Fire Extinguisher Licensing Technician  
512-676-6809

Additional information and forms may be found on our web site at [http://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire](http://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire)

### TYPES OF LICENSES (for individuals)

An individual cannot be issued a license until employed by a registered firm.

**Type PL Planning License**

A Type PL licensee is permitted to plan, install, certify, or service fixed fire extinguisher systems and sell, install, certify, or service portable fire extinguishers.  *(This licensee must pass the NICET Level III test and the Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01 test.)*

**Type A Fixed System License**

Prerequisite: Hold a Type B license or an Apprentice permit for a minimum of 6 months. A Type A licensee is permitted to install, certify, or service all pre-engineered fixed fire extinguishing systems and portable extinguishers. Fixed fire extinguisher systems other than pre-engineered systems must be planned by a Type PL licensee or professional engineer. Installation and servicing of such a system may also be performed by or supervised by a Type A licensee. *(This licensee must pass the Extinguisher Type A TFM04 test, the Extinguisher Type K TFM03 test, the Extinguisher Type B TFM02 test, and the Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01 test.)*

**Type K Kitchen Cooking Systems License**

Prerequisite: Hold a Type B license or an Apprentice permit for a minimum of 6 months. A Type K licensee is permitted to install, certify, or service any pre-engineered fixed fire extinguisher systems used to protect a cooking area, and portable extinguishers. *(This licensee must pass the Extinguisher Type K TFM03 test, the Extinguisher Type B TFM02 test, and the Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01 test.)*

**Type B Portable License**

A Type B licensee is permitted to install, certify, or service portable extinguishers and test DOT non-specification portable fire extinguishers. The testing of DOT specification fire extinguishers must be done by a Type “C” registered firm. *(This licensee must pass the Extinguisher Type B TFM02 test and the Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01 test.)*

**Apprentice Permit**

An individual issued an Apprentice Permit is allowed to install or service fixed fire extinguishing systems and portable fire extinguishers and only under the direct (within sight) supervision of a valid licensee who certifies the work by signing the tag. *(No testing is required for this permit.)*

A licensed individual may not perform the above services unless employed by a registered extinguisher firm.

### TYPES OF & REGISTRATIONS (for firms)

A firm cannot be registered without a licensed employee.

**Extinguisher Certificate of Registration (ECR)**

Each firm engaged in the business of portable fire extinguishers or fixed extinguisher systems must have an ECR. The extent of work, allowed by the firm (installing or servicing portable fire extinguishers or planning, certifying, installing, or servicing fixed fire extinguisher systems), is limited by the license held by their employees.

**Extinguisher Branch Office Certificate of Registration**

Each separate office location performing the same business as the firm holding the ECR must have a branch office certificate of registration.

**Type C Registration**

A firm issued a Type C registration and whose facility has been awarded an identification number (RIN) by the DOT is permitted to hydrostatically test DOT specification fire extinguisher cylinders. There is no Type C license.
FIRE EXTINGUISHER LICENSE & TEST INFORMATION  (Continued)

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<td>SCHEDULING A TEST</td>
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<td>State Fire Marshal's tests are administered through PSI. You may schedule your test online at anytime using their Internet Registration and Scheduling Service at <a href="http://www.psiexams.com">www.psiexams.com</a>. PSI does offer an option to check the availability of appointment times and locations before registering and providing payment.</td>
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<td>TEST DESCRIPTION</td>
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<td>All tests consist of questions that require true-false or multiple choice answers. Questions may refer to a drawing, chart, or figure included with the test. The technical test questions are based on the adopted standards. There are no questions based on specific manufacturer's equipment other than generally referenced by an NFPA standard.</td>
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<td>TEST SCORES</td>
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<td>A score of 70% is necessary to pass the test. After completion of the test you will receive two score reports. One of these reports must be submitted with your license application. A brief synopsis of the results is included in your score report.</td>
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<td>TEST RESTRICTION</td>
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<td>An applicant may only schedule each type of test once a week and no more than three times within a twelve-month period.</td>
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| Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01 Test  
  All questions on this test are based on the Texas Insurance Code, Chapter 6001, "Fire Extinguisher Service and Installation" and the Fire Extinguisher rules, 28 TAC § 34.500. This book may be downloaded from our web site at: http://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire/fmliexting.html, then click on "Statute and Rules". |
| NICET III Test  
  This is a series of tests administered by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET). NICET offers four levels of testing. A copy of NICET's notification letter confirming the applicant's successful completion of the testing requirements for certification at Level III in Fire Protection Engineering Technology, Special Hazard Suppression Systems, must be provided to the Texas State Fire Marshal's Office. |
| Extinguisher Type A TFM04 Test  
  All questions on this test are based on the information from the following National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards adopted in the rules. See the statute and rules booklet to determine the latest edition date of the adopted standard. |
| NFPA 11 Low Expansion Foam  
  NFPA 11A Medium & High Expansion Foams  
  NFPA 12 Carbon Dioxide Systems  
  NFPA 12A Halon 1301 Systems  
  NFPA 15 Water Spray Fixed Systems  
  NFPA 16 Deluge Foam-Water Sprinkler Syst.  
  NFPA 18 Wetting Agents  
  NFPA 25 Maintenance of Water-Based Syst.  
  NFPA 2001 Clean Agent Systems  |
| Questions on this test include but are not limited to the following subjects. |
| 1. Selection of the correct type of pipe and fittings permitted on various types of systems  
  2. Requirements and frequency for system testing of various types of systems  
  3. Requirements and frequency for maintenance of various types of systems  
  4. General knowledge of the various types of fire protection systems  
  5. Identifying the correct applicable NFPA standard  
  6. Classification of fire types |
| Extinguisher Type K TFM03 Test  
  All questions on this test are based on the requirements pertaining to fire protection systems for cooking areas from the following National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standards adopted in the rules. See the statute and rules booklet to determine the latest edition date of the adopted standard. |
| NFPA 10 Portable Fire Extinguishers  
  NFPA 17A Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems  
  NFPA 96 Ventilation and Cooking Operations  |
| TEST REFERENCES (continued)       |                |
Questions on this test include but are not limited to the following subjects.
1. Specific requirements for wet chemical systems
2. Specific requirements for pre-engineered systems protecting cooking operations
3. Requirements and frequency for system testing of various types of systems protecting cooking operations
4. Requirements and frequency for maintenance of various types of systems protecting cooking operations
5. Classification of fire types

**Extinguisher Type B TFM02 Test**

All questions on this test are based on the information from the following National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) standard in its entirety as adopted in the rules. See the statute and rules booklet to determine the latest edition date of the adopted standard.

NFPA 10 Portable Fire Extinguishers

Questions on this test include but are not limited to the following subjects relating to portable fire extinguishers.
1. General requirements for portable extinguishers
2. Selection of the proper extinguisher based on the type of hazard or fire classification
3. Distribution, inspection, and maintenance requirements of extinguishers
4. Hydrostatic testing of extinguishers, hoses, etc.

**FOOTNOTES**

1These publications can be purchased through the National Fire Protection Association, P.O. Box 9101, Quincy, MA 02269-9101, Tel 1-800-344-3555 or by visiting www.NFPA.org.

2These tests are administered and scheduled by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET), 1420 King Street, Alexandria, VA 22314, Tel 1-800-787-0034 or by visiting http://www.nicet.org.

3All technical test requirements (other than Statute & Rules TFM01) are waived if the applicant is a Texas registered professional engineer.

4These tests are administered through PSI.