



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

State Fire Marshal's Office (112-FM)

333 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas 78701 ★ PO Box 12107, Austin, Texas 78711
(512) 676-6800 | F: (512) 490-1056 | TDI.texas.gov/fire | @TXSFMO

Fireworks Licenses, Permits, and Test Information

- An application for an operator's license must be sent with a fingerprint receipt unless the applicant already has [fingerprints](#) on file with the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO).
- A renewal notice will be sent 90 days before your license expiration date. After your initial renewal, you will be sent notices every two years.

Types of licenses

► Manufacturer's license

A manufacturer's license is required for a person or company manufacturing, storing, possessing, and selling fireworks constructed by that person or company.

A manufacturer may sell:

- Fireworks 1.3G to a licensed distributor or pyrotechnic operator or to a fireworks public display permit holder for use in public fireworks displays in this state; or
- Fireworks 1.4G to a licensed distributor or jobber.

To obtain a manufacturer's license:

1. Submit a Fireworks License and/or Permit application ([SF043](#)).
2. Submit the completed application, additional forms, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► **Distributor's License**

A distributor's license is required for a person or company who imports into this state or stores, possesses, and sells:

- Fireworks 1.3G to a licensed pyrotechnic operator or distributor or to a single public display, multiple public display, or agricultural, industrial, and wildlife control fireworks permit holder; or
- Fireworks 1.4G to a licensed jobber, retailer, or distributor in this state.

To obtain a distributor's license:

1. Submit a Fireworks License and/or Permit application ([SF043](#)).
2. Submit the completed application, additional forms, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► **Jobber's License**

A jobber's license is required for a person or company who stores, possesses, and sells fireworks 1.4G to a person holding a retail fireworks permit.

To obtain a jobber's license:

1. Submit a Fireworks License and/or Permit application ([SF043](#)).
2. Submit the completed application, additional forms, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► **Pyrotechnic Operator's License**

Prerequisite: Assisted in conducting 5 permitted public displays in the state of Texas, using Fireworks 1.3G, and provide written verification from the pyrotechnic operator licensed in Texas.

A person who assembles, conducts, and supervises public fireworks displays using Fireworks 1.3G is required to obtain a pyrotechnic operator's license.

To obtain a pyrotechnic operator's license:

1. Pass the Fireworks Pyrotechnic Operator [TFM05](#) test.

2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Pyrotechnic, Special Effects, and Flame Effects Operator's License Application ([SF045](#)).
4. Submit the complete application, additional forms, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► **Pyrotechnic Special Effects Operator's License**

An individual who assembles, conducts, and supervises proximate displays using Fireworks 1.3G or Fireworks 1.4G as defined in [NFPA 1126 "Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience"](#) is required to obtain a pyrotechnic special effects operator's license. This permit is not required for the use of Fireworks 1.4G by a retail customer for private or personal amusement.

To obtain a special effects operator's license:

1. Pass the Fireworks Special Effects Operator [TFM06](#) test.
2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Pyrotechnic, Special Effects, and Flame Effects Operator's License Application ([SF045](#)).
4. Submit the complete application, additional forms, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► **Flame Effects Operator's License**

An individual who assembles, conducts, and supervises flame effects as defined in [NFPA 160 "Standard for the Use of Flame Effects Before an Audience"](#) before an assembly of 50 people or more, is required to obtain a flame effects operator's license. This does not apply to traditional, nontheatrical public displays such as: use of lighted candles in restaurants or during religious services; fireplaces in areas open to the public, or restaurant cooking visible to the public.

To obtain a flame effects operator's license:

1. Pass the Fireworks Flame Effects Operator [TFM07](#) test.
2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Pyrotechnic, Special Effects, and Flame Effects Operator's License Application ([SF045](#)).
4. Submit the complete application, additional forms, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

Types of Permits

► Public Display Permit

1. A single public display permit is required when igniting fireworks 1.3G for public or private amusement. This permit is valid for only one public firework display to be held during the hours and on the date or alternate date, if provided, stated on the permit and is not renewable.
2. A multiple public display permit may be issued when conducting multiple fireworks displays using fireworks 1.3G, at a single location. This permit is valid for one year from the date of issuance and is not renewable.

To obtain a single or multiple display permit:

1. Submit a Class B Fireworks (Fireworks 1.3G) Singular or Multiple Display Permit ([SF044](#)).
2. Submit a Certificate of Insurance ([SF239](#)) for bodily injury and property damage.
3. Submit the complete application, additional forms, site plan, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► Agricultural, Industrial, and Wildlife Control Permit

An individual using fireworks 1.3G for agricultural, industrial, or wildlife control purposes must obtain this permit. This permit expires one year from the date of issuance and is not renewable.

To obtain agricultural, industrial, and wildlife control permit:

1. Submit a Fireworks License and/or Permit application ([SF043](#)).
2. Submit the complete application, additional forms, site plan, and all fees at the same time.

Note: Please send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.

► Retail Fireworks Permit

An individual selling fireworks 1.4G directly to the public must obtain a nonrenewable permit for each retail location. The fireworks may only be sold from June 24th to midnight July 4th; December 20th to midnight January 1st.

Restrictions and exceptions for selling fireworks see [Fireworks Statute & Rules](#).

The permit is only valid for one year and expires on January 31st each year.

Work Permitted by the type of license										Required Tests			
Type of License	Companies				Pyrotechnic Type			Individual			Tests		
	Manufacturing	Storing	Importing	Selling	Fireworks 1.3G	Fireworks 1.4G	Flame Effects	Assembles Displays	Conducts Displays	Supervises Displays	Fireworks Pyrotechnic Operator TFM05	Fireworks Special Effects Operator TFM06	Fireworks Flame Effects Operator TFM07
Manufacturer	X	X		X	X	X							
Distributor		X	X	X	X	X							
Jobber		X ³		X ³		X							
Pyrotechnic Operator					X			X	X	X	X		
Special Effects Operator					X ¹	X ¹		X	X	X		X	
Flame Effects Operator							X	X	X	X			X

Work Permitted by Type of Permit					
Types of Permits	Igniting for Public Display Purposes	Igniting NOT for Public Display Purpose	Selling Directly to The Public	Fireworks Type	
				Fireworks 1.3G	Fireworks 1.4G
Single Public Display	X			X ²	
Multiple Public Display	X			X ²	
Agricultural / Industrial / Wildlife		X		X	
Retail Fireworks			X		X

¹ Using Fireworks 1.3G or Fireworks 1.4G where audiences are closer to pyrotechnic devices than permitted by [NFPA 1123 "Code of Fireworks Display"](#).

² Permits for flame effects or pyrotechnics 1.4G before an audience of 50 or more people must be obtained through the local authority having jurisdiction according to the [Texas Occupations Code §2154.253\(b\)\(7\)](#).

³ For fireworks 1.4G devices only.

Scheduling a Test

- Tests are registered through PSI Exams Online.
- You may schedule your test either:
 - Online at <https://www.psiexams.com/txfire>
 - By phone: 800-733-9267
 - By email: examschedule@psionline.com

Test description

- All tests are closed book.
- Tests consists of 50 questions that are true/false or multiple choice.
- Questions may refer to a drawing, chart, or figure included with the test.
- Technical test questions are based on the adopted standards.
- No questions are based on specific manufacturer's equipment other than those generally referenced by an [NFPA](#) standard.

Test scores

- You must have a passing score of 70% or better.
- PSI will send a copy of your test scores to SFMO.

Test restrictions

You may schedule each type of test only once a week and no more than three times within a 12-month period.

Test references

► Fire Pyrotechnic Operator TFM05 test³

Questions on this test are based on:

1. Sections of Chapter 2154 of the Texas Occupations Code and Section 34.800² of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 28, the Fireworks Rules that pertain to a pyrotechnic operator; and
2. Information contained in the National Fire Protection Association [NFPA 1123](#)¹ "[Code for Fireworks Display](#)" 1995 edition.

► Fireworks Special Effects Operator TFM06 test³

Questions on this test are based on:

1. Sections of Chapter 2154 of the Texas Occupations Code and Section 34.800² of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 28, the Fireworks Rules that pertain to a special effects operator;
2. Information contained in the National Fire Protection Association [NFPA 1126](#)¹ "[Standard for the Use of Pyrotechnics Before a Proximate Audience](#)" 1996 edition; and
3. General pyrotechnic knowledge and basic principles of electronic circuitry.

► Fireworks Flame Effects Operator TFM07 test³

Questions on this test are based on:

1. Sections of Chapter 2154 of the Texas Occupations Code and Section 34.800² of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 28, the Fireworks Rules that pertain to a flame effects operator;
2. Information contained in the National Fire Protection Association [NFPA 160](#)¹ "[Standard for the Use of Flame Effects Before an Audience](#)"; and
3. Practical knowledge of flammable liquids and gasses used in flame effects.

► Endnotes

¹ These publications can be purchased through the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1 Batterymarch Park, Quincy, MA 02169-7471; phone: 800-344-3555; www.nfpa.org

² A copy of Chapter 2154 of the Texas Occupations Code and Section 34.800 of the Texas Administrative Code, Title 28, the Fireworks Rules may be downloaded from our website at: <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire/documents/fmstatfireworks.pdf>

³ These tests are administered through PSI; <https://www.psiexams.com/txfire>

License Fees

Type of License	Initial fee	Renewal fee(1 year)
Pyrotechnic Operator (FPO)	\$45	\$25
Pyrotechnic Special Effects Operator (SEO)	\$45	\$25
Flame Effects Operator (FEO)	\$45	\$25
Manufacturer's License	\$1250	\$1250
Distributor's License	\$1750	\$1750
Jobber's License	\$1250	\$1250

- The license fee and renewal fee for a Manufacturer's, Distributor's, and Jobber's license includes an additional \$250 fee for the Fireworks Safety and Education Program, as required by the 76th Legislature.
- To obtain a duplicate license or to revise your license, send a letter and a fee of \$20 to SFMO.

- Send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.
- All fees are nonrefundable, except for overpayments from mistakes of law or fact.
- Late fees are assessed as required by the statute and rules.

Permit Fees

Type of Permit	Initial fee
Retail Fireworks	\$30
Single Public Display	\$50
Multiple Public Display	\$400
Agricultural / Industrial / Wildlife	\$10

- The retail fireworks permit fee includes an additional \$10 fee for the Fireworks Safety and Education Program, as required by the 76th Legislature.
- Send only one payment to cover all fees. Fee payments for various applications need to be combined.
- All fees are nonrefundable, except for overpayments from mistakes of law or fact.