



State Fire Marshal's Office

PO Box 12107 | Austin, TX 78711 | 512-676-6800 | tdi.texas.gov/fire

SF234 | 0422

Fire Extinguisher License, Registration, and Test Information

Instructions

- Licenses are issued to individuals; registrations are issued to companies.
- Applications for the company and individual must be submitted together in situations where both the company and the individual are new.
- An application for a license must be sent with a fingerprint receipt unless the applicant already has [fingerprints](#) on file with 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.

Registrations

A company cannot be registered without a licensed employee.

► Extinguisher Certificate of Registration (ECR)

If your company is in the business of portable fire extinguishers or fixed extinguisher systems, you must have an ECR. The extent of work, allowed by the company (installing or servicing portable fire extinguishers or planning, certifying, installing, or servicing fixed fire extinguisher systems) will depend on the license held by your employees.

To obtain an ECR:

1. Submit a Fire Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
2. Submit a Certificate of Insurance ([SF239](#)) for bodily injury and property damage.
3. Include form(s):
 - [SF028](#) for transferring an existing licensee with an ECR application; and / or
 - [SF026](#) for a new individual licensee application with an ECR application.
4. Submit the complete application, required documents, additional forms, and all applicable fees at the same time.

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

► **Extinguisher Branch Office Certificate of Registration**

You must have an extinguisher branch office certificate of registration for each separate office location that does the same business as the company with the ECR.

To obtain an ECR – Branch Office:

1. Submit a Fire Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
2. Include form(s):
 - [SF028](#) for transferring an existing licensee with the ECR application if the employee is not listed with your company; or
 - [SF026](#) for a new individual licensee application with the ECR application if the employee is not currently listed by SFMO.
3. 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.

► **Type C Hydrostatic Testing Registration (HCR)**

If your company has been issued a retester identification number (RIN) by the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), the company is permitted to hydrostatically test DOT specification fire extinguisher cylinders.

To obtain a Type C:

1. Submit a Fire Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
2. Submit a Certificate of Insurance ([SF239](#)) for bodily injury and property damage.
3. Submit the completed application, required documents, 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.

Individual Licenses

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

► **Type PL Planning License (EPL)**

An individual with an EPL is permitted to plan, install, certify, or service fixed fire extinguisher systems. This individual is also permitted to sell, install, certify, or service portable fire extinguishers.

To obtain an EPL:

1. Pass these tests:
 - the [NICET](#) Level III test; and
 - the Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules [TFM01](#) test. The study material for the TFM01 test is the [Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules](#).
2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Fire Extinguisher License Application ([SF026](#)).
4. Provide the name of the company where the employee will be registered. If the company is not licensed with SFMO, the company will need to submit an Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
5. Submit the complete applications, 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.

► Type A – Fixed System License (FEL-A)

Prerequisite: You must hold an FEL-B license or an Apprentice permit for a minimum of 6 months.

An individual with an FEL-A license 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 an EPL or professional engineer. Installation and servicing of such a system may also be performed by or supervised by an individual with an FEL-A license.

Note: Your FEL-B license, FEL-K license, or Apprentice permit will be inactivated once your FEL-A license is issued.

To obtain an FEL-A license:

1. Pass these tests:
 - Fire Extinguisher Type A [TFM04](#) test; and
 - Fire Extinguisher Type K [TFM03](#) test; and
 - Fire Extinguisher Type B [TFM02](#) test; and
 - the Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules [TFM01](#) test. The study material for the TFM01 test is the [Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules](#).
2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Fire Extinguisher License Application ([SF026](#)).

4. Provide the name of the company where the employee will be registered. If the company is not licensed with SFMO, the company will need to submit an Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
5. Submit the complete applications, 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.

► **Test exemptions^{1,2}**

The following are certifications offered by the International Code Council (ICC) and the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) that can replace the requirement to take and pass the TFM02, TFM03, and TFM04 technical exam for a Type A (FEL-A) license.

- [ICC/NAFED](#) - Certified Portable Fire Extinguisher Technician Exam; and
- [ICC/NAFED](#) - Pre-Engineered Kitchen Fire Extinguishing Systems Technician Exam; and
- [ICC/NAFED](#) - Pre-Engineered Industrial Fire Extinguishing System Technician Exam; and
- [NAFED](#) - Engineered Fire Suppression Systems Technician Exam.

► **Type K – Kitchen Cooking Systems License (FEL-K)**

Prerequisite: You must hold an FEL-B license or an Apprentice permit for a minimum of 6 months.

An individual with an FEL-K license is permitted to install, certify, or service any pre-engineered fixed fire extinguisher systems used to protect a cooking area, and portable extinguishers.

Note: Your FEL-B license or Apprentice permit will be inactivated once your FEL-K license is issued.

To obtain an FEL-K license:

1. Pass these tests:
 - Fire Extinguisher Type K [TFM03](#) test; and
 - Fire Extinguisher Type B [TFM02](#) test; and
 - the Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules [TFM01](#) test. The study material for the TFM01 test is the [Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules](#).
2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Fire Extinguisher License Application ([SF026](#)).

4. Provide the name of the company where the employee will be registered. If the company is not licensed with SFMO, the company will need to submit an Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
5. Submit the complete applications, 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.

► **Test exemptions^{1,2}**

The following are certifications offered by the International Code Council (ICC) and the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) that can replace the requirement to take and pass the TFM02 and TFM03 technical exam for an FEL-K license.

- [ICC/NAFED](#) - Certified Portable Fire Extinguisher Technician Exam; and
- [ICC/NAFED](#) - Pre-Engineered Kitchen Fire Extinguishing Systems Technician Exam.

► **Type B - Portable Fire Extinguisher License (FEL-B)**

An individual with an FEL-B license is permitted to install, certify, or service portable fire extinguishers and test DOT non-specification portable fire extinguishers. The testing of DOT specification fire extinguishers must be completed by a Type C registered company.

To obtain an FEL-B license:

1. Pass these tests:
 - Fire Extinguisher Type B [TFM02](#) test, and
 - the Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules [TFM01](#) test. The study material for the TFM01 test is the [Fire Extinguisher Statute & Rules](#).
2. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
3. Submit a Fire Extinguisher License Application ([SF026](#)).
4. Provide the name of the company where the employee will be registered. If the company is not licensed with SFMO, the company will need to submit an Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
5. Submit the complete applications, 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.

► Test exemptions^{1,2}

The following are certifications offered by the International Code Council (ICC) and the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED) that can replace the requirement to take and pass the TFM02 technical exam for an FEL-B license.

- [ICC/NAFED](#) Certified Portable Fire Extinguisher Technician Exam

► Apprentice Permit (EAP)

An individual issued an EAP can install or service fixed fire extinguishing systems and portable fire extinguishers. This can only be done under the direct visual supervision of a valid licensee who certifies the work by signing the tag.

- A licensed individual may not perform the above services unless employed by a registered extinguisher company.
- There is no testing required for this permit.

To obtain an EAP:

1. Submit a Fire Extinguisher Apprentice Permit application ([SF027](#)).
2. Provide the name of the company where the employee will be registered. If the company is not licensed with SFMO, the company will need to submit an Extinguisher Certificate of Registration application ([SF025](#)).
3. Have a [fingerprint](#) background check done if one is not already on file with SFMO.
4. Submit the complete applications, 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.

► Notes

¹ These certifications are offered by the International Code Council (ICC); <https://www.iccsafe.org/>

² These certifications are offered by the National Association of Fire Equipment Distributors (NAFED); <https://www.nafed.org/>

Tests

Work permitted by the type of licenses															Required Tests						
Type of licenses	All Fixed Systems				Cooking Systems			Residential Range Top			Portable			Cylinders		Tests					
	Plan	Install	Certify	Service	Install	Certify	Service	Install	Certify	Service	Install	Certify	Service	Test non-DOT Specification	Test DOT Specification	Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01	NICET III	Extinguisher Type A TFM04	Extinguisher Type K TFM03	Extinguisher Type B TFM02	
Type PL Planning (EPL)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	Per DOT Requirements	X	X				
Type A Fixed Systems (FEL-A)		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X			X	X	X
Type K Cooking Systems (FEL-K)					X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		X				X	X
Type B Portables (FEL-B)											X	X	X	X		X					X
Apprentice Permit (EAP)	Must do all work under the direct visual supervision of another licensee														None						
Type C Hydrostatic Testing Registration															X	None					

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; or
 - By email: examschedule@psionline.com.

Test description

- All tests are closed book.
- Tests consist 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

▶ **Extinguisher Statute & Rules TFM01 test⁴**

All questions on this test are based on the [Texas Insurance Code, Chapter 6001, "Fire Extinguisher Service and Installation"](#) and [Section 34.500 of the Texas Administrative Code, "Title 28, the Fire Extinguisher Rules."](#) This information may be downloaded from our website at: <https://www.tdi.texas.gov/fire/documents/fmextingstat201.pdf>.

▶ **[National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies \(NICET\) Level III test^{2,3}](#)**

This is a series of tests administered by NICET. A copy of NICET's notification letter confirming the applicant's successful completion of the testing requirements for certification at the required Level III in Fire Protection Engineering Technology and Special Hazard Suppression Systems must be provided to SFMO.

▶ **Extinguisher Type A TFM04 test^{3,4}**

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 [rules](#) to determine the latest edition date of the adopted standards.

- [NFPA 11](#) - Low-, Medium-, and High Expansion Foam¹
- [NFPA 12](#) - Standard on Carbon Dioxide Extinguishing Systems¹

- [NFPA 12A](#) - Standard on Halon 1301 Fire Extinguishing Systems¹
- [NFPA 15](#) - Standard for Water Spray Fixed Systems for Fire Protection¹
- [NFPA 16](#) - Standard for the Installation of Foam-Water Sprinkler and Foam-Water Spray Systems¹
- [NFPA 18](#) - Standard on Wetting Agents¹
- [NFPA 25](#) - Standard for the Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance of Water-Based Fire Protection Systems¹
- [NFPA 2001](#) - Standard on Clean Agent Fire Extinguishing Systems¹

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^{3,4}**

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 [rules](#) to determine the latest edition date of the adopted standards.

- [NFPA 10](#) - Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers¹
- [NFPA 17A](#) - Standard for Wet Chemical Extinguishing Systems¹
- [NFPA 96](#) - Standard for Ventilation Cooking and Fire Protection of Commercial Cooking Operations¹

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^{3,4}**

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 [rules](#) to determine the latest edition date of the adopted standards.

- [NFPA 10](#) - Standard for Portable Fire Extinguishers¹

Questions on this test include but are not limited to the following subjects relating to portable fire extinguishers:

1. General requirements for portable fire 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.

► **Notes**

¹ These publications can be purchased through the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA); www.NFPA.org.

² These tests are administered and scheduled by the National Institute for Certification in Engineering Technologies (NICET); www.nicet.org

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

⁴ These tests are administered through PSI; <https://www.psiexams.com/txfire>

Fees

► **Company certificate of registration fees**

Certificate of registrations	Initial fee	Renewal fee (2 years)
Main office	\$450	\$600
Branch office (each)	\$100	\$200
Hydrostatic registration	\$250	\$300

- To obtain a duplicate registration or to revise your registration, send form [SF227](#) 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 resulting from mistakes of law or fact.
- Late fees are assessed as required by the statute and rules.

► **Individual fire extinguisher license fees**

Type of license	Initial fee	Renewal fee (2 years)
Type PL Planning (EPL)	\$70	\$100
Type A Fixed Systems (FEL-A)	\$70	\$100
Type K Cooking Systems (FEL-K)	\$70	\$100
Type B Portables (FEL-B)	\$70	\$100
Apprentice Permit (EAP)	\$30	n/a

- To obtain a duplicate license, change or add an employer, or change your address, revise your license, send form [SF028](#) 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 resulting from mistakes of law or fact.
- Late fees are assessed as required by the statute and rules.