

**Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis**

The rules proposed for readoption would be most unlikely to have any impact upon housing production within Planning Areas 1 and 2, or within designated centers, under the State Development and Redevelopment Plan, as the rules pertain to the enforcement of the State Fire Code.

**Full text** of the rules proposed for readoption may be found in the New Jersey Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 5:71.

(a)

**DIVISION OF FIRE SAFETY****Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification  
Proposed Readoption: N.J.A.C. 5:73**

Authorized By: Charles A. Richman, Commissioner, Department of Community Affairs.

Authority: Uniform Fire Safety Act (P.L. 1983, c. 383, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-192 et seq., specifically 52:27D-198 and 52:27D-219).

Calendar Reference: See Summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

Proposal Number: PRN 2018-012.

Submit written comments by April 6, 2018, to:

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**Summary**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c, the rules concerning N.J.A.C. 5:73, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, were scheduled to expire on December 31, 2017. As the Department of Community Affairs (Department) submitted this notice of proposal to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) prior to that date, the expiration date was extended 180 days to June 29, 2018, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-5.1.c(2).

N.J.A.C. 5:73, Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification, addresses educational programs and facilities, the duties and responsibilities of Firefighter 1, criteria for Instructor Level 1 and Instructor Level 2, and the certification requirements for the Hazardous Materials/Incident Management System, fire police officers and fire officers. In order for fire suppression activities to be conducted adequately and effectively, members of the fire service need to have sufficient knowledge and competence. This is best achieved through the creation of an education and training program and the development of certification requirements. The rules proposed for readoption create that education and training program. The Standards for Fire Service Training and Certification rules are intended to control all matters relating to qualifications for, and the training and certification for all members of the fire service. Amendments, repeals, and new rules for this chapter were proposed at 49 N.J.R. 2629(a) and are adopted elsewhere in this issue of the New Jersey Register.

As the Department, has provided a 60-day comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a)5.

**Social Impact**

The Department believes that readopting these rules will improve public safety, and provide a positive social impact, by ensuring that fire service and code enforcement personnel are adequately trained and credentialed to national standards and training programs. The benefit for adopting national standards and credentialing fire service and code enforcement personnel is to promote technical competency and to safeguard the lives and property of the citizens of New Jersey.

**Economic Impact**

The Department does not anticipate that the rules proposed for readoption will have any adverse economic impact. Fire departments currently are required to train employees to the level associated with their responsibilities. Municipalities will have State sanctioned training and credentialing programs available to them through approved eligible training organizations, which will lead to State credentialing and, once approved, to national credentialing. This presents a positive benefit to the citizens of the State to acquire national credentialing from recognized national credentialing organizations accepted by the fire service community at large. The approach will enhance the technical competency of fire service and code enforcement personnel and lead to a better trained and credentialed employee. The benefit of a better trained and credentialed fire service, and its associated ability to save lives and protect property stemming from a State standardized training and credentialing system, would outweigh the costs for training within the municipalities.

**Federal Standards Statement**

No Federal standards analysis is required because the rules proposed for readoption are not proposed to implement, comply with, or participate in any program established under Federal law, or under a State law that incorporates or refers to Federal law, standards, or requirements.

**Job Impact**

The Department does not anticipate that any jobs will be created or lost as a result of the rules proposed for readoption.

**Agriculture Industry Impact**

The Department does not anticipate that the rules proposed for readoption will have any impact on the agriculture industry.

**Regulatory Flexibility Statement**

The Department expects that these rules proposed for readoption will not impose any added recordkeeping, reporting, or compliance requirements on small businesses, as defined by the New Jersey Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq. N.J.A.C. 5:73 establishes standards for fire service training and certification. These requirements relate to individuals seeking fire officer, fire police officer, and Firefighter I certification and instructors. Educational program standards apply to governmental entities or institutions of higher learning, neither of which are small businesses.

**Housing Affordability Impact Analysis**

The rules proposed for readoption concern the training and credentialing of the fire service and, as such, would be highly unlikely to have any impact upon average housing production costs or on the affordability of housing.

**Smart Growth Development Impact Analysis**

The rules proposed for readoption concern only the training and credentialing of the fire service and, as such, would be most unlikely to have any impact upon housing production within Planning Areas 1 or 2, or within designated centers, under the State Development and Redevelopment Plan.

**Full text** of the rules proposed for readoption may be found in the New Jersey Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 5:73.