

# Maryland Voluntary Fire Service Certification System

## Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board, Incorporated

### Option 2, Breakdown Correlation Sheet

#### Fire Inspector I, NFPA 1031, 2009 edition

##### 4.1 General

The Fire Inspector I shall meet the job performance requirements defined in Sections 4.2 through 4.4. In addition, the Fire Inspector I shall meet the requirements of Section 4.2 of NFPA 472.

##### 4.2 Administration.

This duty involves the preparation of correspondence and inspection reports, handling of complaints, and maintenance of records, as well as participation in legal proceedings and maintenance of an open dialogue with the plan examiner and emergency response personnel according to the following job performance requirements.

##### 4.2.1

Prepare inspection reports, given agency policy and procedures, and observations from an assigned field inspection, so that the report is clear and concise and accurately reflects the findings of the inspection in accordance with applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Applicable codes and standards adopted by the jurisdiction and policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to conduct a field inspection, apply codes and standards and communicate orally and in writing.

##### 4.2.2

Recognize the need for a permit, given a situation or condition, so that requirements for permits are communicated in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Permit policies of the jurisdiction and the rationale for the permit.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to communicate orally and in writing.

##### 4.2.3

Recognize the need for plan review, given a situation or condition, so that requirements for plan reviews are communicated in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Plan review policies of the jurisdiction and the rationale for the plan review.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to communicate orally and in writing.

**4.2.4**

Investigate common complaints, given a reported situation or condition, so that complaint information is recorded, the AHJ-approved process is initiated, and the complaint is resolved.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Applicable codes and standards adopted by the jurisdiction and policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to interpret codes and standards, communicate orally and in writing, recognize problems, and resolve complaints.

**4.2.5**

Identify the applicable code or standard, given a fire protection, fire prevention, or life safety issue, so that the applicable document, edition, and section are referenced.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Applicable codes and standards adopted by the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to apply codes and standards interpret codes.

**4.2.6**

Participate in legal proceedings, given the findings of a field inspection or a complaint and consultation with legal counsel, so that all information is presented accurately and the inspector's demeanor is professional.

*Requisite Knowledge.* The legal requirements pertaining to evidence rules in the legal system and types of legal proceedings.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to maintain a professional courtroom demeanor, communicate, listen, and differentiate facts from opinions.

**4.3 Field Inspection.**

This duty involves fire safety inspections of new and existing structures and properties for construction, occupancy, fire protection, and exposures, according to the following job performance requirements.

**4.3.1**

Identify the occupancy classification of single-use occupancy, given a description of the occupancy and its use, so that the classification is made according to the applicable codes and standards.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Occupancy classification types; applicable codes, regulations, and standards adopted by the jurisdiction; operational features; and fire hazards presented by various occupancies.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to make observations and correct decisions.

**4.3.2**

Compute the allowable occupant load of a single-use occupancy or portion thereof, given a detailed description of the occupancy, so that the calculated allowable occupant load is established in accordance with applicable codes and standards.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Occupancy classification; applicable codes, regulations, and standards adopted by the jurisdiction; operational features; fire hazards presented by various occupancies; and occupant load factors.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to calculate occupant loads, identify occupancy factors related to various occupancy classifications, use measuring tools, and make field sketches.

**4.3.3**

Inspect means of egress elements, given observations made during a field inspection of an existing building, so that means of egress elements are maintained in compliance with applicable codes and standards and deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Applicable codes and standards adopted by the jurisdiction related to means of egress elements, maintenance requirements of egress elements, types of construction, occupancy egress requirements, and the relationship of fixed fire protection systems to egress requirements and to approved means of egress elements, including, but not limited to, doors, hardware, and lights.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe and recognize problems, calculate, make basic decisions related to means of egress, use measuring tools, and make field sketches.

**4.3.4**

Verify the type of construction for an addition or remodeling project, given field observations or a description of the project and the materials being used, so that the construction type is identified and recorded in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Applicable codes and standards adopted by the jurisdiction, types of construction, rated construction components, and accepted building construction methods and materials.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to read plans, makes decisions, and apply codes and standards.

**4.3.5**

Determine the operational readiness of existing fixed fire suppression systems, given test documentation and field observations, so that the systems are in an operational state, maintenance is documented, and all deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* A basic understanding of the components and operation of fixed fire suppression systems and applicable codes and standards.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe makes decisions, recognize problems, and read reports.

**4.3.6**

Determine the operational readiness of existing fire detection and alarm systems, given test documentation and field observations, so that the systems are in an operational state, maintenance is documented, and deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* A basic understanding of the components and operation of fire detection and alarm systems and devices and applicable codes and standards.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, make decisions, recognize problems, and read reports.

**4.3.7**

Determine the operational readiness of existing portable fire extinguishers, given filed observations and test documentation, so that the equipment is in an operational state, maintenance is documented, and deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* A basic understanding of portable fire extinguishers, including their components and placement, and applicable codes and standards.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, make decisions, recognize problems, and read reports.

**4.3.8**

Recognize hazardous conditions involving equipment, processes, and operations, given field observations, so that the equipment, processes, or operations are conducted and maintained in accordance with applicable codes and standards and deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction..

*Requisite Knowledge.* Practices and techniques of code compliance inspections, fire behavior, fire prevention practices, ignition sources, safe housekeeping practices, and classification of hazardous materials.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, communicate, apply codes and standards, recognize problems, and make decisions.

**4.3.9**

Compare an approved plan to an existing fire protection system, given approved plans and field observations, so that any modifications to the system are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Fire protection symbols and terminology.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to read and comprehend plans for fire protection systems, observe, communicate, apply codes and standards, recognize problems, and make decisions.

**4.3.10**

Verify that emergency planning and preparedness measures are in place and have been practiced, given field observations, copies of emergency plans, and records of exercises, so that plans are prepared and exercises have been performed in accordance with applicable codes and standards and deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Requirements relative to emergency evacuation drills that are required within the jurisdiction, ways to conduct and/or evaluate fire drills in various occupancies, and human behavior during fires and other emergencies.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to identify the emergency evacuation requirements contained in the applicable codes and standards and interpret plans and reports.

**4.3.11**

Inspect emergency access for an existing site, given field observations, so that the required access for emergency responders is maintained and deficiencies are identified, documented and corrected, in accordance with the applicable codes, standards, and policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Applicable codes and standards, the policies of the jurisdiction, and emergency access and accessibility requirements.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to identify the emergency access requirements contained in the applicable codes and standards, observe, make decisions, and use measuring tools.

**4.3.12**

Verify code compliance for incidental storage, handling, and use of flammable and combustible liquids and gases, given field observations and inspection guidelines from the AHJ, so that applicable codes and standards are addressed and deficiencies are identified, documented, in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Classification, properties, labeling, storage, handling, and use of incidental amounts of flammable and combustible liquids and gases.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, communicate, apply codes, recognize problems, and make decisions.

**4.3.13**

Verify code compliance for incidental storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials, given field observations, so that applicable codes and standards for each hazardous material encountered are addressed and all deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Classification, properties, labeling, transportation, storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, communicate, apply codes and standards, recognize problems, and make decisions.

**4.3.14**

Recognize a hazardous fire growth potential in a building or space, given field observations, so that the hazardous conditions are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Basic fire behavior, flame spread and smoke development ratings of contents, interior finishes, building construction elements, decorations, decorative materials, and furnishings, and safe housekeeping practices.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, communicate, apply codes and standards, recognize hazardous conditions and make decisions.

**4.3.15**

Determine code compliance, given the codes, standards, and policies of the jurisdiction and a fire protection issue, so that the applicable codes, standards, and policies are identified and compliance determined.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Basic fire behavior, flame spread and smoke development ratings of contents, interior finishes, building construction elements, life safety systems, decorations, decorative materials, and furnishings, and safe housekeeping practices.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to observe, communicate, apply codes and standards, recognize hazardous conditions and make decisions.

**4.3.16**

Verify fire flows for a site, given flow test results and water supply data, so that required fire flows are in accordance with applicable codes and standards and all deficiencies are identified, documented, and reported in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

*Requisite Knowledge.* Types of water distribution systems and other water sources in the local community, water distribution system testing, characteristics of public and private water supply systems, and flow testing procedures.

*Requisite Skills.* The ability to use Pitot tubes and gauges, and other data gathering devices as well as calculate and graph fire flow results.

**4.4 Plans Review**

There are no plan review job performance requirements for Fire Inspector I.