

FIRE INSPECTOR II

Candidate Handbook



Illinois Fire Inspectors Association



Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal

2021

About the Illinois Fire Inspectors Association

The Illinois Fire Inspectors Association (IFIA) is a non for profit 501 (c) 3 organization. The Illinois Fire Inspectors Association has been in existence since 1972. The IFIA has a rich history in the development and teaching of fire inspector certification programs in Illinois. The IFIA has sponsored annual Fire and Life Safety Conferences since 1974. Full and half day continuing education classes are offered multiple times per year.

Our Mission Statement

To reduce death and injuries from fire and other dangers through education, enforcement and engineering.

Our Office

Our office is located at 426 W. Northwest Highway, Mt. Prospect, Illinois. The telephone number to the office is (224) 387-3340. The office is staffed by one part-time employee between the hours of 9:00a.m. - 1:00p.m., Monday through Friday. The office is the central hub of the Association. The office takes registrations for training and certification classes, refers out any questions that come in, distributes monthly and special meeting or course notices, and provides a weekly email blast of upcoming items of interest to its members, and ships IFSTA, NFPA, and Jones and Bartlett training manuals. In addition, the staff maintains our website at www.illinoisfireinspectors.org. The office staff prides themselves on their customer service.

Our Governance

The IFIA is governed by an elected Board of Directors. The Board of Directors is made up of a President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer. The day to day operations are supervised by the Executive Director who is appointed annually by the President.

Standing Committees of the IFIA are: Certification / Public Education / Codes and Standards / Social

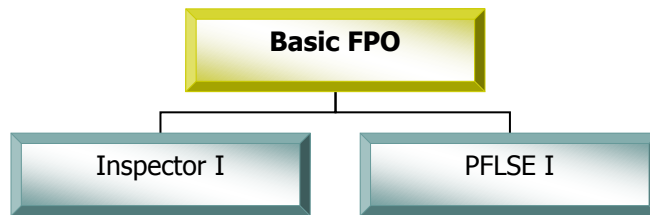
Our Meeting dates

The IFIA usually meets on the fourth Friday of the month at the Medinah Banquet Hall located at 550 Shriners Drive in Addison, Illinois.

About the Certification Process

The **Basic Fire Prevention Officer** has the following requirements:

1. Certification as a Fire Inspector I
 2. Course completion of the Public Fire & Life Safety Educator Course
 3. Passage of the OSFM State Exam
 4. Two years of Fire Prevention Experience
- Note – there is no State Exam required for the Basic Fire Prevention Officer.

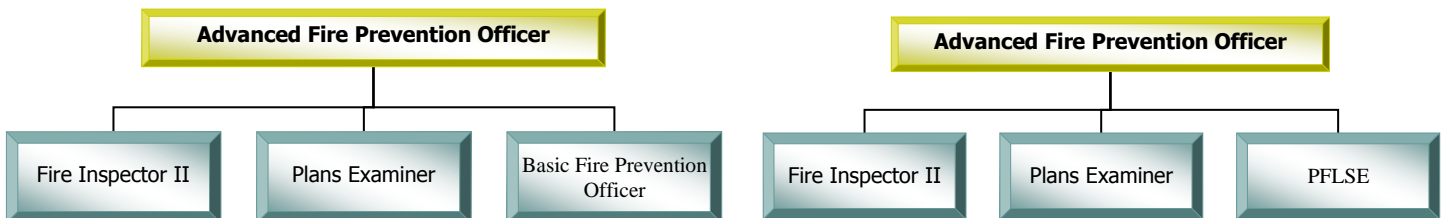


The **Inspector II** requires has the following prerequisite:

1. Certification as a Fire Inspector I, or
2. Certification as a Basic Fire Prevention Officer
3. Completion and approval of the OSFM Practicum
4. Passage of the OSFM State Exam
5. Three years of Fire Prevention Experience

The **Advanced Fire Prevention Officer** has the following requirements:

1. Certification as a Basic Fire Prevention Officer, Certification of the Fire Inspector II and an approved Plans Examiner Course, or
2. Certification of Fire Inspector II, PFLSE, an approved Plans Examiner Course
3. Four years of Fire Prevention Experience



The Practicum Module – Fire Inspector II

The Practicum Phase is designed to allow the applicant the ability to demonstrate the skills and knowledge necessary to perform field inspections and other related fire prevention functions. This course was designed to follow NFPA 1031, therefore the evaluation of your submittal will be based specifically on the JPR’s in Chapter 5 for Fire Inspector II.

The evaluation will also be based on information found in the IFSTA Fire Inspection and Code Enforcement Text, 8th edition, the International Building and Fire Codes, NFPA Standards and the adopted local codes and/or ordinances of the applicant.

The Fire Inspector II practicum includes the following Learning Activities:

Date:

- | | |
|--|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.2.1) Process a permit application | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.2.2) Process a plan review application | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.2.3) Prepare correspondence regarding a complex code compliance issue | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.2.4) Recommend a modification to an adopted code and/or standard | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.2.5) Recommend a modification to an adopted policy and/or procedure | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.1) Calculate occupant load in a multiuse structure | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.2) Identify the occupancy classification of multiple-use occupancy | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.3) Evaluate a building’s area, height, occupancy class and construction type | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.4 & 5.4.4) Inspect a sprinkler system for installation deficiencies | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.4.3 & 5.4.4) Inspect a fire protection system for installation deficiencies | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.5) Determine and analyze exit capacity | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.6) Identify hazardous conditions involving equipment and/or operations | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.7) Evaluate an evacuation plan for compliance | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.8) Verify code compliance for flammable and combustible liquids and gasses | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.9) Identify code violations involving hazardous materials | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.4.3) Inspect a fire alarm system for installation deficiencies | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.4.5) Determine egress components for code compliance | _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> (5.3.11) Verify compliance of any performance based designed system | _____ |

Authorized Signature	Printed	Date
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Student Signature	Printed	Date
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Department: _____ DL#: _____

This document and a signed “Application for Certification” shall be submitted **to the OSFM, via the portal**. The authorized signature for attestation above can only be that of the Fire Chief, Fire Prevention Chief or Training Officer.

The Practicum Module – Fire Inspector II

The following JPR's are from NFPA 1031, Chapter 5. Upon completion, each of the JPR's shall be documented and retained in the training file of the Fire Inspector II Candidate. This training file must be retained for the duration of the certification and available to members of the OSFM Personnel Standards and Education Staff for review. Upon completion and documentation of the JPR's, an Application for Certification and the checklist above shall be submitted through the portal for review. The Practicum will either be approved as submitted or returned with comments indicating what corrections/modifications are needed in order to resubmit it for final approval.

5.2.1 Process a permit application, given a specific request, so that the application is evaluated and a permit is issued or denied in accordance with the applicable codes, standards, policies and procedures of the jurisdiction.

5.2.2 Process a plan review application, given a specific request, so that the application is evaluated and processed in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

5.2.3 Investigate complex complaints, given a reported situation or condition, so that complaint information is recorded, the investigation process is initiated, and the complaint is resolved in accordance with the applicable codes and standards and the policies of the jurisdiction.

5.2.4 Recommend modifications to the adopted codes and standards of the jurisdiction, given a fire safety issue, so that the proposed modifications address the problem, need, or deficiency.

5.2.5* Recommend policies and procedures for the delivery of inspection services, given management objectives, so that inspections are conducted in accordance with the policies of the jurisdiction and due process of the law is followed.

5.3.1 Compute the maximum allowable occupant load of a multi-use building, given field observations or a description of its uses, so that the maximum allowable occupant load calculation is in accordance with applicable codes and standards.

5.3.2* Identify the occupancy classifications of a mixed-use building, given a description of the uses, so that each area is classified in accordance with applicable codes and standards.

5.3.3* Evaluate a building's area, height, occupancy classification, and construction type, given an approved set of plans and construction features, so that it is verified that the building is in accordance with applicable codes and standards.

5.3.4* Evaluate fire protection systems and equipment provided for life safety and property protection, given field observations of the facility and documentation, the hazards protected, and the system specifications, so that the fire protection systems provided are approved for the occupancy or hazard being protected.

** = additional information can be found for this JPR in the annex of NFPA 1031*

JCAR Rules

Section 141.329 Fire Inspector II

The Fire Inspector II certification is designed to provide an individual serving in a fire department or allied field agency an intermediate level of knowledge and requisite skills to conduct advanced fire and life safety inspections in a variety of structures with the ability to appropriately report those findings and accurately interpret codes and standards defined by NFPA 1031.

- a) Prerequisites
 - 1) Certification as Fire Inspector I or Fire Prevention Officer.
 - 2) Attainment of a minimum of 3 years inspectional activity in fire prevention.
 - 3) Successful completion of the Fire Inspector II course consisting of a minimum of 40 instructional hours.
 - 4) Passage of the State written examination.
 - 5) Passage of the State practical skills examination.
- b) Reimbursement may be received for training costs for Fire Inspector II (see Subpart E).
- c) A qualified instructor for this level must be:
 - 1) a certified Fire Service Instructor II; and
 - 2) a certified:
 - A) Fire Inspector II; or
 - B) Advanced Fire Prevention Officer; or
 - C) Fire Inspector III and Plans Examiner II.
- d) The course and facility must be approved by the Division as specified in Subpart B.
- e) Credit for equivalent courses may be available in accordance with Section 141.120.

(Source: Added at 41 Ill. Reg. 6594, effective August 1, 2017)

Fire Inspector II Reading Assignments

Required Reading:

Text: Fire Inspection & Code Enforcement, 8th Edition. 2016, IFSTA

Module:	Pages:
1. Duties and Authority	34-36
2. Standards, Codes, and Permits	48-67
3. Fire Behavior	73-111
4. Construction Types & Occupancy Classifications	146-149
5. Building Construction: Materials and Structural Systems	171-187
6. Building Construction: Components	228-236
7. Means of Egress	268-279
8. Site Access	285-299
9. Fire Hazard Recognition	335-374
10. Hazardous Materials	449-459
11. Water Supply Distribution Systems	465-498
12. Water-Based Fire-Suppression Systems	538-557
13. Special-Agent Extinguishing Systems & Portable Extinguishers	594-597
14. Fire Detection and Alarm Systems	642-647
15. Plans Review and Field Verifications	662-683
16. Inspection Procedures	690-715