



State Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Association of Texas

Texas Volunteer Firefighters' and Fire Marshals' Certification Board

PO Box 1409 ♦ Manchaca, Texas 78652-1409

www.sffma.org ♦ 512.454.3473 (phone)

INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-1

Reporting a Mayday

Subject: Fire Department Communications

NFPA 1001 4.2.4

REFERENCE

Activate an emergency call for assistance, given vision-obscured conditions, PPE, and department SOPs, so that the firefighter can be located and rescued. (4.2.4)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee shall activate an emergency call for assistance so that the firefighter can be located and rescued.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a hazardous environment in which you are trapped, lost or disoriented, you will demonstrate the technique for reporting a "Mayday" and activating your PASS alarm while wearing full protective clothing and with your vision obscured. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Fire department radio

SCBA with PASS alarm

Department SOPs

Flashlight

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-1

Reporting a Mayday

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee shall activate an emergency call for assistance so that the firefighter can be located and rescued.
(4.2.4)

	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Recognizes situation that would necessitate a Mayday call	1		
b. Remains calm	1		
c. Follows AHJ radio procedure for reporting a Mayday	1		
d. Manually activates PASS alarm	1		
e. Conserves breathing air while waiting for rescue	1		
f. Evaluates area for hazards	1		
g. Uses tools to make additional noises for rescuers to follow	1		
h. Points flashlight toward ceiling if applicable	1		
i. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	8		

Points needed to pass: 6

Evaluator/Candidate Comments:

Instructor's Signature

Date



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-2

Following a Hoseline to Safety

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.5

REFERENCE

Exit a hazardous area as a team, given vision-obscured conditions, so that a safe haven is found before exhausting the air supply, others are not endangered, and the team integrity is maintained. (4.3.5)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee, operating as a team member, shall exit a hazardous area by following a hoseline to a safe haven before exhausting the air supply.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a hazardous environment in which your vision is obscured and you are trapped, lost or disoriented, you will follow a hoseline to locate a safe haven while wearing full protective clothing. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Charged hoseline

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-2

Following a Hoseline to Safety

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee, operating as a team member, shall exit a hazardous area by following a hoseline to a safe haven before exhausting the air supply. (4.3.5)

	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Remains calm	1		
b. Locates hoseline	1		
c. Locates a coupling on the hoseline	1		
d. Feels coupling to determine direction away from the fire	1		
e. Locates a safe haven	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4

Evaluator/Candidate Comments:

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-3

Following a Wall to Safety

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.5

REFERENCE

Exit a hazardous area as a team, given vision-obscured conditions, so that a safe haven is found before exhausting the air supply, others are not endangered, and the team integrity is maintained. (4.3.5)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee, operating as a team member, shall exit a hazardous area by following a wall to a safe haven before exhausting the air supply.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a hazardous environment in which your vision is obscured and you are trapped, lost or disoriented, you will follow a wall to locate a safe haven while wearing full protective clothing. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-3

Following a Wall to Safety

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee, operating as a team member, shall exit a hazardous area by following a wall to a safe haven before exhausting the air supply. (4.3.5)

	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Remains calm	1		
b. Locates wall	1		
c. Follows wall and makes all turns in same direction	1		
d. Sweeps wall for opening (windows and doors)	1		
e. Locates a safe haven	1		
f. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	6		

Points needed to pass: 4

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-4

Terminating Utility Service

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.18

REFERENCE

Turn off building utilities, given tools and an assignment, so that the assignment is safely completed. (4.3.18)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee shall safely turn off building utilities including water, electricity, natural gas and propane.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

You will be given a choice of required tools. Utilizing these tools, demonstrate locating the proper shutoff locations and shut off the valves or control devices for gas, water, and electric service to a building. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all of the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Building utility props

Water meter key

Gas meter key

Spanner wrench

Adjustable wrench

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-4

Terminating Utility Service

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee shall safely turn off building utilities including water, electricity, natural gas and propane. (4.3.18)

Water	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Chooses the correct tool(s)	1		
b. Completely turns off the water meter using required safety equipment	1		
c. Confirms that the valve is shut off	1		
d. Performs the skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	4		

Points needed to pass: 3

Electricity	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Indicates that power should be disconnected by a utility company	1		
b. Shuts off main breakers using required safety equipment	1		
c. <i>States that meter should not be pulled</i>	1		
d. <i>States that utilities should not be restored by the fire department; uses utility company</i>	1		
e. Performs the skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	5		

Points needed to pass: 4

Gas meter	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. <i>States that if gas is burning, the fire should not be extinguished</i>	1		
b. Chooses correct tool(s)	1		
c. Completely turns off meter using required safety equipment	1		
d. Confirms that valve is shut off	1		
e. Performs the skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	5		

Points needed to pass: 4



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

Trainee shall safely turn off building utilities including water, electricity, natural gas and propane. (4.3.18)			
Propane Tank	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. States that if gas is burning, the fire should not be extinguished	1		
b. States that a handline should be advanced to center of tank around valve area if exposed to fire	1		
c. Completely turns off valve using required safety equipment	1		
d. Performs the skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
TOTAL POINTS:		4	

Points needed to pass: 3

Evaluator/Candidate Comments:

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-5

Set Up Emergency Lighting for Fire Ground Operation

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.17

REFERENCE

Illuminate the emergency scene, given fire service electrical equipment and an assignment, so that designated areas are illuminated and all equipment is operated within the manufacturer's listed safety precautions. (4.3.17)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee shall set up emergency lighting to illuminate the emergency scene.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a portable power or mounted power plant with lights, cords, and connectors, you shall set up and operate lighting equipment to illuminate a simulated fireground. You will identify and verbally describe the safety procedures to be observed when using fire service lighting equipment. You will identify at least three potential safety hazards when working with electricity on the fireground. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Portable or mounted power supply

Lights

Electrical cords

Connectors

Ground-fault interrupter (GFI)

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-5

Set Up Emergency Lighting for Fire Ground Operation

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee shall set up emergency lighting to illuminate the emergency scene. (4.3.17)			
	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Inspects equipment for damage	1		
b. Operates department power supply and lighting equipment	1		
c. Deploys cords and connectors	1		
d. Identifies three possible hazards when setting up equipment	1		
e. Resets ground-fault interrupter devices	1		
f. Locates lights for best effect	1		
g. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
	TOTAL POINTS:	7	

Points needed to pass: 5

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-6

Use of Safety Equipment While Riding on Fire Apparatus

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.2

REFERENCE

Respond on apparatus to an emergency scene, given personal protective clothing and other necessary personal protective equipment, so that the apparatus is correctly mounted and dismounted, seat belts are used while the vehicle is in motion, and other personal protective equipment is correctly used.

(4.3.2)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee shall properly use safety equipment while responding on apparatus to an emergency scene.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

You shall don personal protective equipment, mount the apparatus and properly use all safety devices as required by the procedures or rules according to AHJ. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Firefighter protective clothing

Fire apparatus

Hearing protection

Seat mounted SCBA (if applicable, according to AHJ)

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-6

Use of Safety Equipment While Riding on Fire Apparatus

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee shall properly use safety equipment while responding on apparatus to an emergency scene. (4.3.2)			
	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Dons personal protective equipment*	1		
b. Uses proper safety devices when mounting apparatus	1		
c. Is properly seated with seat belt fastened	1		
d. Secures all safety bars, door, and/or chains	1		
e. Wears hearing protection	1		
f. Uses proper safety devices when dismounting apparatus	1		
g. Performs the skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
TOTAL POINTS:		7	

*May include donning SCBA using seat mounted method, if applicable, according to AHJ.

Points needed to pass: 5

U = Unsatisfactorily performed/failed to meet objective or grading step

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-7

Safely Working in Protected Areas

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.3

REFERENCE

Establish and operate in work areas at emergency scenes, given protective equipment, traffic and scene control devices, structure fire and roadway emergency scenes, traffic hazards and downed electrical wires, and assignment, and SOPs, so that procedures are followed, protective equipment is worn, protected work areas are established as directed using traffic and scene control devices, and the firefighter performs assigned tasks only in established, protected work areas. (4.3.3)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee shall safely dismount an apparatus, then establish and work in a protected area.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given a fire apparatus, dismount and remove equipment from the compartments of the apparatus at a simulated emergency scene. You will establish a protected work area per AHJ. You will verbally describe and follow all safety procedures. You will begin on my instruction to start. The skill will end when you state to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

PREPARATION & EQUIPMENT

Fire apparatus

Traffic and scene control devices

Miscellaneous tools and equipment

PPE appropriate for the skill



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-7

Safely Working in Protected Areas

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee shall safety dismount an apparatus, then establish and work in a protected area. (4.3.3)			
	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Uses personal protective equipment	1		
b. Dismounts apparatus	1		
c. Deploys traffic and scene control devices per AHJ	1		
d. Operates in the protected work areas per AHJ	1		
e. Removes traffic and scene control devices per AHJ	1		
f. Performs the skill in a safe and proficient manner	1		
TOTAL POINTS:		6	

Points needed to pass: 4

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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-8

Operating an Air-Monitoring Instrument

Subject: Fireground Operations

NFPA 1001 4.3.21

REFERENCE

Operate an air-monitoring instrument, given an air monitor and an assignment or task, so that the device is operated and the firefighter recognizes the high- or low-level alarms of the air monitor and takes action to mitigate the hazard. (4.3.21)

OBJECTIVE

Trainee shall operate an air-monitoring instrument and recognize the high- or low- level alarms of the air monitor and take action to mitigate the hazard.

INSTRUCTIONS - procedures for achieving the objective

Given either single gas or multi-gas air monitoring instrument(s), you will demonstrate the procedures for placing the instrument(s) into service and verifying their calibration. You will also demonstrate how to use each air monitoring instrument provided. You will identify any high or low-level alarm that may activate and report their meaning and identify the appropriate mitigation actions that is required to the Skills Examiner. You will begin on my instructions to start. The skill will end when you state or indicate to me that you have completed all the identified steps. Do you understand these instructions?

1. Air monitoring instruments/equipment provided by the AHJ* that may include:
 - a. Carbon monoxide monitor**
 - b. Combustible gas indicator – Lower Explosive Limit (LEL Monitor) **
 - c. Oxygen monitor**
 - d. Gas specific monitor**
 - e. Photoionization detector (PID)**
2. Other instruments/equipment provided by AHJ

*This skill may be performed with either actual air monitoring instruments/equipment or by the use of air monitoring training simulators.

**These may be single gas air monitoring instrument(s) or a component of a multi-gas air monitoring instrument/device.

Note: the two (2) most common air monitoring devices used in the fire service today are four (4) gas multi-gas monitors and five (5) gas multi-gas monitors that include a photoionization detector (PID) to measure volatile organic chemicals (VOC).



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

Four (4) gas multi-gas monitors typically include sensors that detect:

1. Oxygen (O₂)
2. Carbon Monoxide (CO)
3. A specific chemical hazard of importance to the AHJ (i.e. Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) or Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂))
4. Combustible Gas/LEL Monitor

Five (5) gas multi-gas monitors typically include sensors that detect:

1. Oxygen (O₂)
2. Carbon Monoxide (CO)
3. A specific chemical hazard of importance to the AHJ (i.e., Hydrogen Sulfide (H₂S) or Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂))
4. Combustible Gas/LEL Monitor
 - a. Volatile Organic Chemicals (VOC).



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INSTRUCTIONAL SKILLS

SAFETY FFI-8

Operating an Air-Monitoring Instrument

Trainee: _____

Department: _____

Trainee, given an air monitor and an assignment or task, shall operate an air-monitoring instrument, so that the device is operated and the trainee recognizes the high- or low-level alarms of the air monitor and takes action to mitigate the hazard. (4.3.21)

	POSSIBLE POINTS	TEST	RETEST
a. Places the instrument(s) into service.	1		
b. Verifies the calibration of the instrument(s).	1		
c. Demonstrate how to use the air monitoring instrument provided.	1		
d. Identifies and records instrument readings.	1		
e. Identifies any high or low level alarm that activate.	1		
f. Correctly reports the meaning of any alarms.	1		
g. Identifies the appropriate mitigation actions required.	1		
h. Performs skill in a safe and proficient manner, per AHJ.	1		
TOTAL POINTS:	8		

Points needed to pass: 6

Evaluator/Candidate Comments:

Instructor's Signature

Date