



NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services

98 Smokey Bear Boulevard, Concord, New Hampshire

Mailing Address: 33 Hazen Drive, Concord, New Hampshire 03305-0002

Business: (603) 223-4200 Fax: (603) 271-1091

Gap Analysis of Fire Inspector Standards

Fire Inspector I to First Responder Inspector

Introduction

As part of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Emergency Response and Responder Safety Document Consolidation Plan, NFPA® 1037, 1031, and 1035 have been grouped into the new NFPA® 1030 *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner; Fire and Life Safety Educator, Public Information Officer, Youth Firesetter Intervention Specialist and Youth Firesetter Program Manager and Fire Marshal*. The following analysis is a comparison of the NFPA® 2014 professional qualification standards for Fire Inspector and the 2024 standards for First Responder Inspector. The purpose of this analysis is to provide information for decision making related to the adoption of the new certification level of First Responder Inspector by the New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission.

For brevity, only the action component of the standards is presented below. The gap analysis is broken down by job performance requirement, required knowledge, and required skills. Additions are marked in **green**. Expansion of material is marked in **yellow**. Removal or simplification of material is marked in **red**.

This analysis is a supplement to the NFPA analysis found here:

https://nfpa-cod-production-public.s3.amazonaws.com/assets/solutions/resources/23127022638-NFPA_1030_Professional_Qualification_Changes.pdf

Summary of Gap

NFPA 1030 defines the First Responder Inspector as someone who performs basic fire safety inspections, including specific code and standard sections, at the direction of the AHJ. Individuals at this level can include firefighters who are normally assigned to fire suppression or other individuals whose primary job responsibilities are not fire inspection. This is a departure from the 1031 Inspector I who operates more independently. **The educational requirements for this role are moderately reduced** to account for this reduction in overall level of responsibility. It is not intended that this level cover information in the detail or depth that a fire inspector would require. It is expected that a First Responder Inspector will be overseen by, or in direct contact with a certified Fire Inspector.

There is a sustained emphasis on Hazardous Materials Awareness training, underscoring the importance of preparedness for dealing



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with hazardous substances. The standard also introduces additional responsibilities for public safety education, reflecting an alignment with the NFFF's Firefighter Life Safety Initiatives' broader role for fire service personnel in community engagement and information dissemination.

Administrative functions are now more clearly defined, with a particular focus on the criticality of documentation, such as inspection reports, and the necessity for improved communication and collaborative efforts among fire service members and stakeholders. This includes the introduction of the "first responder inspector" role, designed to facilitate basic-level inspections through directed training and the use of checklists, thus ensuring a systematic approach to identifying fire and life safety hazards.

Modifications in job performance requirements (JPR), requisite knowledge (RK), and requisite skills (RS) emphasize a shift towards practical application, problem identification, and reporting, with

less emphasis on detailed theoretical knowledge and the explicit communication and application of codes and standards. This could be interpreted as a move towards enhancing the operational efficiency of fire safety inspections and ensuring compliance through a more focused and streamlined approach.

Changes also include the simplification of knowledge and skills requirements, removal of certain responsibilities, and the clarification of terminology to stress factual accuracy. Notably, there is a topic area covering legal proceedings related to code enforcement, which suggests an increased emphasis on the legal aspects of fire safety compliance.

Overall, the update appears to refine the scope of fire inspections, prioritize practical knowledge over theoretical depth, and enhance the operational readiness of fire inspectors through clearer definitions of roles, responsibilities, and required competencies.



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NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector I	NFPA® 1030 (2024) First Responder Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>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.</p>	<p>6.2* General. The first responder inspector shall meet the job performance requirements defined in Sections 6.2 through 6.6.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1030 maintains the requirement for Hazardous Materials Awareness training. • Explanatory information implies additional responsibilities related to public safety education and information.
<p>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.</p>	<p>6.3* Administrative Duties. This duty involves the preparation of inspection reports, handling of complaints, and maintenance of records, as well as maintaining dialogue with fire inspectors and fire plans examiners and other relevant personnel, according to the job performance requirements in 6.3.1 through 6.3.6.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shift towards greater specificity in administrative roles, an enhanced focus on critical documentation (such as inspection reports), and a broader emphasis on communication and collaboration among fire service personnel and related stakeholders
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>6.3.1 Prepare internal written correspondence to communicate fire protection and prevention concerns</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New.
<p>4.2.1 Prepare inspection reports</p>	<p>6.3.2 Prepare inspection reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS
<p>4.2.5* Identify the applicable code or standard</p>	<p>6.3.3* Identify the applicable code or standard</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • RK Increased specificity of fire and life safety codes and standards. • Added the concept of the "first responder inspector," emphasizing basic-level inspections and the need for specific direction and training, including the use of checklists or itemized lists.



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4.2.2* Recognize the need for a permit	6.3.4* Recognize the need for a permit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR modified target of communication • No change to RK • No change to RS • No change to explanatory material
4.2.3 Recognize the need for plan review	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1030 Removes responsibility. FRI are assigned inspections by Inspectors.
4.2.4* Investigate common complaints	6.3.5* Investigate assigned complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR added reporting responsibility and list of stakeholders • RK changed "as determined by AHJ" • RS removed "resolve complaints" • No change to explanatory material
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.6 Identify fire and life safety hazards or conditions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
<i>No equivalent Topic</i>	6.4.1 Legal. This duty involves the knowledge of various legal proceedings such as enforcement of the adopted codes and standards of the AHJ, handling various complaints, and initiating legal action where necessary.	



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4.2.6 Participate in legal proceedings	6.4.2* Ability to participate in legal proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR modified terminology stressing the importance of factual accuracy in the presentation of information. • No change to RK • No change to RS • Added explanatory material on the knowledge of legal proceedings processes within their AHJs, including appeals related to code enforcement, administrative hearings, depositions, and formal court appearances.
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.	6.5 Field Inspection. This duty involves conducting assigned fire safety inspections of existing structures and properties to identify fire and life safety hazards, according to the job performance requirements in 6.5.1 through 6.5.10.	The changes reflect a shift towards more detailed and structured requirements for conducting fire safety inspections, with a narrowed focus on identifying fire and life safety hazards in existing structures.
4.3.1 Identify the occupancy classification of a single-use occupancy	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combined with 4.3.1 into 6.5.5
4.3.2 Compute the allowable occupant load of a single-use occupancy or portion thereof	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Combined with 4.3.2 into 6.5.5



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4.3.15* Determine code compliance	6.5.1* Determine code compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • RK has been simplified to be broader. This suggests a shift towards emphasizing practical application over detailed theoretical knowledge. • RS has been simplified to observing, recognizing, and reporting problems, removing explicit mention of communication and application of codes and standards from the skills list. This could indicate a focus on the inspection and problem-identification aspects of the role. • No change in explanatory material
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.5.2 Identify the fire and life safety hazards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.5.3 Verify occupancy classification of a single-use occupancy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
4.3.3* Inspect means of egress elements	6.5.4* Verify that the means of egress elements are maintained	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR narrows focus to verifying that egress elements are not locked and are free of obstructions. • RK simplified to omitting specific references to types of construction, occupancy egress requirements, and the relationship of fixed fire protection systems to egress requirements. • RS simplified to remove requirements for calculating, using measuring tools, and making field sketches. • No change in explanatory material



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4.3.4* Verify the type of construction for an addition or remodeling project	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4.3.4 Removed.
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.5.5 Verify posted occupant load	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This standard appears to combine 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 and simplifies the requisite knowledge and skills needed, focusing on understanding occupant loads and the ability to observe, recognize, and report problems. This might represent a shift towards a broader, practical, and more generalized approach to verifying compliance with codes and standards related to occupant loads, simplifying the requisite knowledge and skills required for fire inspectors and plan examiners.
4.3.5* Determine the operational readiness of existing fixed fire suppression systems	6.5.6* Determine the operational readiness of existing fixed fire suppression systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change to JPR Minor terminology change RK No change to RS Explanatory material adds "fire department connections"
4.3.6* Determine the operational readiness of existing fire detection and alarm systems	6.5.7* Determine the operational readiness of existing fire detection and alarm systems	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPR removes the requirement for "test documentation" and only mentions "observations" as the basis for determining operational readiness. Minor terminology change RK No change to RS No change to explanatory material



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4.3.7* Determine the operational readiness of existing portable fire extinguishers	6.5.8* Determine the operational readiness of existing portable fire extinguishers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR removes the need for "test documentation" as part of determining the operational readiness of fire extinguishers • Minor terminology change RK • RS removes ability "to read reports" • No change to explanatory material
4.3.8* Recognize hazardous conditions involving equipment, processes, and operations	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR removed
4.3.9 Compare an approved plan to an existing fire protection system	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR removed
4.3.10* Verify that emergency planning and preparedness measures are in place and have been practiced	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR removed
4.3.11* Inspect emergency access for an existing site	6.5.9* Inspect emergency access for an existing site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR reworded for clarity • RK reworded for clarity • RS simplified to emphasize the ability to identify emergency access requirements and report deficiencies, removing mention of decision-making and the use of measuring tools. • Explanatory material removes detailed guidance on operational considerations, such as evaluating actual response operations, safe zones, and vehicle size, width, and turning capabilities, as well as considerations for sites with topographical limitations.



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4.3.12* Verify code compliance for incidental storage, handling, and use of flammable and combustible liquids and gases	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR removed
4.3.13* Verify code compliance for incidental storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR removed
4.3.14 Recognize a hazardous fire growth potential in a building or space	6.5.10 Recognize a hazardous fire growth potential in a building or space	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR adds identification, documentation, and reporting of hazardous "material, liquids, or gases," • No change to RK • No change to RS
4.3.15* Determine code compliance	6.5.1* Determine code compliance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • RK and RS simplified. This change might represent a shift towards a more practical approach in training and education. • No change to explanatory material
4.3.16 Verify fire flows for a site	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved to Fire Inspector
4.4 Plans Review. There are no plan review job performance requirements for Fire Inspector I.	6.6 Plans Review. There are no plan review job performance requirements for first responder inspector.	