



NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY

Division of Fire Standards and Training & Emergency Medical Services

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Gap Analysis of Fire Inspector Standards

Fire Inspector II & III to Fire 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*. NFPA® 1031 defines three levels of Fire Inspector with increasing scopes of responsibility. The Fire Inspector I conducts basic inspections and applied codes and standards, Inspector II interprets applicable codes and standards, and Inspector III plans review duties and resolves complex code-related issues. NFPA® 1030 represents a significant shift from the previous edition by consolidating what were formerly two distinct levels (Fire Inspector II and III) into a single comprehensive certification level. The new Fire Inspector level is defined as someone who applies codes and standards, performs fire inspections, plans review duties, facilitates training, and resolves code-related issues. The following analysis is a comparison of the NFPA® 2014 professional qualification standards for Fire Inspector II, Fire Inspector III, and

the 2024 standards for Fire Inspector. The purpose of this analysis is to provide information for decision making related to the adoption of the new certification level of Fire Inspector by the New Hampshire Fire Standards and Training Commission.

Additions are marked in **green**. Changes to material is marked in **yellow**. Removal of material is marked in **red**. Changes involving minor terminology or grammatical modifications are not documented. For example, the change from “jurisdiction” to “AHJ” is ignored due to being identical in the intent.

Note: Only the behavioral component of each JPR is presented in this document. Job Performance Requirements are copyrighted by the National Fire Protection Association.

Summary of Gap

The new NFPA® 1030 Fire Inspector standard represents a significant shift in the expectations and competencies required of fire inspectors. NFPA® 1030 overlaps all 24 JPRs of Inspector II and 4 of the 20 JPRs of Inspector III. This represents a 100% overlap of Inspector II and a %20 overlap of Inspector III. The removal of certain administrative and evaluation tasks that were present in



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the Inspector III standard might streamline the certification process but could also raise concerns about the breadth of knowledge and skills future fire inspectors will possess, particularly in specialized or complex areas of fire inspection.

Administrative and Record-Keeping Enhancements

There's an added focus on filing systems and maintaining records, highlighting the importance of organization and documentation in the inspector's role. This likely supports the broader trend towards accountability and traceability in safety roles.

Practical Application and Competency-Based Expectations

The new standard leans more heavily on the practical application of codes and procedures, indicating a shift towards competency-based education and evaluation. This could be seen as a response to the need for inspectors to apply their knowledge effectively in diverse and complex scenarios.

Decision-Making Quality

Changes in terminology, such as from "make decisions" to "make correct and appropriate decisions," emphasize the quality and appropriateness of decision-making in enforcement actions. This shift suggests a higher standard for inspectors in terms of judgment and the application of knowledge.

Incorporation of Modern Technologies

The inclusion of electronic communication and the focus on energy storage systems and other emerging technologies indicate an acknowledgment of the evolving landscape that fire inspectors

must navigate. This incorporation reflects the necessity for inspectors to be knowledgeable about current and future technologies impacting fire safety.

Broadened Scope and Inclusivity

Modifications in the scope, such as the change from "complex" to all types of complaints and from "mixed-use building" to any "building," suggest a more inclusive and comprehensive approach. This might aim to prepare inspectors for a wider range of scenarios and challenges.

Proactive Problem Identification

The addition of skills like the ability to "recognize hazards and deficiencies" and validate the performance of acceptance tests indicates a shift towards a more proactive, hands-on role in identifying and addressing fire safety issues.

Conclusion

The new NFPA 1030 Fire Inspector standard represents a strategic refinement and modernization of the roles previously delineated by Fire Inspector II and Fire Inspector III into a single, more comprehensive standard. This shift will likely equip inspectors with a broad and adaptable skill set that emphasizes practical application, critical thinking, and a comprehensive understanding of fire safety principles. The changes reflect a trend towards increased competency-based expectations, a greater emphasis on education and practical application, and an acknowledgment of the importance of staying current with technological advancements in fire safety.



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NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>5.2* Administration. This duty involves conducting research, interpreting codes, implementing policy, testifying at legal proceedings, and creating forms and job aids, according to the following job performance requirements.</p>	<p>6.2* Administration. This duty involves the recommendation, creation, and evaluation of policies and procedures for fire safety inspections and code enforcement activities, according to the following job performance requirements.</p>	<p>7.2* Administration. This duty involves conducting research, interpreting codes, implementing policy, testifying at legal proceedings, and facilitating training, according to the job performance requirements in 7.2.1 through 7.2.7.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adds the requirement to facilitate training indicating an added emphasis on educational competencies alongside administrative and technical skills. • Explanatory material adds designing filing systems and maintaining records.
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.2.1 Apply applicable codes or standards</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.2.2 Complete inspection reports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
<p>5.2.1 Process a permit application</p>		<p>7.2.3 Process a permit application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • RS adds a stronger focus on the practical application of codes and procedures, suggesting an evolution toward more competency-based expectations.
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>6.2.1 Generate written correspondence related to the issuance of appeals</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>6.2.2 Facilitate code adoption and modification processes</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed



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NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.2.3 Evaluate the impact of proposed codes, ordinances, and other legislation	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.2.4 Develop policies and procedures for the administration of inspection functions	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.2.5 Propose technical reference material acquisition	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.2.6 Enforce permit regulations	7.2.4 Enforce permit regulations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changes "mitigated" to "corrected" which may represent a shift toward more straightforward expectations of outcome. • No change to RK • RS changed to include "correct and appropriate decisions" rather than just "make decisions" emphasizing quality and appropriateness of decision-making processes in enforcement actions.
5.2.2 Process a plan review application	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	7.2.5 Process a plan review application	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • RS changed to include electronic communication.



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5.2.3* Investigate complex complaints	No equivalent JPR	7.2.6* Investigate complaints	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPR changed to remove “complex,” broadening the scope to include all types of complaints. No change to RK No change to RS No change to explanatory material
5.2.4* Recommend modifications to the adopted codes and standards of the jurisdiction	No equivalent JPR	7.2.7* Explain the modifications process to the adopted codes and standards of the AHJ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JPR changed to focus on the modification process of adopted codes and standards, indicating a more educational or explanatory approach rather than direct recommendation. No change to RK RS changed to remove mention the cost/risk benefits No change to explanatory material
No equivalent JPR	6.2.8 Recommend a program budget	No equivalent JPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
No equivalent JPR	6.2.9 Evaluate inspection reports and completed forms and checklists	No equivalent JPR	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed



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NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<i>Not included in 1031</i>	<i>Not included in 1031</i>	7.3 Legal. This duty involves the ability to participate in various legal proceedings, such as enforcement of the adopted codes and standards of the AHJ, handling various complaints, and initiating legal action where necessary.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New topic area incorporates related JPRs from previous standards.
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	7.3.1 Understand legal proceedings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.2.7* Initiate legal action related to a fire code violation	7.3.2 Initiate legal action related to a fire code violation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS • Explanatory material moved into 7.3.1 and expanded.
5.2.5* Recommend policies and procedures for the delivery of inspection services	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	7.3.3* Recommend policies and procedures for the delivery of inspection services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS • No change to explanatory materials.



NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>5.3 Field Inspection. This duty involves code enforcement inspections and analyses of new and existing structures and properties for construction, occupancy, fire protection, and exposures, according to the following job performance requirements.</p>	<p>6.3 Field Inspection. This duty involves analysis of code compliance alternatives; evaluation of construction, occupancy, fire protection, and exposures; and emergency planning, according to the following job performance requirements.</p>	<p>7.4 Field Inspection. This duty involves conducting fire and life safety inspections, to include enforcement actions, and analyses of new and existing structures and properties for construction, occupancy, fire protection, and exposures, according to the job performance requirements in 7.4.1 through 7.4.16.</p>	<p>The new edition combines the previous two levels. The inclusion of enforcement actions and a more detailed analysis of structures for a wide range of criteria suggests a comprehensive approach that covers both the baseline inspection activities and the advanced competencies expected of a higher-level inspector. This appears to reflect a more unified and robust competency framework, potentially reducing ambiguity and ensuring a more standardized approach across various inspection complexities.</p>
<p>5.3.1 Compute the maximum allowable occupant load of a multi-use building</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.1 Compute the maximum allowable occupant load of a building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changes scope to include any building, not explicitly emphasizing multi-use, thereby implying a more generalized application. • RK changed to remove "fire hazards presented by various occupancies." This may not indicate a reduced emphasis on understanding fire hazards but an assumption that this knowledge is included in the broader context of codes, regulations, and operational features. • No change to RS



NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>5.3.2* Identify the occupancy classifications of a mixed-use building</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.2* Identify the occupancy classifications of a building</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changes scope from "mixed-use building" to any "building," reflecting a more inclusive approach to various building configurations beyond mixed-use scenarios. • RK changed to add "fire hazard classifications" alongside operational features, indicating an expanded requirement for understanding the nuances of fire hazards associated with different occupancies. • No change to RS • No change to explanatory material
<p>5.3.3* Evaluate a building's area, height, occupancy classification, and construction type</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.3* Evaluate a building's area, height, occupancy classification, and construction type</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS • No change to explanatory material
<p>5.3.4* Evaluate fire protection systems and equipment provided for life safety and property protection</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.4* Evaluate fire protection systems and equipment provided for life safety and property protection</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changed to include "hazard classifications," reflecting a shift towards more specific hazard identification and classification in the newer standards. • No change to RK • RS changed to add the ability to "recognize hazards and deficiencies," reflecting a broader skill set for inspectors, focusing not just on compliance with codes and standards but also on proactive problem identification and resolution. • No change to explanatory material.



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<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.1 Assess alternative methods to adjust occupant loads	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.2 Evaluate corrective measures	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.3 Evaluate the construction type required for an addition or remodeling project	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.4 Evaluate alternative protection measures of equipment, operations, and processes	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.5 Evaluate fire protection plans and practices	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.9* Witness an acceptance test for an integrated fire protection system	7.4.5* Witness an acceptance test for an integrated fire protection system	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change to JPR No change to RK RS changed to add the ability to witness and validate the performance of acceptance tests. This may reflect a broader role where inspectors are not only supervising but also actively validating the test performance, indicating a more hands-on approach in ensuring compliance and efficacy of the fire protection systems. No change to explanatory material.



NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>5.3.5 Analyze the egress elements of a building or portion of a building</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.6* Inspect means of egress elements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changes emphasis towards inspecting the means of egress elements to ensure they are maintained in compliance with applicable codes and standards, implying an ongoing obligation to ensure egress elements remain up to standard after their initial provision. • RK changed to add a significant amount of knowledge related to maintenance requirements, types of construction, occupancy egress requirements, and the relationship of fixed fire protection systems to egress requirements. This broadens the inspector's required knowledge base to encompass a wider range of considerations in evaluating egress elements. • RS changed to add observing and recognizing problems, using measuring tools, and making field sketches, alongside the ability to calculate and make decisions. This suggests a more hands-on and detailed approach to inspecting means of egress elements. • Adds explanatory material that offers examples of means of egress elements, thereby providing additional context and guidance for inspectors.



NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>5.3.6* Evaluate hazardous conditions involving equipment, processes, and operations</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.7* Identify hazardous conditions involving equipment, processes, and operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changes the action from “evaluate” to “identify,” signaling a reduction in the level of performance. • RK changed to add "additional reference materials related to protection of hazardous processes and code enforcement," reflecting the need for ongoing education and familiarity with a broad range of materials relevant to fire inspection. • No change to RS • Explanatory material changed to include energy storage systems and other emerging technologies.
<p>5.3.7* Evaluate emergency planning and preparedness procedures</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.8* Evaluate emergency planning and preparedness procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS • No change to EM
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>6.3.6* Recommend criteria for the development of emergency planning and procedures</p>	<p>7.4.9* Assist with the development and evaluation of emergency planning and procedures</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changes “recommend” to “assist,” reflecting the move from an advisory approach to a hands-on, collaborative approach. • No change to RK • No change to RS • No change to explanatory material
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>6.3.7 Evaluate compliance alternatives for the storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed



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<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.8 Evaluate compliance alternatives for the storage, handling, and use of flammable or combustible liquids and gases	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	6.3.10 Develop emergency access criteria	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Removed
5.3.8 Verify code compliance for storage, handling, and use of flammable and combustible liquids and gases	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	7.4.10 Verify code compliance for storage, handling, and use of flammable and combustible liquids and gases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change to JPR RK RS changes “recognize problems” to “recognize deficiencies,” which may reflect an emphasis on more proactive identification of specific non-compliance issues rather than a general problem recognition.
5.3.9 Evaluate code compliance for the storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	7.4.11 Evaluate code compliance for the storage, handling, and use of hazardous materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change to JPR RK updates MSDS to SDS in accordance with NFPA 470 RS changes “recognize problems” to “recognize deficiencies,” which may reflect an emphasis on more proactive identification of specific non-compliance issues rather than a general problem recognition.



NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector II	NFPA® 1031 (2014) Fire Inspector III	NFPA® 1030 (2024) Fire Inspector	Gap Analysis
<p>5.3.10* Determine fire growth potential in a building or space</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.12* Determine fire growth potential in a building or space</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS • Explanatory material changed to add "fuel load" and "characteristics of the materials involved" to the list of factors.
<p>5.3.11* Verify compliance with construction documents</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.13* Verify compliance with construction documents</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • RS changes "witness and document tests" to the ability to "witness and validate tests" of fire protection systems and building services equipment. This may reflect increased emphasis on the validation process, indicating that inspectors are now expected not only to observe and record but also to assess the adequacy of the tests being conducted. • Explanatory material changed to add resources.
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>6.3.11 Evaluate compliance with construction documents</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed



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<p>5.3.12* Verify code compliance of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and other building service equipment and operations</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.14* Verify code compliance of heating, ventilation, air conditioning, and other building service equipment and operations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • RK changed to add "emerging technologies and energy efficiency systems." This may reflect the importance of staying current with technological advancements that could impact fire safety and fire protection system design, and reflects a broader scope of knowledge to adapt to the evolving landscape of building services and environmental considerations. • No change to RS • Explanatory materials changed to add "emerging technologies in energy efficiency." This may reflect a more integrated and forward-looking approach to fire inspection, acknowledging the growing complexity and integration of building systems and the need for inspectors to be knowledgeable about these aspects.
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.15* Verify emergency access for an existing site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New
<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.4.16 Verify available fire flows for a site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moved from Fire Inspector I



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<p>5.4 Plans Review. This duty involves field verification of shop drawings, plans, and construction documents to ensure that they meet the intent of applicable codes and standards for fire and life safety, according to the following job performance requirements.</p>	<p><i>No equivalent Topic</i></p>	<p>7.5 Plans Review. This duty involves field verification of shop drawings, plans, and construction documents to ensure that they meet the intent of applicable codes and standards for fire and life safety, according to the following job performance requirements.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to topic area
<p>5.4.1* Classify the occupancy</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.5.1* Classify an occupancy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No change to JPR • No change to RK • RS changed to add the necessity to make appropriate decisions. This may reflect the importance of not only interpreting building plans but also applying critical thinking and judgment in decision-making processes related to occupancy classification. • No change to explanatory materials
<p>5.4.2* Compute the maximum allowable occupant load</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.5.2* Compute the maximum allowable occupant load</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No changes to JPR • No change to RK • No change to RS • Explanatory materials change “model codes” to “adopted codes,” reinforcing the importance of local code adoption and application, which can vary by jurisdiction.



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<p>5.4.3* Review the proposed installation of fire protection systems</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.5.3* Review the proposed installation of fire protection systems</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changed to add “storage commodity” as a context for the review. • No change to RK • No change to RS • No change to explanatory materials
<p>5.4.4 Review the installation of fire protection systems</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.5.4 Compare an approved plan to an existing fire protection system</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changed focus to comparing approved plans to the actual installed fire protection systems to identify modifications, requiring a more comprehensive understanding of the systems and their operational context. • RK changed focus to understanding fire protection symbols and terminology, suggesting a foundational level of knowledge that supports the broader skill set needed for effective inspection. • RS changed skill set to include not just the ability to read and comprehend fire protection system plans, but also to observe and communicate effectively, apply codes and standards, recognize problems, and make appropriate decisions.
<p>5.4.5 Verify that means of egress elements are provided</p>	<p><i>No equivalent JPR</i></p>	<p>7.5.5 Review the means of egress elements provided</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JPR changed performance from “Verify” to “Review” which may reflect a broader or more inclusive approach to evaluation of egress means. • No change to RK • No change to RS



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5.4.6* Verify the construction type of a building or portion thereof	<i>No equivalent JPR</i>	7.5.6* Review the construction type of a building or portion thereof	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• JPR changed to add reviewing construction type for compliance with adopted codes and standards.• No change to RK• No change to RS• No change to explanatory material