



Driver Operator – Aerial Device

Candidate Handbook

Performance Standard

The NFPA 1002-2003 edition, Professional Qualifications for Fire Apparatus Driver Operator, will be the performance standard referenced for Driver Operator - Aerial Device certification.

Entrance Requirements

The Driver Operator - Aerial Device candidate must meet the following entrance requirements before certification can be issued:

- Candidate must be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- Candidate must possess a current license to operate a motor vehicle.
- Candidate must be certified Fire Fighter I, as prescribed in NFPA 1001, Professional Qualifications for Fire Fighters.
- Candidate must possess Basic Apparatus Preventive Maintenance Training that meets the intent of NFPA 1002-2003 Chapter 4, which has been approved to meet the requirement by the Bucks County Community College Department of Public Safety Training and Certification.
- Candidate must possess Basic Aerial Operations Training that meets the intent of NFPA 1002-2003 Chapter 6, which has been approved to meet the requirement by the Bucks County Community College Department of Public Safety Training and Certification.

Program Requirements

The instruction and evaluation given a Driver Operator - Aerial Device candidate who achieves certification is critical to ensuring a quality program. Training and evaluation of students must be accomplished by qualified individuals, certified at the prescribed level. All evaluators shall be contracted employees of the Bucks County Community College.

Candidate Evaluation

Evaluation of the candidate for certification is an important process. Candidates are evaluated in a manner that is completely separate from the educational and training process.

Practical Evaluation

Practical evaluations are intended to measure the manipulative skills of the Driver Operator - Aerial Device and will follow guidelines set forth in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Bucks County Community College. The agency is capable of testing 100% of the practical objectives; however, the examination will only test a pre-selected percentage based on the testing scenarios provided to the evaluator. A score of 100% shall constitute a passing grade for the candidate.



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Department of Public Safety Training and Certification

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Doylestown, PA 18901
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Written Examination

The written examination measures the cognitive skills of the Driver Operator - Aerial Device and will follow guidelines set forth in accordance with the policies and procedures of the Bucks County Community College. The examination will be randomly generated and consist of fifty (50) questions. Candidates will have a maximum of 1 hour and 30 minutes to complete the examination. A score of 70% or above shall constitute a passing grade for the candidate.

Re-Test Policy

Candidates will be permitted to re-take the written examination two times (three times total). Practical skills may be re-tested a maximum of two times (three times total). Candidates may be allowed to retest one time on date of test, for the third attempt the candidate will be instructed to return at a later date to re-test.

Appeal

All candidates have the right to appeal the decision of certification department, so long as the appeal is submitted in writing and in accordance with the Policies and Procedures of the Bucks County Community College.

Reciprocity

Any Driver Operator - Aerial Device's, certified by another agency accredited by the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) or National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications may be granted an equivalency certificate upon verification of the original certificate. This shall be in effect for any discipline edition that the agency is currently accredited to issue certificates.

Recertification

In the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, certification is a voluntary process and currently, there is no process or requirement for recertification. Each certificate issued to a candidate indicates the discipline and edition year that they were evaluated under at the time of certification. New certificates are not issued when the discipline changes.

Certification Issuance

Certificates indicating successful completion of the requirements set forth under the National Fire Protection Association standards shall be issued by the Bucks County Community College when the candidate has met all requirements for certification.

Recommended Classes

- Emergency Vehicle Operations Course "EVOC" (FSC 235) 16 hours
- Apparatus Preventive Maintenance (FSC 505) 16 hours
- Aerial Apparatus Practices (FSC 315) 16 hours
- Aerial Apparatus Practices Extended (FSC 317) 24 hours



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Required Text

“Aerial Apparatus Driver/Operator Handbook,” IFSTA, First Edition.

Revised Last: March 28, 2007