

Per the [Alabama Administrative Code \(Chapter 360-X-1\)](#), "This form must be completed and submitted prior to beginning any certification training leading to certification as a Fire Fighter or Volunteer Fire Fighter". To meet the stipulations of [Code of Alabama §36-32-7](#), this form must also be completed and submitted by the fire chief within thirty (30) days of employment of a trainee who is not currently certified as a firefighter in the State of Alabama. Submit the completed form to the AFC Certification Unit at certification@alabamafirecollege.org.

The Essential Functions of Firefighting listed below are meant to serve as a reference resource for physicians when determining the fitness of a candidate for firefighting duties as recommended by NFPA 1001: Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications' Entrance Requirements. The Essential Functions of Firefighting are merely meant to be used as an aid for physicians when assessing the physical status of a candidate.

The physical and medical examination should be conducted for the purpose of detecting or determining the presence of deficiencies or abnormalities which would reasonably be expected to limit the abilities of the applicant to satisfactorily and safely perform all the duties associated with firefighting.

Applicant's Full Name (Print):	
SSN (Last 4 digits):	Date of Examination:
Physician's Name or such Designee (Print):	
Physician's Signature (or such Designee):	
Name of Practice:	Office Number:
Address:	City, State, Zip Code:

Essential Functions of Firefighting

- (1) Wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) while performing firefighting tasks (e.g., hose line operations, extensive crawling, lifting and carrying heavy objects, ventilating roofs or walls using power or hand tools, forcible entry), rescue operations, and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions, including working in extremely hot or cold environments for prolonged time periods
- (2) Wearing the respirators required by the jurisdiction (e.g., N-95, half-face elastomeric, PAPR, SCBA), which includes a demand-valve-type positive-pressure facepiece or filter respirator, achieving a successful fit-test and tolerating increased respiratory workloads
- (3) Exposure to toxic fumes, irritants, particulates, biological (i.e., infectious) and non-biological hazards, or heated gases, despite the use of PPE and SCBA
- (4) Climbing at least six flights of stairs or walking a similarly strenuous distance and incline in jurisdictions without tall buildings while wearing PPE and SCBA, commonly weighing 40-50 lb (18-23 kg) and carrying equipment/tools weighing an additional 20-40 lb (9-18 kg)
- (5) Wearing PPE and SCBA that is encapsulating and insulated, which will result in significant fluid loss that frequently progresses to clinical dehydration and can elevate core temperature to levels exceeding 102.2°F (39°C)
- (6) Working alone while wearing PPE and respirators required by the jurisdiction, searching, finding, and rescue-dragging or carrying victims to safety in hazardous conditions and low visibility
- (7) While wearing PPE and SCBA, advancing water-filled hose lines up to 1 3/4 in. (45 mm) in diameter from fire apparatus to occupancy [approximately 150 ft (50 m)], which can involve negotiating multiple flights of stairs, ladders, and other obstacles
- (8) While wearing PPE and SCBA, climbing ladders, operating from heights, walking or crawling in the dark along narrow and uneven surfaces that might be wet or icy, and operating in proximity to electrical power lines or other hazards
- (9) Unpredictable, prolonged periods of extreme physical exertion as required by emergency operations without benefit of a warm-up period, scheduled rest periods, meals, access to medication(s), or hydration
- (10) Operating fire apparatus or other vehicles in an emergency mode with emergency lights and sirens
- (11) Critical, time-sensitive, complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments, including hot, dark, tightly enclosed spaces, that is further aggravated by fatigue, flashing lights, sirens, and other distractions
- (12) Ability to communicate (i.e., give and comprehend written or verbal orders) while wearing PPE and respirators required by the jurisdiction, under conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and drenching from hose lines or fixed protection systems (e.g., sprinklers)
- (13) Functioning as an integral component of a team, where sudden incapacitation can result in mission failure or in risk of injury or death to members of the public or other team members
- (14) Working in shifts, including during nighttime, that can extend beyond 12 hours
- (15) Performing EMS tasks, such as CPR or lifting or moving patients, while wearing PPE and respirators required by the jurisdiction