	West Fargo Fire & Rescue Policy and Procedure			Authorized by: D. Fuller Fire Chief
	Subject: PARTICIPATION AND CERTIFICATION			
	Section: ADMIN	Date Authorized:	Date Reviewed:	
	Number: 104	8/5/2015	11/1/2017	

Intent

The intent of this policy is to establish the participation and certification of department members

Policy


Members of the West Fargo Fire Department will be required to obtain a Firefighter 1 certification to the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001: Standard for Professional Firefighter Qualifications within 18 months of being brought on as a probationary member of the department or 6 months after being brought on as a full member of the department. This consensus document is updated on a four year basis, and this policy applies to the most recent update to the document. Firefighters who achieve certification are not required to re-certify to each standard, as participation in the training program will serve as continuing education throughout the four year period.

Members who have not successfully obtained Firefighter 1 certification within 6 months of becoming a full member of the department will be reviewed by the Board of Review (Policy 109). Extensions for obtaining this certification can be granted by the panel, but will not exceed 18 months from the date the member was brought on as a probationary member or 6 months of being brought off probation. If, after 24 months, the member has not obtained Firefighter 1 certification, the member will be removed from the department.

Members shall make a minimum of 75% of all regularly scheduled training nights. This will be reviewed quarterly throughout the year. If a member falls below the mandated percentages for attendance, the Board of Review will meet and notify the member of the deficit. If, after two consecutive quarters, the member has not achieved the mandated percentages of participation, that member will be removed from the department.

Members who have successfully completed Firefighter 1 will attend Firefighter 2 training and gain certification in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001: Standard for Professional Firefighter Qualifications. Additionally, members who wish to pursue other training or certification programs will request such training through the Training Officer. The Fire Chief will approve or disapprove programs based on the needs of the department.

Engineers are appointed by the Command Staff, and shall be selected based on experience and training. Engineers are required to attend an Emergency Vehicle Operations Course (EVOC) and demonstrate competent knowledge and skill base on operating apparatus in fireground scenarios.

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Incident Safety Officers (ISO) are appointed by the Command Staff, and shall be selected based on experience and training. These members will have demonstrated a background of modern fire tactics, building construction, and incident command practices. When at all feasible, these members shall attend a nationally recognized ISO course that offers certification. These members will not have to re-certify as long as they attend a refresher ISO course every two years.