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| OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP  BULLETIN | **NO.**  2024-19 |
| **DATE**  January 3, 2024 |

**TO:** NATIONAL APPRENTICESHIP SYSTEM STAKEHOLDERS

OFFICE OF APPRENTICESHIP STAFF

STATE APPRENTICESHIP AGENCIES

**FROM:** JOHN V. LADD /s/

Administrator, Office of Apprenticeship

**SUBJECT:** New NOF Apprenticeable Occupation: Forest Fire Prevention Technician

1. **Purpose.** To inform the staff of OA, State Apprenticeship Agencies (SAA), Registered Apprenticeship program sponsors, and other Registered Apprenticeship partners of the following new National Occupational Framework (NOF) to an apprenticeable occupation: Forest Fire Prevention Technician
2. **Action Requested.** OA staff should familiarize themselves with this bulletin and the attached Work Process Schedule and Related Instruction Outline, as a source for developing apprenticeship standards and/or providing technical assistance.

Forest Fire Prevention Technician will be added to the List of Occupations Recognized as Apprenticeable by OA located on www.apprenticeship.gov. A suggested Work Process Schedule and Related Instruction Outline are attached.

1. **Summary and Background.**
   1. Summary – The occupation Forest Fire Prevention Technician was submitted by Mr. Zachary Boren, Senior Policy Program Manager on behalf of Urban Institute, was processed by Joseph Jenkins and approved by the OA Administrator on December 11, 2023.

The National Office has approved a new National Occupational Framework (NOF), developed in partnership with the Urban Institute. This NOF has met industry standards and approval; it covers job titles and occupational pathways, related functions and performance criteria, as well as academic, workplace and personal competencies for job success. While use of NOFs in developing standards utilizing the competency-based training approach is voluntary, no additional vetting of a Work Process Schedule (WPS) utilizing the NOF should be required where a program aligns to the occupational framework described in a NOF, beyond the basic requirements set forth in 29 CFR Part 29. While on-the-job learning (OJL) is ordinarily outlined in the WPS, sponsors who utilize a NOF must develop the Related Instruction Outline, which should be included in the standards. Within certain limits, the sponsors of NOF apprenticeship programs are permitted to customize the job functions or competencies contained in a NOF for Forest Fire Prevention Technician occupation.

However, OA encourages the use of all core competencies to be included in the approved WPS.

* 1. Background –

***New/Revised Occupation Background -*** Under 29 CFR section 29.4, an occupation for a RAP must meet the following criteria to be determined apprenticeable:

1. Involve skills that are customarily learned in a practical way through a structured, systematic program of on-the job supervised learning:
2. Be clearly identified and commonly recognized throughout an industry;
3. Involve the progressive attainment of manual, mechanical, or technical skills and knowledge which, in accordance with the industry standard for the occupation, would require the completion of at least 2,000 hours of on-the-job learning to attain; and
4. Require related instruction to supplement the on-the job learning.
5. **New NOF Apprenticeable Occupation.** The occupation Forest Fire Prevention Technician was submitted for an apprenticeability determination.

Forest Fire Prevention Technician  
O\*NET-SOC CODE: 33-2022.00

RAPIDS Code: 3065CB

Type of Training: Competency-based (1 Year)

Forest Fire Prevention Technician perform the following duties:

* Detect, suppress, and mitigate fires; and respond to emergencies;
* Manage and support wildfire mitigation programs;
* Engage with the community and in education and training;
* Conduct inspections and enforce fire codes;
* Manage data systems and information, and disseminate critical information; and
* Maintain constructive interpersonal relationships and communication.

Forest Fire Prevention Technician (IP) typically enter the field directly through professional associations and labor organizations, states and or municipalities. Some colleges and universities offer classes on resource management, botany, environmental science and chemistry, which may be helpful to forest fire prevention technicians. Some two-year and four-year colleges offer degree programs in fire science. There are no-cost online providers and continuing education or specialty education providers.

Apprenticeship Prerequisites:

Many employers require forest fire prevention technicians to have experience as a fire fighter, either through volunteer or paid service. Some employers may require forest fire prevention technicians to have experience operating large vehicles, vehicles with manual transmissions, and off-road vehicles. Many employers will also require forest fire prevention technicians to meet certain physical fitness requirements and/or pass a physical fitness test that includes assessments of endurance, strength, speed, and the ability to climb.

1. **Inquiries.** If you have any questions please contact Doug McPherson, Supervisory Apprenticeship and Training Representative, at (202) 693-3783 or mcpherson.douglass@dol.gov.
2. **Attachments.**

