

INTRODUCTION

To be hired by the Oregon Office of State Fire Marshal as a Deputy State Fire Marshal these are the requirements:

- General: 5 years of experience in the fire service*
- Specific: 2 years experience with code enforcement
- Specific: 1 year experience in fire investigations

Additionally, each Deputy State Fire Marshal hired must complete the curriculum for the general and specific requirements up to Level 4 with FPE of the Competency Recognition Program within the first year of hire.

**A degree in fire science or fire prevention will account for 2 years of general experience in the fire service; but not for the specific experience with code enforcement and fire investigations.*

DEPUTY STATE FIRE MARSHAL RESPONSIBILITIES

The Deputy State Fire Marshal (DSFM) administers State and Federal fire regulations training within an assigned geographic area following established guidelines; surveys State buildings, institutions, and health care facilities to assure compliance with established fire safety standards; investigates fires and all fire fatalities to determine cause and report findings; and provides guidance to local fire and building officials on fire and life safety topics.

- Conduct statewide inspections of schools and correctional facilities, review building plans and provide code consultations. By state statute, a deputy state fire marshal may inspect any structure, except private residences
- Train and demonstrate on fire drills and correct use of fire extinguishers at public events, safety fairs, classes and other community events
- Conduct fire investigations to determine origin and cause of fires, and to determine if the fire was the result of carelessness or design. Deputies also deliver presentations on investigation protocols and evidence preservation to members of the fire service statewide
- Deliver training to members of the fire service on basic fire investigations, scope of authority, and fire department access and water supply. Training with fire agencies fosters lines of communication and consistent practices among Oregon's fire officials
- Provide expertise to local jurisdictions, counties and state agencies on cases involving juvenile fire-setters and assist juvenile justice personnel in providing appropriate intervention resources

COMPETENCY RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Fire departments are responsible for ensuring that their fire code enforcement personnel meet the appropriate competency recognition requirements for their scope of practice.

- Level 1: Company Inspector¹ — performs fire inspection in one and two story Group B and Group M occupancies with no high-piled or rack storage.
- Level 2: Fire and Life Safety Specialist I — performs basic fire safety inspections in all occupancies.
- Level 3: Fire and Life Safety Specialist II — performs fire safety inspections with moderate technical challenges.
- Level 4: Fire Marshal — performs fire safety inspections with advanced technical challenges.

¹ **Level 1:** *Successfully complete the OSFM's Company Inspection training program. After successfully completing the class, students will be awarded the Company Inspector competency recognition certificate. No further competency requirements are necessary.*

CURRICULUM FOR LEVELS 2-4

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- Fire and Life Safety Awareness I training (FLSA)
- FLSA II training or ICC Fire Plans Examiner
- Oregon Fire Code Amendment class
- Building Code class or ICC Fire Plans Examiner
- Mechanical Code class



SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

In addition to the general requirements, you must complete the associated DPSST NFPA Fire Inspector Task Book for that recognition level.

- Level 2: Specialist I — DPSST's NFPA Fire Inspector I
ICC Fire Inspector I or II certification
- Level 3: Specialist II — DPSST's NFPA Fire Inspector II
ICC Fire Inspector II
- *Level 4: Fire Marshal — DPSST's NFPA Fire Inspector III
ICC Fire Inspector II

**Deputy State Fire Marshal's must also have the ICC Fire Plans Examiner Endorsement*

CONCLUSION

The challenge of today's fire service requires that fire personnel responsible for enforcing the fire code must meet their scope of practice. Only by working together to develop training opportunities and defining competencies can consistent application of the state fire code be achieved throughout Oregon.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you are interested in pursuing a career as a Fire Inspector and/or Fire Marshal please check with your local fire department for the specific experience and certification job requirements.

- Office of State Fire Marshal (OSFM):
www.oregon.gov/OOHS/SFM
- Entry level Deputy State Fire Marshal job specification:
<http://egov.oregon.gov/DAS/HR/class/ccrt/spec/5560.pdf>
- iLearnOregon: To view and enroll in OSFM courses:
<https://ilearn.oregon.gov>
- DPSST Fire Certification Task Books (NFPA Fire Inspector & Fire Investigator):
<http://www.oregon.gov/DPSST/FC/TaskBooks.shtml>
- International Code Council:
<http://www.iccsafe.org/Pages/default.aspx>
- Chemeketa Fire Prevention Program:
<http://www.chemeketa.edu/catalog/programs/index.html>
- Oregon Fire Marshal Association: <http://www.ofma.net/>



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Oregon's Fire Marshal Career Development Plan



Protecting citizens, their property, and the
environment from fire and hazardous materials.