

Certification Testing Safety Precautions in Response to COVID Recommendations

As you are all well aware of how the COVID19 crisis has affected how we conduct our daily routines and the precautions we have to take to help control the spread of this disease. As always safety is the top priority for the State Fire Marshal Division and the entire fire service. We have resumed certification testing and want to provide some guidance to reduce the chances of spreading the COVID19 virus.

It is all of our responsibility to take steps to try and control the spread of this disease during state certification tests. We know that agencies throughout Nevada have already addressed this issue over the past months but we want to make sure that we are doing all we can to slow the spread of this terrible disease.

Attached is the State Fire Marshal Division's safety precautions that are required to be followed during any state certification test.

Please review the attached document for these requirements and make sure that your personnel and any proctor or evaluator from your agency follow these requirements.

If you have any questions please contact our office with them.

Sincerely,

Tom Martinez

Training Officer

Training & Certification Bureau

Nevada State Fire Marshal Division

Phone (775) 684-7529

Certification Testing Safety Precautions in Response to COVID

If anyone shows any signs of being symptomatic, they are not to be allowed to participate and not allowed at the facility during the testing event

1. Social Distancing measures shall be followed to increase physical space between all participants during testing events, with a minimum six-foot separation. All participants shall physically distance during testing events.
2. Participants include all students, proctors, evaluators and anyone who will assist during the testing event. Only participants that are directly assisting with the testing event shall be allowed to be present. There shall be no additional people present.
3. All participants are to receive a temperature check prior to the start of the testing event. If a person's temperature registers at 100.4 or higher, they are not allowed to participate in the testing event and not allowed to stay at the facility during the testing event. Temperature checks will be provided by agency that requested test.
4. All participants shall conduct a Health Self-Check screening prior to the start of the testing event. The host agency shall provide a self-check form to each participant. Each form shall include temperature checks and the following respiratory screenings questions.
(Form is provided on last page and shall be sent in with test packet.)
 - 1. Do you have a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition? YES / NO
 - 2. Do you have new shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition? YES / NO
 - 3. Do you have any two of the following symptoms: Fever (100.4°F or higher), chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell? YES / NO
 - 4. Have you come into close contact (within six feet) with someone who has a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the past 14 days? YES / NO

Upon completion of the self-check screening and a person that has any of symptoms listed above shall not be allowed to participate. After each participant completes the self-check screening form and states that they do have any of the symptoms or conditions listed above, then their presence at the testing event indicates they are certifying that they are healthy enough to participate in the event.

5. Participants shall be encouraged to conduct frequent and thorough handwashing throughout the testing event.
6. Increased Sanitation. Surfaces frequently touched by multiple students, such as doors, door handles, desks, phones, light switches, tables, chairs, etc. should be cleaned and disinfected.
7. Participants shall be staged in area or room maintaining social distancing and their travel limited in and around the facility as much as possible during the testing event. Participants shall not congregate without maintaining Social Distancing Measures.

8. All participants entering a facility where written and/or skills testing are to be conducted are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings when around others, in open areas, bathrooms, breakrooms, hallways, elevators, etc. Participant's face coverings shall not bear logos, insignias, trademark language, artwork, or other messages which may be offensive, controversial, or contrary to the mission/professional image of the State of Nevada Fire Marshal Division. **Whether you wear a face covering or not you shall maintain Social Distancing Measures.**

9. **Written Tests** – All testing areas shall be disinfected prior to the start and completion of every testing event. Participants that are taking a certification written test shall wear face coverings and are to be seated one to a table to ensure six-foot social distancing. If an agency does not have enough tables to meet this requirement then they will need to schedule separate testing times or separate rooms. If separate rooms are to be used there shall be a certified proctor for each room.

Proctors should limit touching testing documents and materials to avoid possible contamination. When a participant completes the test have them set the sealed test envelope and pencils on a designated table placing the pencils in the pouch that is provided. This will limit the amount of times a proctor will have to touch these materials. Proctors shall wash their hands thoroughly upon completion of the test.

10. **Skills Tests** – During the skills testing portion all participants shall wear face coverings and maintain the six-foot separation except when directed by an evaluator to participate as a team member during an actual skills test. If possible, a face covering shall be worn for all skills tests that do not include an SCBA mask.

Participants are to maintain small groups of no more than five to include the instructor. Participants are to be kept separate as much as possible to reduce the chance of possible infection.

Equipment is not to be shared between individuals, whenever possible. If it is not possible to issue each person their own individual piece of equipment, each piece of equipment shall be thoroughly disinfected prior to it being used by another individual. Equipment shall be cleaned and disinfected using manufacturer recommendations.

**SIGN AND RETURN THIS DOCUMENT TO THE
STATE FIRE MARSHAL DIVISION ALONG WITH THE TEST PACKET**

Proctor Name: _____

Proctor Signature _____

Lead Evaluator Name _____

Lead Evaluator Signature _____



Nevada Department of
Public Safety
State Fire Marshal

Health Self-Check Screening Form

EVERY PERSON TAKING A WRITTEN OR SKILLS TEST SHALL COMPLETE THIS FORM.
RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM ALONG WITH THE TEST PACKET.

Temperature Checks (Take temperature 3 times and if any are higher than 100.4°F advise proctor/evaluator)

1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____

1. Do you have a new cough that you cannot attribute to another health condition? YES / NO
2. Do you have new shortness of breath that you cannot attribute to another health condition? YES / NO
3. Do you have any two of the following symptoms: Fever (100.4°F or higher), chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, or new loss of taste or smell? YES / NO
4. Have you come into close contact (within six feet) with someone who has a laboratory-confirmed COVID-19 diagnosis in the past 14 days? YES / NO

If you answer yes to any of the questions advise the Proctor/Evaluator

Participant Name: _____

Participant Signature: _____