



# Coffee Break Training - Fire Protection Series

## Administration: Community Risk Reduction

No. FP-2015-6 February 10, 2015

Learning Objective: The student will get an overall understanding of the Community Risk Reduction section of the 2012 edition of the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule.

**F**ire prevention is the best line of defense against a fire. This can be achieved through proactive plans and strategies, such as community risk-reduction programs. As the name suggests, community risk reduction involves assessing the risks that a community faces and developing meaningful and effective risk-mitigating policies and practices to reduce or even eliminate potential risks.

The evaluation of community risk reduction is part of all Public Protection Classification grading and accounts for a total of 5.5 points toward the grading. These points are in addition to the 100-point grading schedule, bringing the total points that a community could achieve up to 105.5. During an Insurance Services Office survey, the following three broad categories are evaluated.

### **Fire Prevention Code Adoption and Enforcement (2.2 points)**

This section assesses the fire prevention code adoption and enforcement capabilities of a community. Items evaluated include the level of adoption and enforcement of model codes, such as the *International Fire Code* published by the International Code Council or *National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1, Fire Code* published by NFPA. To achieve the maximum points in this section, the provisions for fire hazard mitigation should not be modified or deleted. Adopting fire prevention codes is only the first step toward fire prevention; adopting codes is more effective when adequate personnel are available to enforce them and is more meaningful when codes are enforced by trained, qualified and certified fire prevention inspectors. The Insurance Services Office evaluates the number and qualifications of fire prevention personnel, including certification and continuing education. Fire prevention programs, such as plan review, certificate of occupancy inspections, quality control, code compliance, inspection of private fire protection equipment, fire prevention ordinances, and coordination with fire department training and preincident planning activities are some of the programs that the Insurance Services Office evaluates during the survey.

### **Public Fire Safety Education (2.2 points)**

Creating awareness and engaging the public through fire safety education are also effective techniques to mitigate risks. The Insurance Services Office evaluates the existence of a fire safety education program; the qualifications, training and certifications of public fire safety educators; and the activities of the various public fire safety education programs, such as residential fire safety programs, fire safety education in schools, juvenile firesetter intervention programs, and fire safety education in occupancies with large loss potential or hazardous conditions.

### **Fire Investigation Programs (1.1 points)**

In spite of the best efforts through fire prevention programs and public education and awareness, not all fires can be prevented. When they do occur, careful and thorough investigation of all fires by trained, qualified and certified fire investigators is the key to understanding the cause and origin. This understanding can help prevent future fires when the **lessons learned** become part of the fire prevention code enforcement and public awareness programs. This section examines the fire investigation activities of a community and is based on establishing authority to conduct and enforce fire investigations, the number and qualifications of fire investigators, the activities of the fire investigation staff, and the use of the National Fire Incident Reporting System.

In the next series of Coffee Break Training sessions, we will learn more about the Insurance Services Office's split class concept and other changes.



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### Community Risk Reduction

#### Contact for this ISO Survey: - Chief Fire Official

Name: _____
Fire Department Address, City, State, Zip: _____
Business or Cell Phone Number: _____
Email: _____

#### Fire Department- Revised FSRS Requirements

Are all structural fire **responding** firefighters equipped with a complete set of Protective Clothing Ensemble (PCE)?  
 Yes  No

Has the department established a set of Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for fire department general emergency operations?  Yes  No

Has the department established an Incident Management System (IMS)?  Yes  No

How many Line officers (Lieutenants, Captains, Chiefs, etc) are in the fire department? \_\_\_\_\_

Of those officers, how many are certified as fire officers according to NFPA 1021 Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications? \_\_\_\_\_

Does your fire department have a standard of cover or deployment analysis based on the criteria of NFPA 1710?  Yes  No

If yes, what is your fire department's demonstrated ability for travel times?

The initial arriving engine \_\_\_\_\_ percentage of calls within 240 seconds or less

The initial full alarm assignment \_\_\_\_\_ percentage of calls within 480 seconds or less

#### Water Department - Revised FSRS Requirements

Does the water department conduct a Hydrant Flow Test Program in all parts of the system?  Yes  No

If yes, is this done every:  
 5 years     6 years     7 years     8 years     9 years     10 years or more

Does the water department use hydraulic modeling?  Yes  No

Does the water department use a hydrant marking program?  Yes  No



**Community Risk Reduction**

**Fire Department- Fire Prevention Code and Enforcement**

Enter the number of commercial buildings in your community: \_\_\_\_\_

**Fire Prevention and Code Regulations**

Regulations – Local Fire Prevention Codes

What fire prevention code is currently adopted by the fire prevention area? \_\_\_\_\_

What edition of the adopted code is currently in effect? \_\_\_\_\_

The published dates of the listed codes are within:

- 5 years
- 6 years
- 10 years
- More than 10 years'

**Fire Prevention Staffing**

**Frequency of Inspections**

Total number of actual fire inspections per year: \_\_\_\_\_

Does the community use their **own certified fire prevention inspectors**?  Yes  No

Enter the number of fire prevention inspectors \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the average yearly number of fire inspections over the past three years \_\_\_\_\_

**And/Or-** Does the community use **state/county fire prevention inspectors**?  Yes  No

If yes, enter the number of state/county fire inspectors \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the average yearly number of fire inspections over the past three years \_\_\_\_\_

**And/Or-** Does the community use **fire suppression personnel** to do fire prevention inspections?  Yes  No

If yes, enter the number of in-service fire suppression personnel conducting inspections: \_\_\_\_\_

Enter the average yearly number of fire inspections over the past three years: \_\_\_\_\_

**Inspection and Record Keeping**

How are inspection records maintained?  Complete  Partially  No Records

Are they maintained by:  Individual Building  Occupancy  Both



**Fire Prevention Certification and Training**

**Fire Inspection Certification**

Enter the number of certified fire prevention inspectors:

**Fire Inspector Continuing Education**

Is there a continuing education program for inspectors?

Yes  No

Enter the required number of continuing education hours per person per year:

**Plan Review**

What percentage of new **non-residential** construction, including remodeling and additions, receive a plan review of fire prevention and fire suppression features?

%

Are records kept of all fire prevention inspections and used to document and track inspection activity?

Yes  No

**Certificate of Occupancy Inspections**

What percentage of new **residential** construction receives a fire prevention inspection prior to issuing the Certificate of Occupancy?

%

What percentage of new **non-residential** construction receives a fire prevention inspection prior to issuing the Certificate of Occupancy?

%

**Quality Assurance Program for Enforcement and Inspection Programs**

Is there a Quality Assurance Program for fire prevention inspectors as appropriate?

Yes  No

How many inspectors participate in the Quality Assurance program?

**Code Compliance Follow-up**

What percentage of violations receive follow-up inspections to verify fire prevention code compliance?

%

**Inspection of Private Fire Protection Equipment**

What is the percentage of private fire protection equipment that is inspected on a routine basis and in accordance with the adopted codes?

%

**Fire Prevention Ordinances**

Indicate which fire prevention ordinances below have been adopted:

<b>Ordinances</b>	<b>Ordinance or Code Number</b>	<b>Enforced</b>	
Fire Lane(s)		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Fireworks		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Hazardous Materials		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
BBQ Grills		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Wildland Urban Interface		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Weeds and Trash		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No

Note: Credit will be given for either Wildland Urban Interface or Trash and Weeds Ordinance; there is no need to have both available.



**Fire Department Training and Pre-Incident Planning Coordination**

Is there a defined procedure to share information regarding fire prevention activities with training and pre-incident planning programs?  Yes  No

**Fire Department- Public Fire Safety Education**

What is the number of fire safety educators?

How many of the above Public Fire Safety Education personnel are trained in Methods of Teaching as specified and in accordance with the Authority Having Jurisdiction?

**Fire Safety Education Continuing Education**

Is there a required amount of continuing education hours per year?  Yes  No

If yes, enter the required number of continuing education hours per person per year:

**Public Fire Safety Education Programs Residential Fire Safety Program**

What percentage of the population in the jurisdiction is reached with fire safety educational programs each year? %

**School Fire Exit Drills**

Are the schools in the FPA conducting at least 1 fire drill per month during the school session?  Yes  No

If No, how many months is the school session and how many fire exit drills are they conducting?

Session length (in months) Number of Fire exit drills:

Is developmentally appropriate classroom instruction presented on fire safety to all students in early childhood education?  Yes  No

If no, what is the percentage of students who received developmentally appropriate classroom instruction over the past three years?

**Juvenile fire setter intervention**

What percentage (averaged over the past three years) of juveniles identified as being involved in fire-play or fire-setting behavior are referred for intervention services? %

**Large Loss Potential Occupancies**

Does the fire department present fire safety education to all occupancies that have a large loss of life potential or hazardous conditions, such as high-rise buildings, hospitals, nursing homes, industrial facilities, other large commercial structures or community risk from wildfires?  Yes  No

If no, what percentage of the properties like these in your jurisdiction do you reach with fire safety educational programs each year? %



**Fire Investigation Organization and Staffing**

Is an office established within the civil jurisdiction with responsibility to conduct fire cause investigations?  Yes  No

Does the FD utilize their own investigators/State Fire Marshal Office/County Fire Marshal Office or other civil organization to investigate suspicious fires?  Yes  No

According to the fire department procedures, what percentage of structure fires receives a cause and origin investigation? %

How many existing fire investigators are there?

Does the amount of investigators meet the needs of the FD?  Yes  No

**Fire Investigators Certification and Training**

How many existing fire investigators are certified as Basic Fire and Arson Investigator or higher following the criteria contained in NFPA 1033, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Investigator?

**Fire Investigation Continuing Education Training**

Is there a required amount of continuing education hours per year?  Yes  No

If yes, enter the required number of continuing education hours per person per year:

**Use of the National Fire Incident Reporting System (NFIRS)**

Does the fire department participate in the NIFRS program?  Yes  No

If yes, has the NIFRS reports been submitted monthly for at least the past 3 years?  Yes  No

If no, on an annual basis, what percentage of NFIRS reports was submitted?

	Year	%
Current year		
First previous year		
Second previous year		