



**GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER
STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL**

Georgia Public Safety Training Center
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Executive Director

RULE CHANGE NOTICE

GEORGIA FIREFIGHTER STANDARDS AND TRAINING COUNCIL

- 205-1-1-.01 Promulgation and Purpose**
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PROPOSED RULE CHANGE SYNOPSIS:

On January 1st, 1975 the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council promulgated rules pursuant to the authority of Georgia Law. Since that date, several revisions and additions have been made to Statute. It is the purpose of this document to update and bring current the regulations of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council. This change will align to current statute, state fire service needs, practices, and requirements.

PROPOSED AMENDATORY RULE:

205-1-1-.01 Promulgation and Purpose

- (1) These rules and regulations of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council are promulgated to establish the procedures for the internal management and control of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council as specified in the Official Code of Georgia Annotated, (O.C.G.A.) Section § 25-4-7 and shall be entitled; "Rules and Regulations for the Administration of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council."
- (2) These rules and regulations are further established to provide for the procedures in which the following duties charged to the Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Council will be executed:
 - (a) Entering into contracts;

- (b) Developing further rules and regulations of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council to establish uniform minimum standards for the employment and training of;
 - 1. Full-time Firefighters
 - 2. Part-time Firefighters
 - 3. Volunteer Firefighters
 - 4. Airport Firefighters
 - 5. Fire and Life Safety Educators
 - 6. Fire Inspectors
 - 7. Fire Investigators
 - 8. Fire Instructors
 - 9. Fire Department Training Officers

- (c) Establishing the minimum qualifications and requirements for individuals listed in subparagraph (b) of paragraph (2) of Rule 205-1-1.01 to become;
 - 1. Certified
 - 2. Recertified
 - 3. Decertified
 - 4. Placed on Probation (Certified personnel)
 - 5. Placed on Suspension (Non-Certified personnel)

- (d) Establishing minimum curriculum requirements for schools operated by or for any employing agency for the specific purpose of training;
 - 1. Firefighter Recruits
 - 2. Full-time Firefighters
 - 3. Part-time Firefighters
 - 4. Volunteer Firefighters
 - 5. Airport Firefighters
 - 6. Fire and Life Safety Educators
 - 7. Fire Inspectors
 - 8. Fire Investigators
 - 9. Fire Instructors
 - 10. Fire Department Training Officers

- (e) Approval of institutions and facilities for schools operating for the specific purpose of training;
 - 1. Firefighters
 - 2. Firefighter Recruits
 - 3. Airport Firefighters

- (f) Providing for or supporting studies on any aspect of fire-fighting education and training or recruitment.

- (g) Establishing basic training requirements for;
 - 1. Full-time Firefighters
 - 2. Part-time Firefighters
 - 3. Volunteer Firefighters
 - 4. Airport Firefighters
 - 5. Fire and Life Safety Educators
 - 6. Fire Inspectors

7. Fire Investigators
8. Fire Instructors
9. Fire Department Training Officers.

(h) Certify individuals who have;

1. Satisfactory completed the training program prescribed under subparagraph (g) of paragraph (2) of Rule 205-1-1-.01; or,
2. Received training in another state determined to be equivalent to that required by subparagraph (g) of paragraph (2) of Rule 205-1-1-.01; or,
3. Received training as a federal firefighter by the United States government determined to be equivalent to that required by subparagraph (g) of paragraph (2) of Rule 205-1-1-.01.

(3) All rules and regulations of the GFSTC shall be administered by the Executive Director and staff of the GFSTC.

Authority - O.C.G.A. §§25-3-24, 25-4-7.

EXISTING RULE:

204-1-1-.01 Statutory Authority.

This Regulation is made and promulgated by the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council pursuant to the authority set forth in Georgia Laws 1971, pp. 693-698.

Authority Ga. L. 1971, pp 693-698. **Administrative History.** Original Rule was filed on December 4, 1974; effective January 1, 1975, as specified by the Agency.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EXISTING (204-1-1-.01 Statutory Authority.) AND PROPOSED (205-1-1-.01 Promulgation and Purpose) RULE:

- **Revise to align with current statute, policy, and practices of agency.**
- **Correct control number from 204 to agency assigned 205**
- **Renumber for ease of use and organization of regulations.**

PROPOSED AMENDATORY RULE:

205-1-1-.02 Definitions

- (1) **‘Council’** means for the purpose of this Chapter the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council.
- (2) **‘Executive Director’** means for the purpose of this Chapter the Executive Director of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council.
- (3) **‘GFSTC’** is the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council.

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-3-21, 25-4-2, 25-4-7.

EXISTING RULE:

205-1-1-.02 Organization.

The Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council hereinafter referred to as “The Council” shall consist of seven voting members and three advisory members and shall be composed as follows:

- (a) The President of the Association County Commissioners of Georgia or his designated representative, the President of the Georgia Municipal Association, Inc. or his designated representative, the Georgia Safety Fire Commissioner or his designated representative, the President of the Georgia Association of Fire Chiefs or his designated representative, the President of the Georgia State Fireman’s Association or his designated representative, the President of the Georgia City and County Management Association or his designated representative and the Chairman of the Training Committee of the Georgia State Fireman’s Association.
- (b) The Director of the Georgia Fire Academy or his designated representative, the Director of the Division of the Vocational Education of the State Department of Education or his designated representative, and one member from the Insurance Services Office, shall serve on the council in an advisory capacity only, without voting privileges.
- (c) The public may obtain information or make submissions or requests to the Council at or through the Georgia Fire Academy, Southern Technical Institute, Marietta, Georgia 30060.

Authority Ga. L. 1971, pp 693-698. **Administrative History.** Original Rule was filed on December 4, 1974; effective January 1, 1975, as specified by the Agency.

DIFFERENCES BETWEEN EXISTING (205-1-1-.02 Organization) AND PROPOSED (205-1-1-.02 Definitions) RULE:

- **Revise to align with current statute, policy, and practices of agency.**
- **Renumber for ease of use and organization of regulations.**

PROPOSED RULE

205-1-1-.03 Organization.

- (1) The Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council hereinafter referred to as "The Council" shall consist of the duly appointed members as specified under §25-4-3.
 - (a) Six members of the Council in attendance at a called meeting shall constitute a quorum in order to conduct official business of the Council.
 - (b) The Council shall hold at least two regular meetings each year at the call of the chairperson or upon the written request of six members of the Council
 - (c) At the first regular meeting of the Council held in each even-numbered year, the Council shall elect a chairperson.
 - (d) At the first regular meeting of the Council held in each even-numbered year, the Council shall elect other officers from its own membership as it deems necessary.
 - (e) The chairperson and other elected officers from its own membership shall serve until successors are elected by the council as provided in §25-4-3.
 - (f) Each member of the Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council shall be entitled to receive the same expense and mileage allowance authorized for members of professional licensing boards by subsection (f) of Code Section 43-1-2 incurred while carrying out their official duties of the council. The funds for such expenses and allowances shall be paid from funds appropriated or available to the Department of Public Safety.
- (2) The Council shall adopt such rules for the transaction of its business.
- (3) The Council may, from time to time, designate an advisory committee to assist and advise the Council in carrying out its duties specified under Chapter 4 of Title 25.
 - (a) Such advisory committee shall not consist of more than three (3) members and shall be representative of the fire service with experience or expertise in such matter to be studied.
 - (b) Such advisory committee members shall serve in an advisory capacity only, without voting privileges.
 - (c) The members of any such advisory committee shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.
 - (d) Each member of an advisory committee of the Council, shall be entitled to receive the same expense and mileage allowance authorized for members of professional licensing boards by subsection (f) of Code Section 43-1-2 incurred while carrying out their official duties of the council. The funds for such expenses and allowances shall be paid from funds appropriated or available to the Department of Public Safety.
- (4) The Council shall make annual reports to the Governor of Georgia and the members of the Georgia General Assembly.
 - (a) Such reports shall be in writing and indicate:
 1. The activities of the Council from the past year.
 2. Recommendations for appropriate legislation to assist in the Council's charge and responsibilities.
 - (b) Copies shall be distributed to each member of the Council by the Executive Director prior to filing with the Governor.

- (c) Copies of the Council report shall not be required to be distributed to the membership of the General Assembly provided the Executive Director notifies the members of the General Assembly of the availability of the report in a manner which the Council deems to be most effective and efficient.
- (5) The public may obtain information or make submissions or requests to the Council at or through the Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Council's office by mail or electronic submission. Members of the Standards and Training Council shall be updated at each Council meeting of such requests since the last council meeting.

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-4-3, 25-4-6, 25-4-7 (1)

PROPOSED RULE

205-1-1-.04 Appointment of the Executive Director

- (1) The Council shall appoint the Executive Director who shall serve at the pleasure of the Council.
- (2) The Council shall establish the compensation of the Executive Director.
- (3) Annual reviews shall be provided to the Executive Director by the Council.

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-4-7.1.

PROPOSED RULE

205-1-1-.05 Duties of the Executive Director

- (1) The Executive Director may employ such other professional, technical, and clerical personnel as approved by the Council.
- (2) The Executive Director may contract for such services as may be necessary and convenient to carry out the purposes of this chapter as approved by the Council.
- (3) The Executive Director shall provide a budget report to the Council regarding expenditures of the agency, personnel and staffing needs.
- (4) The Executive Director shall compile an annual report for the Governor and the members of the Georgia General Assembly. The annual report shall be submitted to the Council a minimum of 30 days prior to the submission to the executive branch for review and approval.

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-4-7.1

PROPOSED RULE

205-1-1-.06 Notes. Current contact information may be found at www.gfstconline.org
Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-4-3, 25-4-6, 25-4-7, 25-4-7.1, 25-4-7 (1).

PROPOSED RULE

205-1-1-.07 Severability. If any rule or portion thereof contained in this chapter is held invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, the remainder of the rules herein and the applicability of such provisions to other circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

Authority. - O.C.G.A. §§25-4-3, 25-4-6, 25-4-7, 25-4-7 (1)

AGENCY STATUTORY AUTHORITY:

25-4-7. Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council – Functions and powers

The council is vested with the following functions and powers:

(1) To promulgate rules and regulations for the administration of the council;

ORAL HEARING

Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council will consider this matter on the 13th day of September, 2013.

Interested persons may submit data, views, or arguments, orally or in writing:

Date: 09/13/2013

Time: 11:00 am

Location: Albany Civic Center Classroom
100 W Oglethorpe Blvd, Albany, GA 31701

INQUIRIES OR WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY BE SUBMITTED TO:

Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council
1000 Indian Springs Drive
Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Executive Director Lyn Pardue
478-993-4521
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