SOUTH DAKOTA FIRE SERVICE TRAINING
PRACTICAL SKILLS TEST

FIREFIGHTER NAME: _____ **DATE:** _____

Practical Skills Test eligibility :

- A firefighter is eligible to take the Practical Skills Test ONLY if he/she is eighteen (18) years of age, has completed the firefighter certification blue card requirements, and has passed both the Unit I and Unit II tests.

- South Dakota Fire Marshal Office (SDFMO) staff will verify the firefighter's eligibility.

- The SDFMO staff will choose a Lead Evaluator and provide the Lead Evaluator with the list of eligible firefighters.

- Firefighters who are not on the Lead Evaluator's list will NOT be allowed to take the Practical Skills Test.

TEST BASIS

The Firefighter Practical Skills Test is designed to assess the firefighter's ability to meet various firefighter job performance requirements for certification. The test is conducted under simulated fireground and emergency incident conditions with the firefighter wearing full PPE. The Firefighter Practical Skills Test is based on and attempts to meet the NFPA 1001 Professional Firefighter Qualification Standard. NFPA 1001 was used to identify specific fundamental job performance requirements and develop the test criteria.

NFPA 1001 Firefighter – Job Performance Requirements

	NFPA	Ed.	JPR
Donning personal protective Clothing – one minute (mandatory)	1001	02	3102
Donning SCBA – one minute* (mandatory)	1001	02	3301
Forcing entry into a structure	1001	02	3102
Carrying and raising ladders	1001	02	3305
Disconnecting and re-connecting hose lines	1001	02	3312
Deploy and operate an attack line	1001	02	4302
Transporting tools	1001	02	3303
Tying knots	1001	02	3102
Hoisting tools and equipment using ropes	1001	02	3301

* SD TEST = 90 seconds

INSTRUCTIONS

The test consists of 9 different fireground tasks; the firefighter will be tested on 2 mandatory tasks and a minimum of 3 additional tasks.

The firefighter shall be given full test instructions prior to beginning. The firefighter shall be given three attempts to pass each task. Each task must be fully completed before advancing to the next one. Eight evaluation sheets are provided for the tasks; the ladder raise and tool hoist are combined on one evaluation sheet for task #4.

- Tasks #1 PPE donning and #2 SCBA donning are mandatory. The one minute time limit given for donning PPE and the 90 second time limit for donning SCBA are critical times for continuing the test.

- Once the mandatory tasks are completed, the firefighter will be tested on a minimum of 3 additional tasks, for a total of 5 minimum.

- Additional personnel will be available to assist with tasks that would normally require more than one person for safety purposes (i.e. heeling a ladder).

The tasks for the test are listed below:

1. (Mandatory) Donning PPE 1 minute time limit

2. (Mandatory) Donning SCBA 90 second time limit

3. Simulate forcible entry – breaking door, wall or window

4. (2 tasks on one evaluation sheet) Carry, position, and raise a straight ladder. Tie firefighting knot around tool, hoist tool up ladder, lower tool.

5. Hydrant connection.

6. Deploy and operate an attack line

7. Knot tying

8. Carry equipment up and down the ladder.

1. DONNING PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT
MANDATORY

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MONITOR/EVALUATOR

The Firefighter will use the full set of structural personal protective equipment (PPE) as assigned.

The Firefighter will begin the exercise wearing footwear (**footwear may be loosened**).

The Firefighter will signal ready by raising both hands over-head.

The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.

The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.

To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA				

"Firefighter will properly don PPE **within one minute time limit**."

Attempts ▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Dons protective trousers and boots.				☐ **PASS**
2. Ensures that all fasteners, snaps, buckles, etc. are fastened.				
3. Dons protective hood and pulls it down to the neck.				
4. Dons protective coat.				
5. Ensures that all fasteners, snaps, buckles, etc are fastened.				
6. Dons helmet and secures chin strap.				☐ FAIL
7. Don protective gloves.				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

2. DONNING SELF-CONTAINED BREATHING APPARATUS
MANDATORY

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MONITOR/EVALUATOR

The firefighter will be provided with a SCBA unit as assigned. The SCBA unit must be serviceable and the air cylinder shall have a current hydrostatic test and be within service life. The firefighter will have donned a full set of structural personal protective equipment (PPE) prior to donning SCBA. Firefighter will start task with helmet and gloves off and hood down.

The Firefighter will signal ready by raising both hands over-head.

The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.

The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.

To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

"Firefighter will properly don the SCBA within the 90 second time limit"

ATTEMPTS ▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Checks the air supply of the SCBA to ensure that the cylinder is 100% full.				
2. Slowly opens the cylinder valve and listens for the low air alarm to activate as the Regulator pressurizes				
3. Compares the cylinder gauge to the regulator gauge (within 100 PSI of each other.)				☐ **PASS**
4. Properly lifts SCBA onto shoulder and back and secures straps in accordance with manufacturers' instructions.				
5. Dons face piece, tightens lower straps by pulling straight back, smoothes head harness.				
6. Adjusts temple straps by pulling straight back.				☐ **FAIL**
7. Checks for proper seal.				
8. Pulls protective hood over head harness covering all exposed skin.				
9. Dons helmet and secures chin strap.				
10. Dons protective gloves.				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

3. FORCIBLE ENTRY: DOOR, WINDOW, WALL (MUST DO TWO OPTIONS)

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MONITOR/EVALUATOR

The firefighter, given forcible entry tools will perform a forcible entry in such a manner that the barrier is removed and the opening is in safe condition and ready for entry. All actions will be carried out in a safe and controlled manner.   These tasks may be simulated by providing a selection of entry tools and allowing the candidate to take the proper tools to the door, window, or wall and demonstrate the proper technique to be used.
Firefighter will be in full PPE (mask off).
The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.
The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.
To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA				
"Firefighter will perform a forcible entry"				
ATTEMPTS▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Tried door or window before forcing.				
2. Wore protective clothing.				☐**PASS**
3. Donned eye protection.				
4. Used appropriate tools.				
5. Checked and carried tools safely.				
6. Forced door properly.				
7. Forced window properly.				☐FAIL
8. Breaching a wall.				
9. Observed safety precautions.				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

 EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

4. CARRY, POSITION AND RAISE A LADDER, TIE FIREFIGHTING KNOT AROUND AN OBJECT, CLIMB LADDER, RAISE/LOWER TOOL. ONE PERSON

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MONITOR/EVALUATOR

The firefighter will be provided with a ladder, a length of rope and firefighting tool (axe, halligan, etc.). The firefighter will raise the ladder against the wall or building; preferably to a window opening or roofline. The firefighter will tie a knot to the tool, safely climb the ladder, raise and lower the tool, and safely descend the ladder. **Firefighter will be in full PPE (mask off).**

The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.

The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.

To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

"The firefighter, using a ladder and a wall suitable for ladder work, will demonstrate carrying, positioning, and setting the ladder; preferably to a window opening or roofline. The firefighter will also demonstrate tying a firefighting knot around a tool, safely climbing/descending the ladder, safely raising and lowering the tool."

ATTEMPTS▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Uses an approved carry to position the ladder at the location where it is to be raised. Base of ladder is placed against the wall or curb.				
2. Checks for overhead obstructions, electrical lines; moves if necessary.				☐**PASS**
3. Grasps ladder and lifts to hip level using legs.				
4. Walks into ladder raising ladder overhead. Using the hand-over-hand method, raises ladder to vertical position against wall.				
5. Lifts base of ladder, backs away from wall approximately one quarter of ladder height. (70 degrees)				
6. Checks ladder for stability and proper angle.				☐FAIL
7. Fastens appropriate firefighting knot around the tool.				
8. Climbs ladder and raises tool safely.				
9. Lowers tool to the ground and descends ladder safely.				
10. Removes knot.				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

5. HYDRANT CONNECTION

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MONITOR/EVALUATOR

The firefighter will demonstrate coupling a 2 ½" or larger diameter fire service hose from an engine/pumper to a hydrant and complete all connections. **Firefighter will be in full PPE (mask off).**
The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.
The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.
To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

"Firefighter will demonstrate laying 2 ½"or larger diameter hose from an engine/pumper to a hydrant and complete all connections."

ATTEMPTS▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Remove pump intake cap.				
2. Connect intake hose to engine/pumper.				☐**PASS**
3. Stretch intake hose to hydrant.				
4. Remove hydrant cap.				
5. Inspect and flush hydrant.				☐FAIL
6. Connect hose to hydrant.				
7. Open hydrant fully.				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

6. DEPLOY AND OPERATE AN ATTACK LINE

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE MONITOR/EVALUATOR

The firefighter will use a pre-connect hose-line and operate as if a live burn is present.
Firefighter will be in full PPE (mask off).
The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.
The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.
To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

"Firefighter will demonstrate the proper technique for checking the nozzle and water flow while maintaining a position of safety and discharging water into the simulated environment."

ATTEMPTS▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Demonstrates proper techniques of clearing the air from the line. Adjust pattern on nozzle.				☐**PASS**
2. Maintains position of safety (low to the ground) while opening door properly (slowly).				
3. Discharges water into the simulated fire environment.				☐FAIL

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

7. KNOT TYING

The firefighter will correctly tie any two of the following knots while in PPE less gloves. The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.
The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

"The Firefighter will correctly tie any two of the listed knots".

ATTEMPTS ►	#1	#2	#3	
1. Bowline				☐ PASS
2. Clove hitch				
3. Figure eight				☐ FAIL
4. Becket or sheet bend				
5. Half Hitch				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____

8.   CARRY EQUIPMENT UP AND DOWN LADDER

The firefighter will utilize the previously placed and secured ladder at the window. The firefighter will then be given an axe or other forcible entry tool. **Firefighter will be in full PPE (mask off).**
The Evaluator will place a check mark in the box for each numbered item completed correctly.
The Firefighter will get three attempts to PASS the task.
To **PASS** : Firefighter must complete all items of the task correctly in one attempt.

TASK PERFORMANCE CRITERIA

"Firefighter will descend a ladder while carrying a tool."

ATTEMPTS▶	#1	#2	#3	
1. Checks for overhead obstructions, electrical lines, etc.				
2. Checks for proper climbing angle.				☐**PASS**
3. Ensures ladder is secured.				
4. During climb, slides free hand under the beam while holding the tool in the other hand and sliding tool along the other beam.				
5. Keeps arms straight, body away from the ladder and perpendicular to the ground.				☐FAIL
6. Climbs smoothly and consistently.				

EVALUATOR NOTES	FIREFIGHTER NOTES
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

EVALUATOR SIGNATURE_____