Interview Questions

1. Why would you be a good Firefighter?
2. What is the advantage of working in teams while Firefighting?
3. **Leadership** and **Integrity**. What are they and how do they relate to each other and the Fire Service?
4. Describe the “2 In – 2 Out” Rule as it applies to working at a Structure Fire? Are there exceptions to this rule?
5. You are a rookie firefighter. Your captain gives you an assignment that you feel would be unsafe. What would you do and why?

**SCORING RUBRIC**

Points 1 - Well Below Average  2 - OK Below Average  3 - Average  4 - Above Average  5 - Outstanding

Please Reach Consensus before awarding points Then get an Average and round up or down if not a whole number for final overall avg.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID Number</th>
<th>ID Number</th>
<th>ID Number</th>
<th>ID Number</th>
<th>ID Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Question 1</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Question 2</td>
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<td>Question 3</td>
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<td>Question 4</td>
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<td>Question 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Overall Avg.</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Oral Professional Assessment Questions**

1. List and Describe the major divisions and roles within the Fire Service
2. What is the NFPA? NFPA Standards. Why are they important?
3. Describe the Chemistry of Fire. How does something Burn? List and describe the Classes of Fire?
4. What are RIT or FAST Operations
5. What is the difference between an Engine Co., Ladder or Truck Co., and a Rescue Co. Roles and Responsibilities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ID Number</th>
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<th>ID Number</th>
<th>ID Number</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Question 1</td>
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<td>Question 2</td>
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<td>Question 4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Question 5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Overall Avg.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thank the Contestants for their time and wish them well in the contest tomorrow.
Below is the breakdown for times/points for the timed CPAT skills:
00:00 – 10:20: 70 points
10:21 – 10:40: 65 points
10:41 – 11:00: 60 points
11:01 – 11:20: 55 points
11:21 – 11:40: 50 points
11:41 – 12:00: 45 points
12:01 – 13:00: 40 points
13:01 – 14:00: 35 points
14:01 – 15:00: 30 points
15:01 and over: 25 points
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PART</th>
<th>Seconds</th>
<th>CHECK OFF Missed</th>
<th>Time</th>
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<td>1</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>9 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>8 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>7 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>6 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>4 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>3 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Points**

- 10 pts
- 9 pts
- 8 pts
- 7 pts
- 6 pts
- 5 pts
- 4 pts
- 3 pts
- 2 pts
- 1 pts

**Skill**

Half Hitch, Clove Hitch Closed, Clove Hitch Open, Bowline, Figure 8, Fig. 8 on Bight, Fig. 8 Bend, Sheet Bend, Girth Hitch

- Each Knot not attempted or 30 seconds added
- Each incorrect Knot 10 seconds added
- Incorrect Explanation of any 5 Knots chosen by the Judge 3 seconds added each
- For each knot not attempted add a 30 Sec penalty
- Incorrect knots / hitches on raised item 5 seconds added
- Failure to leave a Tagline 10 seconds added
- Secured item fell, failed, loosened, etc. 10 seconds added
- Roof Hook or Pike Pole: did not raise with spike up 10 seconds added

**Candidate**

- Time
  - 2:30 or less
  - 2:31 - 2:40
  - 2:41 - 2:50
  - 2:51 - 3:00
  - 3:01 - 3:10
  - 3:11 - 3:20
  - 3:21 - 3:50
  - 3:51 - 4:20
  - 4:21 - 5:10
  - 5:11 - 6:30

- Judge Signature:

**TOTAL POINTS**

- Not Time

---

SKILLS USA KNOTS National Ropes & Knots Timesheet June 2017
New Contest - Will not count toward Score this year.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seconds</th>
<th>CHECK OFF</th>
<th>Failure to use Commands</th>
<th>10 seconds added</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>Check for Overhead Obstructions</td>
<td>10 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Improper Lifting Techniques and correct ergonomics</td>
<td>5 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Loss of control of ladder</td>
<td>10 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td></td>
<td>Improper carry or raise</td>
<td>10 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>D/N Visually check and verbally announce Dogs locked</td>
<td>5 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Halyard not secured correctly</td>
<td>10 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Did not check Climbing Angle 75 degrees</td>
<td>5 seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>Failure to Lower ladder Safely - not inc. in time</td>
<td>5 seconds added</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

_Demonstration Event this year. You may record points. Definitely need time._

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CHECK OFF</th>
<th>ONE</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>#</th>
<th>Candidate</th>
<th>Judge Signature:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>60 secs or less</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>round up</td>
<td>9 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>time</td>
<td>1:01 - 1:10</td>
<td>8 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:11 - 1:15</td>
<td>7 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:16 - 1:20</td>
<td>6 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:21 - 1:25</td>
<td>5 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:26 - 1:30</td>
<td>4 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:31 - 1:35</td>
<td>3 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:36 - 1:40</td>
<td>2 pts</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>1:41 or more</td>
<td>Not Time</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47.5&lt; seconds is 47 seconds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>47.6&gt; seconds is 48 seconds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SKILLS USA National Ladder Raise Timesheet June 2017
### Firefighter Protective Gear Donning National Exam

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATION</th>
<th>Elapsed time:</th>
<th>seconds</th>
<th>(Stop watch time)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Plus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Seconds added</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total corrected time</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Coat / Jacket / Helmet / Pants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Seconds</th>
<th>CHECK OFF</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Each Fastner - Snap, Velcro, or Buckle not fastened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Missed any hook exterior closure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Missed collar or Storm Flap</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Did not pull collar tab up to protect neck</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Did not don or pull up nomex hood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Did not attach or use supplied chinstrap on helmet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Did not put on helmet</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Did not fully buckle fasten pants. Must use all devices that are on the garment. 5 seconds added for each not used.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1:15 or less</td>
<td>10 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:16 - 1:20</td>
<td>9 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:21 - 1:25</td>
<td>8 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:26 - 1:30</td>
<td>7 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:31 - 1:35</td>
<td>6 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:36 - 1:40</td>
<td>5 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:41 - 1:45</td>
<td>4 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:46 - 1:50</td>
<td>3 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:51 - 1:55</td>
<td>2 pts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- 5 TOTAL POINTS

Not Time

More than 48 seconds results in 48 seconds

More than 47 seconds results in 47 seconds

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SKILLS USA National PPE Donning Timesheet June 2017
To: State Directors and Chapter Advisors,  
From: Chief David Barlow – Chair, Firefighting Technical Committee and Dave Worden  
Championships Director for SkillsUSA

Hello to Everyone,

We hope you all have had a great start to the New Year. We wanted to touch base with you as there has been a lot work to update the contest information for the National Contest in June.

We are pleased to have Chief Dave Barlow serving as your Technical Committee. With all the issues that have developed in the past Chief Barlow wanted you to have as much information as possible regarding the Firefighting Competition in a timely manner so that you can be as prepared as possible for this exciting event.

Most of you have seen the National Technical Standards. This document today is intended to clarify any questions you may have regarding the contest and your preparation for it.

Note: All Test questions and Oral Professional Assessment questions as well as Skills evaluations will come from the IFSTA Manual “Essentials of Firefighting” 6th Edition.

All contestants will need to bring a complete set of Firefighter personal protective equipment. See the list in the Firefighter National Technical Standards. Contestants should also bring an SCBA face piece. Several different SCBA units will be provided for the newly updated PPE Skills event. I am excited to announce that there will also be two new Skills events added this year.

They will be shown and the competitors will go through the process but they will not be scored. That has been and will continue to be the policy. As a reminder any new station or competency added to a contest must be shown the first year and the competitors will be asked to participate however no score will be given. The new competency will be added and scored the following year.

Resume requirement the one page resume will remain as it has been in the past. However, bring a copy to turn in at the orientation meeting and Written Test to make sure that you receive credit for this.
**Clothing Requirement**

For the **Written test**, **Oral Interview** and **Oral Professional Assessment** (to be held on the same day)
Blue collared/button up Skills USA shirt, dark blue duty pants, black shoes or boots, black belt, shaven, neat haircut, exhibiting command presence.

For the **CPAT** and **Practical Skills** test on the following day

**CPAT** - Sweat pants or work out pants (**No Shorts**), Skills USA t-shirt or Fire Dept. t-shirt, tennis shoes. **Practical Skills** events after the CPAT the dress will be Class B dress - Skills USA or any non-generic shirt no affiliation to State or School, dark blue duty pants, black shoes or boots, black belt as if answering a call from the Fire Station. Full set of Firefighter PPE. Please bring an SCBA face piece. SCBA will be provided.

**Opening Ceremony**:

**For men**: Official blazer or jacket, black trousers with white dress shirt, plain black tie with no pattern black socks and black shoes.

**For women**: Official blazer or jacket, black slacks or knee-length skirt with businesslike white, collarless blouse or white blouse with small, plain collar that may not extend onto the lapels of the blazer, black sheer or skin-tone seamless hose and black dress shoes.

**Awards Ceremony**:

**For men**: Official blazer or jacket, black trousers with white dress shirt, plain black tie with no pattern black socks and black shoes.

**For women**: Official blazer or jacket, black slacks or knee-length skirt with businesslike white, collarless blouse or white blouse with small, plain collar that may not extend onto the lapels of the blazer, black sheer or skin-tone seamless hose and black dress shoes.

**Or Competition Clothing**

**The Written Test** will be from the **IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting Manual 6th edition**.

**The Interview** will be conducted by interview teams. Scoring will be done using a scaled rubric. Command Presence will be important. Scoring will be based on candidate’s knowledge of question content, additional information provided projected passion for the Fire Service, and genuine enthusiasm.

**The Oral Professional Assessment** will be assessed by the interview panel immediately following the interview using the same type of rubric as for the interview. Topics included will be a general knowledge of heat, heat transfer, fires, firefighting equipment, firefighting procedures, and NFPA standards to the Firefighting I curriculum by NFP.
The CPAT will be a Nationally Certified CPAT administered by the Coordinator of the Kentucky State Fire Commission at a Certified Testing location – The Louisville Fire Academy. All candidates both Secondary and Post Secondary will do the exact same CPAT just as if testing for a career position. This is a licensed CPAT facility and is fully air conditioned. For more information go to “IAFF: Wellness-Fitness CPAT” http://www.iaff.org/hs/cnat/cpat_index.html YouTube “CPAT – Candidate Physical Agility Test” https://youtu.be/8FLkb3QVkJU

PHYSICAL SKILLS TESTING

Donning of Personal Protective Equipment
Note: This is an updated skills test from previous National Contests. Please read carefully.

This Skills test will be to see how quickly and correctly the candidate can don all required PPE in preparation to enter a burning structure. This is a timed event with more points awarded for speed and accuracy.

The candidate will don trousers boots and suspenders, flash hood, coat, SCBA face piece, adjust hood over face piece so that no skin is showing and hood is under the coat, don SCBA and adjust correctly, don helmet, deploy ear flaps, cinch helmet chin strap, and finally don gloves. Ensure that all fasteners, snaps, buckles etc. are fastened, coat collar up and storm flap sealed and all adjustments are made prior to the Clapping of gloved hands which signals the completion of this physical skills test. Candidates will hold hands up while inspection is conducted by the judge.

A five second time penalty will be assessed for each infraction. Any missed item such as a flash hood, glove, helmet, or SCBA Mask on top of flash hood will incur a 30 second penalty. It is better for the equipment to be correct than to be super-fast on this event even though the overall time will determine the score. The penalties will hurt your time.

NOTE: Candidates will not be required to breathe bottled air or connect the regulator to the face piece. Several types of SCBA will be provided – candidates will provide a face mask or clean and use the face piece provided. There is a possibility that the contestant may compete with others at the same time on this event.

24' Fire Service Extension Ladder Raise
Note: This is a New skills test that has been added to the National Contest.

This Skills Test will demonstrate how quickly the candidate can correctly move into place and safely raise a 24' Fire Service Extension Ladder. This is a timed event that will focus on accuracy and safety. After raising the ladder correctly for time the candidate will safely lower the ladder from the building. At the beginning of the test the Ladder will be on the ground parallel to the building that is to be laddered approximately 15' from the building as if it had just been removed from the Fire apparatus and placed on the ground.
Time starts when the candidate wearing full PPE minus SCBA touches the ladder. The candidate will use commands and raise the ladder safely. The candidate will return the ladder safely to its original position on the ground.

A Firefighter will be present to assist only as a Spotter and safety backup. This spotter can be asked to assist with heel ing or footing the ladder but must be asked. The spotter can also assist with heeling the ladder when it is lowered. The spotter is not to support or assist in any other way unless the ladder begins to get out of control. If the candidate and spotter are on opposite sides of the ladder and need to switch positions the command “Switch Right” will be used. The candidate will use loud audible commands that demonstrate that they are aware of the surroundings and so that others on the fire ground nearby will know what is happening. Owning this drill is important to self-confidence and the success of working with ladders.

**Command examples:** Ladder coming to the building, Please heel the ladder (to spotter), Clear Overhead, Ladder coming up, Switch right (to spotter), Fly coming up, Clear Overhead, Dogs Locked, Switch Right, Ladder coming in to Building in 3,2,1, Contact, Checking Climbing Angle – Good -75 degrees, Securing Halyard, Assignment Complete.

Time ends when the candidate Claps Gloved hands at the completion of the ladder raise. The candidate will lower the ladder safely as well. The spotter can be used to heel the ladder only if asked. Penalties described below.

**Things that will be considered critical failures and will incur penalties include:**

- Failure to use proper lifting techniques and correct ergonomics (5 sec.).
- Failure to use Commands (10 secs.).
- Failure to Observe safe footing, overhead obstructions, and electrical hazards (10 secs.).
- Failure to tie off halyard prior to manipulating the ladder (5 sec.).
- Failure to verbally and visually ensure that the dogs are locked (5 sec.).
- Failure to lower the ladder into the building gently while under control. (10 sec.).
- Failure to check for the correct climbing angle (5 sec.).
- Failure to maintain complete control of the ladder at all times (5 sec.).
- Failure to tie off halyard (10 secs.).
- Failure to tie off halyard correctly (5 sec.).
- Failure to lower ladder safely (even though not judged in the timing of the drill) (5 sec.).

**Ropes, Knots, and Tool Raise**

*Note:* This is an Expanded skills test that has been added to the National Contest.

This Skills Tests will show the candidates ability to tie and dress useful Fire Service knots and to demonstrate their use to raise and lower a tool such as an axe, roof hook, or pike pole safely.

The candidate will wear full PPE minus SCBA and will use Structural Firefighting Gloves while completing this skills test.
The following knots will be tied in an open setting or they can be tied around a horizontal pole. (See below) A great website to study these knots is www.animatedknots.com and click on the Rescue Knots or look them up by name.

* Half Hitch  
* Clove Hitch - Closed (around an object)  
* Clove Hitch - Open  
* Bowline  
* Figure eight or Flemish knot  
* Figure Eight on a bight  
* Figure Eight Bend or Flemish Bend or Figure 8 Follow through  
* Becket Bend or Sheet Bend  
* Girth Hitch or Larks Head used for Hose Straps

Tie Around Bar  
Tie Around Bar  
Tie the knot in hand and slip it over an object  
Tie Around Bar or Tie in Hand  
Tie in Hand and lay it over the bar  
Tie in Hand and lay it over the bar  
Around Bar  
Around Bar  
Around Bar

Once these have been tied, the candidate will clap their gloved hands to signal for time to stop. This is a timed event and all knots must be tied. The list above will be provided at the test site. Each knot that is not tied will receive a 30 second time penalty. Each incorrect knot will receive a 10 second penalty. Speed and accuracy are important. The judge will check for mirror knots. (knots that are tied backward but correctly) The judge will also ask for an explanation of any five of these knots – judge’s choice (what they are used for or how they are used).

A Three second penalty will be assessed for each missed or incorrect explanation.
There is a possibility that the contestant may compete with others at the same time on this event. This completes the first part of this contest.

**PART II - Tool Raise or Lower**

The second part of this Skills Test is to show that the candidate can tie off a hand tool for it to be raised and or lowered safely using a utility rope. Given a long length of rope and an Axe, Pike Pole, and a Roof Hook, the candidate will draw a card to select the tool that will be tied for raising/lowering. This is a timed event. Time starts when the candidate touches the tool or rope and stops when the candidate holds up the finished assembly over his/her head. Ideally, the utility rope would have a simple change of direction by looping it over a fixed point overhead (beam or rail) with a pulley or carabiner attached so that the assembled product could be raised and the tagline demonstrated.

A 5 second penalty will be assessed for each knot or hitch that is incorrect and a 10 second penalty assessed if the tool is Inverted or a Tagline is not provided via incorrect knot placement.

The Time from PART I will be added to the Time for PART II to calculate the score for this event.
CPAT Information

The CPAT will be a Nationally Certified CPAT

All candidates (Secondary and Post Secondary) will do the exact same CPAT just as if testing for a career position. 75 lbs on Stairmaster and 50 lbs for the remainder of the CPAT.

For more information Google “IAFF: Wellness-Fitness CPAT”
http://www.iaff.org/hs/cpat/cpat_index.html

YouTube “CPAT – Candidate Physical Agility Test”
https://youtu.be/8FLkb3QVkJU
Knots for National Firefighting Contest
Louisville, Kentucky  June 22, 2017

* Half Hitch
  Tie Around Bar
* Clove Hitch - Closed (around an object)
  Tie Around Bar
* Clove Hitch - Open
  Tie the knot in hand and slip it over an object
* Bowline
  Tie Around Bar or Tie in Hand
* Figure eight or Flemish knot
  Tie in Hand and lay it over the bar
* Figure Eight on a bight
  Tie in Hand and lay it over the bar
* Figure Eight Bend or Flemish Bend or Figure 8 Follow through
  Around Bar
* Becket Bend or Sheet Bend
  Using two different sized ropes
  Around Bar
* Girth Hitch or Larks Head
  used for Hose Straps
  Around Bar

A great website to study these knots is

www.animatedknots.com

and click on the Rescue Knots or look them up by name.
Needed by Event

Check In each contestant
Orientation Sheet
Collect Resumes
Test, Answer Key
Interview Questions - OPA

All Events
Tape Measure, Chalk, Duct Tape, Fire Line Tape, Pens, Clipboards, Timers on Cell phones

PPE Rapid Dress
Clipboards and Pens, Timing Devices, SCBAs and Masks

Ropes and Knots - Tool Raise
Ropes, Ladder, Chairs, Upright pipes for rungs, Knot List taped to Doors,
Clipboard and timing devices, Cards for Tool Raise

Ladder Raise
Ladders, Clipboard and timing devices

Order of events
Tuesday - Orientation
Wednesday — Soft Skills
Written Test
Interview - OPA
Thursday — Physical
CPAT
Rapid Dress
Ropes & Knots - Tool Raise
Ladder Raise

Debriefing
PPE and Rapid Dress

This Skills test will be to see how quickly and correctly the candidate can don all required PPE in preparation to enter a burning structure.

If you have any problems with your gear such as worn out Velcro that does not stay fastened please communicate this to the judge before we begin.

**You may preset all of your gear.**
**You will not have to clip in the regulator or breathe bottled air.**

This is a timed event with more points awarded for speed and accuracy. Time will start after you have set up, advised that you are ready, I have acknowledged you, and when you touch the gear.

Please make sure that when you have are ready for the time to stop that you **clap your gloved hands** and **step forward** for the judge to inspect your gear with your hands in the air.

Do you have any questions?
Ropes, Knots, and Tool Raise
Note: This is an Expanded skills test that has been added to the National Contest.

This Skills Tests will show the candidates ability to tie and dress useful Fire Service knots and to demonstrate their use to raise and lower a tool such as an axe, roof hook, or pike pole safely.
The candidate will wear full PPE minus SCBA and will use Structural Firefighting Gloves while completing this skills test.

Once these Knots have been tied, the candidate will Clap their gloved hands to signal for time to stop. This is a timed event and all knots must be tied. Speed and accuracy are important. The judge will check for mirror knots. (knots that are tied backward but correctly) The judge will also ask for an explanation of any five of these knots – judge’s choice (what they are used for or how they are used).

Do you have any Questions?

PART II - Tool Raise or Lower

The second part of this Skills Test is to show that the candidate can tie off a hand tool for it to be raised and or lowered safely using a utility rope. Given a long length of rope and an Axe, Pike Pole, and a Roof Hook, the candidate will draw a card to select the tool that will be tied for raising/lowering. This is a timed event. Time starts when the candidate touches the tool or rope and stops when the candidate holds up the finished assembly over his/her head. A 5 second penalty will be assessed for each knot or hitch that is incorrect and a 10 second penalty assessed if the tool is Inverted or a Tagline is not provided via incorrect knot placement.

Do you have any Questions?

The Time from PART I will be added to the Time for PART II to calculate the score for this event.
24' Fire Service Extension Ladder Raise

This is a New skills test that has been added to the National Contest and will not count towards the candidates score this year but will in 2018.

This Skills Test will demonstrate how quickly the candidate can correctly move into place and safely raise a 24' Fire Service Extension Ladder. This is a timed event that will focus on accuracy and safety. After raising the ladder correctly for time the candidate will safely lower the ladder from the building.
At the beginning of the test the Ladder will be on the ground parallel to the building that is to be laddered approximately 15' from the building as if it had just been removed from the Fire apparatus and placed on the ground. Time starts when the candidate wearing full PPE minus SCBA touches the ladder. The candidate will use commands and raise the ladder safely. Remember to Clap your Gloved Hands when you are finished to stop the time.
The candidate will safely return the ladder to its original position on the ground.

Do you have any questions?
PPE and Rapid Dress

This Skills test will be to see how quickly and correctly the candidate can don all required PPE in preparation to enter a burning structure. This is a timed event with more points awarded for speed and accuracy.

The candidate will don trousers boots and suspenders, flash hood, coat, SCBA face piece, adjust hood over face piece so that no skin is showing and hood is under the coat, don SCBA and adjust correctly, don helmet, deploy ear flaps, cinch helmet chin strap, and finally don gloves. Ensure that all fasteners, snaps, buckles etc. are fastened, coat collar up and storm flap sealed and all adjustments are made prior to the Clapping of gloved hands which signals the completion of this physical skills test. Candidates will hold hands up while inspection is conducted by the judge.

NOTE: Candidates will not be required to breathe bottled air or connect the regulator to the face piece. Several types of SCBA will be provided – candidates will provide a face mask or clean and use the face piece provided. There is a possibility that the contestant may compete with others at the same time on this event.

A five second time penalty will be assessed for each infraction. Any missed item such as a flash hood, glove, helmet, or SCBA Mask on top of flash hood will incur a 30 second penalty. It is better for the equipment to be correct than to be super-fast on this event even though the overall time will determine the score. The penalties will hurt your time.

NOTE: Candidates will not be required to breathe bottled air or connect the regulator to the face piece. Several types of SCBA will be provided – candidates will provide a face mask or clean and use the face piece provided. There is a possibility that the contestant may compete with others at the same time on this event.
**Ropes, Knots, and Tool Raise**

Note: *This is an Expanded skills test that has been added to the National Contest.*

This Skills Tests will show the candidates ability to tie and dress useful Fire Service knots and to demonstrate their use to raise and lower a tool such as an axe, roof hook, or pike pole safely.

The candidate will wear full PPE minus SCBA and will use Structural Firefighting Gloves while completing this skills test.

The following knots will be tied in an open setting or they can be tied around a horizontal pole. (See below) A great website to study these knots is [www.animatedknots.com](http://www.animatedknots.com) and click on the Rescue Knots or look them up by name.

* Half Hitch
  - Tie Around Bar
* Clove Hitch - Closed (around an object)
  - Tie Around Bar
* Clove Hitch - Open
  - Tie the knot in hand and slip it over an object
* Bowline
  - Tie Around Bar or Tie in Hand
* Figure eight or Flemish knot
  - Tie In Hand and lay it over the bar
* Figure Eight on a bight
  - Tie in Hand and lay it over the bar
* Figure Eight Bend or Flemish Bend or Figure 8 Follow through
  - Around Bar
* Becket Bend or Sheet Bend
  - Using two different sized ropes
* Girth Hitch or Larks Head used for Hose Straps
  - Around Bar

Once these have been tied, the candidate will clap their gloved hands to signal for time to stop. This is a timed event and all knots must be tied. The list above will be provided at the test site. Each knot that is not tied will receive a 30 second time penalty. Each incorrect knot will receive a 10 second penalty. Speed and accuracy are important. The judge will check for mirror knots. (knots that are tied backward but correctly) The judge will also ask for an explanation of any five of these knots – judge’s choice (what they are used for or how they are used).

**A Three second penalty will be assessed for each missed or incorrect explanation.**

There is a possibility that the contestant may compete with others at the same time on this event. This completes the first part of this contest.

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**PART II - Tool Raise or Lower**

The second part of this Skills Test is to show that the candidate can tie off a hand tool for it to be raised and or lowered safely using a utility rope. Given a long length of rope and an Axe, Pike Pole, and a Roof Hook, the candidate will draw a card to select the tool that will be tied for raising/lowering. This is a timed event. Time starts when the candidate touches the tool or rope and stops when the candidate holds up the finished assembly over his/her head. Ideally, the utility rope would have a simple change of direction by looping it over a fixed point overhead (beam or rail) with a pulley or carabiner attached so that the assembled product could be raised and the tagline demonstrated.

**A 5 second penalty will be assessed for each knot or hitch that is incorrect and a 10 second penalty assessed if the tool is Inverted or a Tagline is not provided via incorrect knot placement.**

The Time from PART I will be added to the Time for PART II to calculate the score for this event.
24’ Fire Service Extension Ladder Raise
This is a New skills test that has been added to the National Contest
and will not count towards the candidates score this year but will in 2018.

This Skills Test will demonstrate how quickly the candidate can correctly move into place and safely raise a 24’ Fire Service Extension Ladder. This is a timed event that will focus on accuracy and safety. After raising the ladder correctly for time the candidate will safely lower the ladder from the building.

At the beginning of the test the Ladder will be on the ground parallel to the building that is to be laddered approximately 15’ from the building as if it had just been removed from the Fire apparatus and placed on the ground.

Time starts when the candidate wearing full PPE minus SCBA touches the ladder. The candidate will use commands and raise the ladder safely. The candidate will return the ladder safely to its original position on the ground.

A Firefighter will be present to assist only as a Spotter and safety backup. This spotter can be asked to assist with heeling or footing the ladder but must be asked. The spotter can also assist with heeling the ladder when it is lowered. The spotter is not to support or assist in any other way unless the ladder begins to get out of control. If the candidate and spotter are on opposite sides of the ladder and need to switch positions the command “Switch Right” will be used. The candidate will use loud audible commands that demonstrate that they are aware of the surroundings and so that others on the fire ground nearby will know what is happening. Owning this drill is important to self-confidence and the success of working with ladders.

**Command examples:** Ladder coming to the building, Please heel the ladder (to spotter), Clear Overhead, Ladder coming up, Switch right (to spotter), Fly coming up, Clear Overhead, Dogs Locked, Switch Right, Ladder coming in to Building in 3,2,1, Contact, Checking Climbing Angle – Good -75 degrees, Securing Halyard, Assignment Complete.

Time ends when the candidate Claps Gloved hands at the completion of the ladder raise. The candidate will lower the ladder safely as well. The spotter can be used to heel the ladder only if asked. Penalties described below.

**Things that will be considered critical failures and will incur penalties include:**

Failure to use proper lifting techniques and correct ergonomics (5sec.).
Failure to use Commands (10 secs.).
Failure to Observe safe footing, overhead obstructions, and electrical hazards (10 secs.).
Failure to tie off halyard prior to manipulating the ladder (5 sec.).
Failure to verbally and visually ensure that the dogs are locked (5 sec.).
Failure to lower the ladder into the building gently while under control. (10 sec.).
Failure to check for the correct climbing angle (5 sec.).
Failure to maintain complete control of the ladder at all times (5 sec.).
Failure to tie off halyard (10 secs.).
Failure to tie off halyard correctly (5 sec.).
Failure to lower ladder safely (even though not judged in the timing of the drill) (5 sec.).

A review of pre tied Halyards vs. non pre tied Halyards needs to be conducted prior to contestants competing.
Skills USA National Orientation

Welcome
Introductions Me Rick Larkins and Team
Roll Call and collect Resumes
Clothing Requirements
ID Tag on Helmet
Advisors Info Viewing and Photos Interaction with Contestants Awards activity Post Secondary and Secondary
Cell Phones and Cameras during Competition
Scoresheets Using for more immediate Feedback. Must be turned in for score.
Scoring Table is off Limits and will have a line to Wait behind until scorekeepers advise you to come forward
Bus Transportation to and from the Kentucky Regional Fire Training Academy
11605 Fairmount Road Louisville, KY www.kyfiretrainingacademy.com

Details:

**Wednesday - Soft Skills Day** Clothing Requirements- Light Blue Skills USA Shirt, Navy Blue Pants, Black Shoes or Boots and Black Belt
  - **Written Test** Everything is from IFSTA 6th Edition
  - **Interview and OPA** AspiringFirefighters.com Free Downloads Entry Level Questions and OPA questions from Firefighter I

**Thursday – Physical** Clothing Requirements CPAT Long Pants, Tshirt, Tennis shoes. Skills Stations
  - **CPAT** All do the same CPAT as if for a career position 75 lbs Stairmaster and 50 for the rest of CPAT
  - **PPE** Including SCBA and mask. Do not click in and breathe bottled air
  - **Knots & Tool Raise** I will Post Required Knots at the Knot Station. Draw card for tool to raise
  - **Ladder Raise** New Event - Not for Points Want to establish a Baseline
  - **Debriefing** To follow the competition

**Contest Descriptions** **Describe Each Event** **Hand Clap to End each Timed event**

**Friday Awards Ceremony** - Clothing Requirements

Chaplain for Wednesday and Thursday

**Look out for Each Other - Promote Brotherhood - Have Fun!!**

Questions from the Floor

Nationally certified CPAT For more information go to “IAFF: Wellness-Fitness CPAT”
http://www.iaff.org/hs/cpat/cpat_index.html

YouTube “CPAT – Candidate Physical Agility Test” https://youtu.be/8FLkb3QVkJU