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Chiefs, Training Officers, Approved Training Providers

Commissioner

It has come to our attention that there is some confusion regarding the granting of equivalencies by approved training providers.

An educational institution may provide equivalencies to its students based on courses they have completed with other institutions. These equivalencies are then noted on the student's transcript, for example as "TC" or transfer credit.

However, **Pro Board and IFSAC do not allow accredited agencies such as the Alberta Office of the Fire Commissioner to apply these equivalencies *directly* towards NFPA certification.** To qualify for NFPA certification in Alberta, candidates must complete all the required assessments for the NFPA level administered by the Alberta Office of the Fire Commissioner (OFC).

Yet, **equivalencies granted for *prerequisite* courses may be recognized by the OFC.** For example:

*A student is granted an equivalency for Property of Materials (NFPA 1031 Level 1 course) based on a course taken out of province. Later, the student successfully completes the courses required for NFPA 1031 Level 2, including all the Alberta OFC's assessments. The student would be eligible for a Pro Board and/or IFSAC NFPA 1031 Level 2 certificate, but ineligible for a Level 1 certificate.*

Note that no equivalencies are recognized by the OFC for an entire level of an NFPA standard. Also, NFPA certification granted by Pro Board or IFSAC accredited agencies outside of Alberta are fully recognized by the OFC and do not require an equivalency.

If you have any questions regarding the equivalencies provided by an educational institution, we recommend that you contact them directly.

Please contact us with any other questions or concerns at: [ofc.certificationexam@gov.ab.ca](mailto:ofc.certificationexam@gov.ab.ca).

Alberta