

Will Tennessee recognize any other State's firefighter certification?

Yes. As long as the certificates were issued by an entity accredited by either the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) or the National Board of Professional Qualifications (ProBoard) after the date the entity became accredited.

What steps are required to apply for Reciprocity in regards to FF 1 and FF 2 Certs?

Step 1 – Click link below

<https://acadis-portal.tn.gov/AcadisViewer/login.aspx>

Step 2 – Click on
WEB Forms

Step 3 - Click on
Fire Commission Application For Reciprocity

Step 4 - Follow the steps outline on instructions and attach ALL
REQUIRED Certs

Step 5 - Email
richard.rochford@tn.gov
or fax him at
931-294-4135

**RULES
OF
THE TENNESSEE COMMISSION ON FIRE FIGHTING
PERSONNEL STANDARDS AND EDUCATION
CHAPTER 0360-06-01
MISCELLANEOUS CERTIFICATION STANDARDS**

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101 and 4-24-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed April 25, 2005; effective July 9, 2005. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Repeal and new rule filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015.

0360-06-01-.05 RECIPROCITY.

- (1) Reciprocity of certification shall be considered by the Commission for applicants who have achieved certification from another agency that has achieved national accreditation from an organization recognized by the Commission and who meet the criteria established by the Commission.
- (2) The following must be submitted to request reciprocity:
 - (a) Application for Reciprocity with a list of certification(s) for which the applicant is requesting reciprocity;
 - (b) Documentation that the applicant has not been out of the fire service for a period of greater than three (3) years, and
 - (c) Proof of Certification (copies of certificates). Certificates of Attendance do not constitute Proof of Certification.
- (3) When considering whether to grant reciprocity to another jurisdiction's certifications, the Commission will only grant reciprocity if the following criteria are met:
 - (a) the Commission certifies an equivalent course;
 - (b) the certification was issued by an entity accredited by the IFSAC or the National Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board and the certification is in the registry of the national accrediting agency and the certification was issued after the date the entity became accredited;
 - (c) the applicant has not been out of the fire service for a period greater than three (3) years; and
 - (d) the applicant has not previously failed a written or performance examination for that level of certification in the State of Tennessee.
- (4) If reciprocity is granted, the Commission shall issue a letter recognizing the applicant's certifications in the State of Tennessee and this recognition shall meet the requirements of certification in Tennessee.
- (5) For progression purposes in the Certification Program and for purposes related to Educational Incentive Pay, the date of recognition of the certification shall be used for "Date of Certification".

- (6) If a fire department requires or an individual, who has received reciprocity of a level of certification, chooses to pursue certification in the State of Tennessee, the applicant will be eligible to pursue certification but will be required to meet all of the certification requirements in force.
- (7) The Commission will not recognize or grant reciprocity to a certification issued by a fire department in Tennessee even if that fire department is accredited by a national accrediting agency.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 4-24-101, 4-24-106, 4-24-107, and 4-24-202. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed April 25, 2005; effective July 9, 2005. Amendment filed December 14, 2009; effective March 14, 2010. Amendments filed October 27, 2014; effective January 25, 2015.

0360-01-02-.01 DEFINITIONS.

- (5) “Department” shall mean a department of a municipality, county, or political subdivision, or an organization, agency, or entity that offers its services, for or without pay, for the purpose of suppressing fires, performing rescue services, or for other emergency response purposes. Excluded from this definition are law enforcement agencies, emergency medical agencies licensed by the Tennessee emergency medical services board, and rescue squads that do not provide fire protection.
- (6) “Firefighter” shall mean any person hired or accepted as a full-time, part-time or volunteer firefighter, by a department recognized under the Fire Department Recognition Act, T.C.A. § 68-102-301, et seq., and who has satisfied the minimum training requirements of T.C.A. § 4-24-112.
- (7) “IFSAC” shall mean the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress.
- (10) “Pro Board” shall mean the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications.