

11. Matters referred from the Fire Fighter Advisory Committee (FFAC), including but not limited to:

- A. Discussion and possible action on proposed amendments, new sections, and repeals as follows:**
 - 9. Discussion and possible action regarding proposed amendments to title 37 TAC, Chapter 453, Hazardous Materials.**

CHAPTER 453**HAZARDOUS MATERIALS****SUBCHAPTER A****MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR HAZARDOUS MATERIALS TECHNICIAN****§453.1 Hazardous Materials Technician Certification.**

- (a) A Hazardous Materials Technician is defined as an individual who performs emergency response to an occurrence which results in, or is likely to result in, an uncontrolled release of a hazardous substance where there is a potential safety or health hazard (i.e., fire, explosion, or chemical exposure). A Hazardous Materials Technician responds to such occurrences and is expected to perform work to handle and control (stop, confine, or extinguish) actual or potential leaks or spills. The Hazardous Materials Technician assumes a more aggressive role than a first responder at the operations level, in that the Hazardous Materials Technician will approach the point of release. The Hazardous Materials Technician is expected to use specialized Chemical Protective Clothing (CPC) and specialized control equipment.
- (b) All individuals holding a Hazardous Materials Technician Certification shall be required to comply with the continuing education requirements in §441.17 of this title (relating to Continuing Education for Hazardous Materials Technician).

§453.3 Minimum Standards for Hazardous Materials Technician Certification.

- (a) In order to be certified as a Hazardous Materials Technician an individual must:
- (1) hold certification as Structural Fire Protection Personnel, Aircraft Rescue Fire Fighting Personnel, or Marine Fire Protection Personnel; and
 - (2) possess valid documentation as a Hazardous Materials Technician from either:
 - (A) the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress; or
 - (B) the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications issued by the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service using the 2008 or later edition of the NFPA standard applicable to this discipline and meeting the requirements as specified in §439.1(a)(2) of this title (relating to Requirements—General); or
 - (3) complete a commission approved Hazardous Materials Technician program and successfully pass the commission examination as specified in Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification). An approved Hazardous Materials Technician program must consist of one of the following:
 - (A) completion of a commission approved Hazardous Materials Technician Curriculum as specified in Chapter 6 of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual; or
 - (B) completion of an out-of-state and/or military training program that has been submitted to the commission for evaluation and found to be equivalent to, or exceeds the commission approved Hazardous Materials Technician Curriculum.
- (b) Out-of-state or military training programs which are submitted to the commission for the purpose of determining equivalency will be considered equivalent if all competencies set forth in Chapter 6 (pertaining to Hazardous Materials Technician) of the commission's Certification Curriculum Manual are met.

§453.5 Examination Requirements.

- (a) Examination requirements of Chapter 439 of this title (relating to Examinations for Certification) must be met in order to receive a Hazardous Materials Technician Certification.
- (b) Individuals will be permitted to take the commission examination for Hazardous Materials Technician by documenting completion of the NFPA 472 Awareness and Operations level training and completing a commission approved Hazardous Materials Technician curriculum.

§453.7 International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Seal.

- (a) Individuals holding a current commission Hazardous Materials Technician certification received prior to March 10, 2003, may be granted an International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) seal as a Hazardous Materials Technician by making application to the commission for the IFSAC seal and paying applicable fees. **This subsection will expire on August 1, 2016.**
- (b) Individuals completing a commission approved Hazardous Materials Technician program, documenting an IFSAC seal for Hazardous Materials Awareness Level Personnel; and
 - (1) Hazardous Materials Operations Level Responders, including the Mission-Specific Competencies for Personal Protective Equipment and Product Control under the current edition; or
 - (2) NFPA 472 Hazardous Materials Operations prior to the 2008 edition; and
 - (3) upon passing the applicable state examination, may be granted an IFSAC seal as a Hazardous Materials Technician by making application to the commission for the IFSAC seal and paying applicable fees.