

Purpose: This policy establishes permissible duties and restrictions for CTFD personnel 18 years of age and older operating on the fire ground based upon their level of training and qualifications. Duties and restrictions for Junior Firefighters are covered under separate policies.

Administration: The Fire Chief, Assistant Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief of Operations will have joint responsibility for administration of this policy within the scope of their job descriptions.

Definitions:

Non-SCBA Qualified: for the purpose of this policy, a CTFD member who has completed the skills defined in Section III of the CTFD Non-SCBA Qualification Sheet but has not yet completed the core skills defined in the CTFD SCBA Qualification Sheet is referred to as Non-SCBA qualified.

SCBA Qualified: for the purpose of this policy, a CTFD member who has completed the core training courses and skills required for initial SCBA Qualification as defined in the CTFD SCBA Qualification Sheet is referred to as SCBA qualified.

Immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) atmosphere: an atmosphere that poses an immediate threat to life, would cause irreversible adverse health effects, or would impair an individual's ability to escape from a dangerous atmosphere.

Positive pressure self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA): atmosphere-supplying respirator for which the breathing air source is designed to be carried by the user and in which the pressure inside the respiratory inlet covering exceeds the ambient air pressure outside the respirator.

Policy:

Non-SCBA Qualified Members

- Any non-SCBA qualified member is authorized to perform duties on the fire ground requiring skills for which a CTFD officer has certified he/she is competent by signing off on that skill competency on the member's Non-SCBA Qualification Sheet.
- Any non-SCBA qualified member is authorized to assist CTFD driver/operators in their duties under the sole supervision of the driver/operator. This policy does NOT authorize any member to drive or operate CTFD apparatus unless separately qualified to do so under Policy 8.8 Driver/Operator Qualification.
- If operational needs dictate, a CTFD officer may assign a non-SCBA qualified member to any duties included in Policy 4.14 Exterior Firefighters regardless of skill competency status provided the member is supervised by a CTFD officer or member who is certified competent on the skills required for the duties assigned.
- Under no circumstances shall a non-SCBA qualified member enter or be assigned to enter an IDLH atmosphere requiring the use of SCBA, any area where personnel have been assigned to carrying SCBA as a precaution, or any area where the nature of the operation presents the likelihood of conditions evolving to create an IDLH atmosphere. Examples of the latter situations include, but are not limited to, buildings in which alarm systems have activated, investigations of CO, gas or odor conditions, and similar.

SCBA Qualified Members

- Any SCBA qualified member is authorized to perform all duties on the fire ground which are included in Policy 4.14 Exterior Firefighters and Policy 4.15 Interior Firefighters.
- SCBA qualified members are authorized to operate in IDLH atmospheres and possible IDLH atmospheres, provided they are doing so in compliance with relevant CTFD policies and SOGs, including but not limited to Policy 6.2 Personal Protective Equipment and Policy 6.3 Respiratory Protection.

References:

Policy 4.14 Exterior Firefighter
Policy 4.14 Interior Firefighter
Policy 6.2 Personnel Protective Equipment
Policy 6.3 Respiratory Protection
Policy 8.8 Driver/Qualification