

PUBLIC SAFETY MEMO PS24-03

TO: Chief Academic Officers, Senior Continuing Education Officers, Fire Rescue School Program Directors, Continuing Education Registrars

FROM: Kenny Weatherington, Director, Public Safety Training Programs
Michael Caviness, Public Safety Training Specialist, Fire Rescue & Emergency Management

SUBJECT: Updates on Technical Rescue Certification Program Changes

DATE: October 4, 2024

Earlier this year, the North Carolina Fire Rescue Commission (NCFRC) approved changes to the Technical Rescue (TR) Fire Certification program to update courses to the current National Fire Protection Standards (NFPA). The new program/courses have a mandated live implementation date of January 1, 2025.

The State Board of Community Colleges approved the new TR courses on September 20, 2024. The new courses will also have a new course prefix of FRC (Fire Rescue Certification). The new courses have been released to colleges to pull into local libraries. Colleges are reminded that new and modified courses must be downloaded to the local course library (XUIC) and applied to local course copies (XULU).

Special Note: The System Office has recently been informed that the new Wilderness Rescue course will not be ready for January 1, 2025, implementation. Colleges are directed to **NOT** run this course, **FRC-1212 – TR Wilderness Rescue S&R Series**, until further notice is provided by the NC Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Please direct any questions to your regional OSFM Certification Specialist.

Additional notes:

- All Technical Rescue courses under the current standard and FIP prefix must be completed no later than December 31, 2024 (This includes the current Wilderness Rescue course).
- No Technical Rescue course utilizing the new FRC courses may start prior to January 1, 2025.
- Instructors for this program must complete Instructor Requalification training with the NC Office of the State Fire Marshal prior to teaching the new courses.

- Colleges will need to add the new FRC prefix to the Fire Certification Parameters (XFCP). This will ensure the new addition will be included for Fire Certification Reporting.
- The new FRC prefix will be a fee waived prefix. A separate PS Memo will be forthcoming to address this issue until an update can be made to the Tuition and Registration Fee Waiver Guidance document.

Contacts for Questions:

For questions concerning the new courses related to the Combined Course Library, please contact Reyna Rodriguez at rodriguezr@nccomunitiycolleges.edu.

For questions concerning the new courses related to the Student Fire Data Transmittal process, please contact Lashima Glaspie at glaspiel@nccommunitycolleges.edu.

For questions concerning other community college logistical issues with the new courses, please contact Michael Caviness at cavinessm@nccommunitycolleges.edu.

For questions concerning Fire Commission related logistics for the new courses, please contact your regional NC OSFM Certification Specialist.

For fee waiver questions concerning the new courses, please contact Kenny Weatherington at weatheringtonk@nccommunitycolleges.edu.