



JOHN BEL EDWARDS  
GOVERNOR

LOUISIANA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY & CORRECTIONS  
PUBLIC SAFETY SERVICES




H. "BUTCH" BROWNING, JR.  
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

OFFICE OF STATE FIRE MARSHAL

LICENSING MEMORANDUM 1-2021

DATE: March 5, 2021

TO: All Licensed Kitchen Fixed Fire Suppression Firms

FROM: Erin E. St. Pierre, Deputy Chief   
Special Services & Support Division

APPROVED: H. "Butch" Browning, Jr.

RE: Extension of the Deadline to Obtain Kitchen Fixed Fire Suppression Certification for Licensure

On August 1, 2019, the Life Safety and Property Protection Advisory Board (now the LSPP "Education Board") approved an additional certification option for qualifiers of firms that currently hold or wish to obtain a kitchen fixed fire suppression endorsement. This addition was communicated in Licensing Section Memo 2-2019, dated September 12, 2019.

Per this approval, qualifiers of firms holding the kitchen fixed fire suppression endorsement are now required to obtain one (1) of the following certifications:

1. NICET 2 Certification (or higher) in Special Hazards Suppression Systems or previous Special Hazards Layout; or
2. Professional Engineer with a Mechanical or Fire Protection Endorsement; or
3. Fire Protection Certification Ltd. (FPC) Pre-Engineered Fire Suppression System Certification.

On September 12, 2019, this Office sent correspondence alerting you that the Education Board had set the deadline at January 1, 2021 to meet this requirement.

However, a recent internal examination of firm records revealed that nearly two (2) dozen firm qualifiers have not obtained the requisite certification which, in turn, places the licenses of the affected firms in jeopardy of being suspended until an approved certification is obtained. At this time, this Office also recognizes that

challenges facing firms throughout 2020, which included COVID-19 mitigation efforts, limited class sizes, and the most active hurricane season in history may have played a large role in preventing firms from receiving the proper certification.

Therefore, in order to prevent any delays in the valuable services provided by the impacted firms, State Fire Marshal Butch Browning intervened on behalf of the firms by requesting an extension of the deadline to obtain one of the approved certifications for the kitchen fixed fire suppression endorsement to December 31, 2021, via Gubernatorial Proclamation Number 30 JBE 2021. Section 3(D)(2)(b) of the proclamation, issued on March 3, 2021, states:

*The deadline to obtain the required certification or education, as required by the Life Safety and Property and Protection Education Board, for those who currently hold a kitchen suppression qualifier license to obtain the required certification or education, not including the Fire Marshal Administrative Rules Course, the Fire Marshal Plan Review Course, and the Life Safety Course, is extended to December 31, 2021 from the initial deadline of January 1, 2021.*

You are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this extension to facilitate the obtainment of the required certification to maintain license validity. The failure to do so may result in the suspension of firm qualifier licenses who fail to comply with this requirement.

Should you have any questions regarding this correspondence, please do not hesitate to contact me at 225-925-4911.