



EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE  
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
**HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION**  
100 CAMBRIDGE STREET, SUITE 600  
BOSTON, MA 02114

**MAURA T. HEALEY**  
GOVERNOR

**MATTHEW J. GORZKOWICZ**  
SECRETARY

**KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL**  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

**MELISSA J. PULLIN**  
CHIEF HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICER

**AMENDED February 21, 2025**

**READING LIST ANNOUNCEMENT – PLEASE POST PROMINENTLY**

TO: Fire Department Appointing Authorities, Fire Chiefs  
FROM: Regina Caggiano, Director of Civil Service  
DATE: October 11, 2024  
SUBJECT: Reading List for Fire Captain Examination

**STATEWIDE FIRE CAPTAIN**

**EXAMINATION DATE – April 12, 2025**

This reading list will pertain to the Human Resource Division Written Examination for Fire Captain administered on April 12, 2025.

Candidates are responsible for reading all the texts and other materials listed below and on all pages of this announcement. Please note carefully which edition and/or date of publication is listed for each item. All technical knowledge examination questions will be based on these materials.

---

**Massachusetts General Laws:** Chapter 148 - Fire Prevention (as amended through the release date of this reading list).

**Section 3**  
**Section 5**  
**Section 26**  
**Section 26A**  
**Section 26B**  
**Section 26C**  
**Section 26D**  
**Section 26E**

**AMENDED February 21, 2025**

**Section 26F**  
**Section 26F1/2**  
**Section 26G**  
**Section 26G1/2**  
**Section 26H**  
**Section 27A**

**Fire Officer Principles and Practice** (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). Ward, Michael J. (2021). NFPA. Burlington, MA. Jones & Bartlett Learning.

**Chapter 2:** exclude pg. 39 –56 (Start of Chapter up to “Origins of Crew Resource Management”)

**Chapter 3:** exclude pg. 73- 78 (Start of Chapter up to “Emergency Incident Communications”) and exclude pg. 80- 86 (“Keep Your Supervisor Informed” up to “Assigning Tasks to Unit Members”)

**Chapter 5:** exclude pg. 127- 139 (Start of Chapter up to “Evaluation”)

**Chapter 6:** exclude pg. 172- 174 (“Classifying by Building or Occupancy” up to “Occupancy and Use Groups”)

**Chapter 7:** exclude pg.196 - 198 (Start of Chapter up to “Levels of Command”) and exclude pg. 209- 210 (“Lloyd Layman’s Five-Step Size-up Process” up to “National Fire Academy Size up Process”)

**Chapter 8:** exclude pg. 223- 226 (Start of Chapter up to “Fire Fighter Injury and Death Trends”)

**Chapter 10:** exclude pg. 271- 274 (Start of Chapter up to “Correcting Unacceptable Behavior”) and exclude pg. 279- 297 (“Suspension” up to End of Chapter)

**Chapter 13:** exclude pg. 340-341 (“Wildland Fire Cause Determination” up to “Fire Cause Classifications”)

**Chapter 14:** exclude pg. 363- 365 (“Selected Structure Major Incident Considerations” up to “Postincident Analysis”)

*Note: Exclude all Charts, Tables, Figures, Fire Officer Tips, Appendices, and Voice of Experience*

**Engine Company Fireground Operations** (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). Angulo, Raul A. (2021). NFPA. Burlington, MA. Jones & Bartlett Learning.

**Chapter 2**

**Chapter 4:** exclude pg. 139 - 148 (“Basement Fires” up to End of Chapter)

**Chapter 6**

**Chapter 8:** exclude pg. 242 - 270 (“The National Fire Academy Command Sequence Model” up to End of Chapter)

**Chapter 9:** exclude pg. 278 (“The Keokuk Fire” up to “Defensive Search Tactics”) and exclude pg. 285-286 (“The Villa Plaza Fire” up to “Rescue Profile Considerations”)

**Chapter 10**

**Chapter 11**

**Chapter 12:** exclude pg. 391-395 (“Santana Row Case Study” up to “Radiant Heat Exposures”)

**Chapter 14**

**Chapter 16:** exclude pg. 553- 554 (Biloxi, Mississippi, Fire Department Case Study” up to “Air Monitoring”)

*Note: Exclude all Figures, Tables, Charts, and Formulas*

**AMENDED February 21, 2025**

**Announcement:** We would like to inform all candidates that, due to publisher error, **no numerical questions** (e.g. times, distances, pressures, heights, etc.) will be included from *Engine Company Fireground Operations (4th Edition)*. Angulo, Raul A. (2021). NFPA. Burlington, MA. Jones & Bartlett Learning, on the upcoming **2025 Fire Lieutenant and Captain Exams**. If you have any questions or need further clarification, please reach out to civil service ([anhar.obyat@mass.gov](mailto:anhar.obyat@mass.gov) or [shelagh.herbert@mass.gov](mailto:shelagh.herbert@mass.gov)).

There are 2 versions of *Engine Company Fireground Operations (4th Edition)* that have been released by the publishing company. We have received a document detailing all edits made from one version to the other. Please see the document titled "Engine Company Fireground Operations Publisher Updates" to receive more information on changes made to the sources, how to determine which book you possess, and whether you will need the subsequent edits attachment.

**Strategic and Tactical Considerations on the Fireground** (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). Smith, James P. (2017). Hoboken, NJ. Pearson Education Inc.

**Chapter 2**

**Chapter 3**

**Chapter 4:** exclude pg. 130- 141 (Start of Chapter up to “Truck Company Operations”)

**Chapter 6**

**Chapter 7:** exclude all green labeled “Considerations...” sections:

- “Considerations for Cellar Fires” (pg. 267-268)
- “Considerations for Fires in Garden Apartments” (pg. 273-274)
- “Considerations for Fires in Row Houses and Town Houses” (pg. 281-282)
- “Considerations for Fires in renovated Buildings” (pg. 287-288)
- “Considerations for Fires in Hotels and Motels” (pg. 296)
- “Considerations for Fires in Vacant Buildings” (pg. 302-303)
- “Considerations for Wildland Urban Interface Fires” (pg. 315-316)

**Chapter 8:** exclude all green labeled “Considerations...” sections:

- “Considerations for Fires in Hospitals” (pg. 328-329)
- “Considerations for Fires in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living Facilities” (pg. 335-336)
- “Considerations for Mass Casualty Incidents” (pg. 345-346)
- “Considerations for Fires in Houses of Worship” (pg. 358-359)
- “Considerations for Fires in Penal Institutions” (pg. 365-366)
- “Considerations for Fires in Public Assembly Buildings” (pg. 371-373)
- “Considerations for Fires in Schools” (pg. 378-379)
- “Considerations for Active Shooter Incidents” (pg. 390-391)

**Chapter 9:** exclude all green labeled “Considerations...” sections:

- “Considerations for Fires in Commercial Buildings and Warehouses” (pg. 402-403)
- “Considerations for Fires in Strip Malls” (pg. 408-409)
- “Considerations for Fires in Enclosed Malls” (pg. 414-415)
- “Considerations for Fires in Supermarkets” (pg. 421-422)

**AMENDED February 21, 2025**

- “Considerations for Fires in Lumberyards” (pg. 427-428)
- “Considerations for Fires in High-Rise Buildings” (pg. 453-454)

**Chapter 10:** exclude all green labeled “Considerations...” sections:

- “Considerations for Hazardous Materials Incidents” (pg. 472)
- “Considerations for Tank Farm/Refinery Fire Incidents” (pg. 481-482)
- “Considerations for Terrorism Incidents” (pg. 493-494)
- “Considerations for a Dirty Bomb Incident” (pg. 499-500)
- “Considerations for a Clandestine Drug Lab” (pg. 510-511)
- “Considerations for Natural Disaster Incidents” (pg. 522-523)

*Note: Exclude all Blue Boxes, On Scene, Charts, Tables, and Figures*

**Building Construction Related to the Fire Service** (4<sup>th</sup> Edition). IFSTA. (2016). Oklahoma State University. Fire Protection Publication.

**Chapter 2:** exclude pg. 56 - 61 (“Laboratory- Tested Data” up to End of Chapter)

**Chapter 3**

**Chapter 4**

**Chapter 5:** exclude pg. 141 - 145 (“Testing Interior Finishes” up to “Ceilings”) and exclude pg. 162 - 165 (“Fire Door Maintenance” up to End of Chapter)

**Chapter 7:** exclude pg. 195 – 202 (“Quality Control of Lumber” up to “Wood Structural Systems”)

**Chapter 8**

**Chapter 9**

**Chapter 10:** exclude pg. 264- 266 (“Quality Control of Concrete” up to “Fire Resistance of Concrete Construction”)

**Chapter 11**

**Chapter 13**

*Note: Exclude all Case Histories and Tables*

#### PUBLISHERS OF READING LIST TEXTS

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 148. [Chapter 148 \(malegislature.gov\)](http://malegislature.gov)

Fire Officer Principles and Practice (4th Edition). Ward, Michael J. (2021). NFPA. Burlington, MA. Jones & Bartlett Learning. [Fire Officer: Principles and Practice includes Navigate Advantage Access: 9781284172393 \(psglearning.com\)](https://www.jonesandbartlett.com/9781284172393)

Engine Company Fireground Operations (4th Edition). Angulo, Raul A. (2021). NFPA. Burlington, MA. Jones & Bartlett Learning. [Buy Engine Company Fireground Operations \(nfpa.org\)](https://www.jonesandbartlett.com/9781284172393)

**AMENDED February 21, 2025**

Strategic and Tactical Considerations on the Fireground (4th Edition). Smith, James P. (2017). Hoboken, NJ. Pearson Education Inc. [Strategic & Tactical Considerations on the Fireground \(pearson.com\)](#)

Building Construction Related to the Fire Service (4th Edition). IFSTA. (2016). Oklahoma State University. Fire Protection Publication. [Building Construction Related to the Fire Service, 4th Edition | IFSTA](#)

*Note: Check back on the Civil Service Exams webpage for ECT&E and Situational Judgement Test (SJT) Prep Guides coming soon! Click [here](#) to view the examination schedule.*

Please note that the Human Resources Division does not recommend specific retailers for the purchase of reading list texts. For local vendors, contact the publishers at the telephone number or website listed. Many local retailers will be able to special-order any text not carried in stock.

Any questions regarding the reading list may be directed to Anhar Obyat at [anhar.obyat@mass.gov](mailto:anhar.obyat@mass.gov). A copy of the reading list is posted on the Human Resources Division's Civil Service Unit website. [Examination Preparation Guides and Reading Lists | Mass.gov](#)