

READING LIST ANNOUNCEMENT – PLEASE POST PROMINENTLY

TO: Fire Department Appointing Authorities, Fire Chiefs
FROM: Regina Caggiano, Director of Civil Service
DATE: October 9, 2026
SUBJECT: Reading List for Boston District Fire Chief Examination

BOSTON DISTRICT FIRE CHIEF

EXAMINATION DATE – APRIL 12, 2027

This reading list will pertain to the Human Resource Division Written Examination for Boston District Fire Chief administered on April 12, 2027.

Candidates are responsible for reading all the texts and other materials listed on all pages of this announcement. Please note which edition and/or date of publication is listed for each item. Only those chapters and sections listed under each text are included (unless noted otherwise). Chapters and sections listed with a dash (i.e., 2 – 14) should be read from the first listed chapter through the last listed chapter and section. All technical knowledge examination questions will be based on these materials.

Appendix F, Boston Fire Department/ IAFF Local 718 Drug and Alcohol-Free Work

Section 1
Section 2
Section 3
Section 4
Section 5
Section 6
Section 7
Section 8
Section 9
Section 10
Section 11
Section 12

Brannigan's Building Construction for the Fire Service (7th Edition). Corbett, G.P. (2026). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, LLC.

Chapter 1

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4: Exclude pg. 98 – 99 (“Occupancy Classifications” up to “Area and Height”)

Chapter 5

Chapter 6

Chapter 7

Chapter 8

Chapter 9

Chapter 10

Chapter 11

Chapter 12

Chapter 13

Chapter 15

Note: Exclude ALL Appendices, Glossary, “Branniganism” boxes, Case Studies, Figures, Tables, and “Tactical Consideration” boxes.

Fire and Emergency Services Administration: Management and Leadership Practices (3rd Edition). Smeby Jr, L. C. (2022). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, LLC.

Chapter 2

Chapter 3

Chapter 4

Chapter 7: Exclude pg. 142 – 148 (“Emergency Medical Services” up to End of Chapter)

Chapter 8: Exclude pg. 153 – 154 (“EMS Training and Certification” up to “Technology-Based Training and Certifications”) and exclude pg. 159 – 160 (“Higher Education” up to “Officer Education and Training”)

Chapter 9: Exclude pg. 172 (“EMS Injury and Fatality Prevention” up to “Emergency Vehicle Crash Prevention”) and exclude pg. 173 – 174 (“Crashes Involving Ambulances” up to “Crashes Involving Fire Apparatus”) and exclude pg. 178 – 179 (“Physical Fitness Testing” up to “Other Occupational Hazards”)

Chapter 11

Note: Exclude Tables, Figures, “Facts and Figures” boxes, “Case Study” boxes, and “Chief Officer Tip” boxes.

Firefighting Strategies and Tactics (4th Edition). Angle, J. S., Gala Jr., M. F., Harlow, D.T., et.al. (2021). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, LLC.

Chapter 2

Chapter 4

Chapter 6

Chapter 8: Exclude pg. 129 – 131 (“Friction Loss and Basic Hydraulics” up to “Foam”)

Chapter 9
Chapter 11
Chapter 12
Chapter 13
Chapter 14
Chapter 15
Chapter 16
Chapter 18: Exclude pg. 326 – 331 (“Hazardous Materials” up to “Shipboard Fires”)
Chapter 19

Note: Exclude ALL Glossary, Appendices, Figures, Tables, “Tip” boxes, “Safety Tip” boxes, “Tactical Tip” boxes, and Case Studies.

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

Section 4
Section 5
Section 26A
Section 26B
Section 26C
Section 26D
Section 26F
Section 26F1/2
Section 26G1/2
Section 26H
Section 26I
Section 27A

Progressive Discipline Guidelines, Boston Fire Department (Dated November 1, 2025)

1
2: Exclude pg. 12 - 14 (“Offense: Being Intoxicated or Under the Influence of Liquor or Drugs...”)
3: Exclude pg. 21- 23 (“Cases of Discipline”)
4
5
6

Rules and Regulations of the Boston Fire Department (Dated June 2026)

1
2

5

9

10

15

16

17

Appendix A

Standard Operating Procedures of the Boston Fire Department (as amended through the release date of this reading list):

1 (8/17/2023)

1A (9/29/2023)

2 (8/7/2024)

2A (8/7/2024)

2B (8/7/2024)

3 (9/12/2024)

112 (3/12/2024)

120 (5/5/2014)

200 (8/9/2017)

201 (5/5/2014)

203 (2/21/2019)

206 (1/12/2024)

206A (8/31/2026)

207 (10/27/2025)

208 (5/30/2018)

209 (8/17/2023)

215 (5/30/2018)

216 (5/30/2018)

217 (1/8/2020)

231 (5/3/2014): Exclude 13

232 (4/22/2014)

233 (11/26/2023)

234 (11/16/2023)

235 (12/30/2024)

236 (5/3/2014): Exclude 9

238 (4/28/2014)

250 (3/2/2015)

250A (1/5/2017)

251 (2/29/2016): Exclude 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9

252 (5/4/2014)

259 (3/23/2018)

260 (3/8/2017)

261 (4/29/2014)

262 (4/29/2014)

263 (11/16/2023)

300 (5/4/2014): Exclude 11, “Annex A: Zones”, and “Annex C: Levels of Chemical Protective Suits”

302 (7/31/2026)

304 (5/4/2014)

305 (11/4/2015)

306 (9/12/2024)

307 (9/12/2024)

308 (9/12/2024)

340 (4/29/2014)

341 (4/29/2014)

342 (4/29/2014)

401 (5/19/2015)

402 (4/6/2023)

405 (5/4/2014)

610 (6/1/2015)

621 (6/1/2015)

PUBLISHERS OF READING LIST TEXTS

Brannigan's Building Construction for the Fire Service (7th Edition). Corbett, G.P. (2026). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, LLC. [Brannigan's Building Construction for the Fire Service: 9781284316957](#)

Fire and Emergency Services Administration: Management and Leadership Practices (3rd Edition). Smeby Jr, L. C. (2022). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, LLC. [Fire and Emergency Services Administration: Management and Leadership Practices, 3e: 9781284180213](#)

Firefighting Strategies and Tactics (4th Edition). Angle, J. S., Gala Jr., M. F., Harlow, D.T., et.al. (2021). Burlington, MA: Jones and Bartlett Learning, LLC. [Firefighting Strategies and Tactics: 9781284180190](#)

Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 148. [Mass General Laws, Chapter 148](#)

Please check Boston Fire Department Share Drive for Appendix F, Rules & Regulations, SOPs, and Progressive Discipline Guidelines.

Note: Check back on the Civil Service Exams webpage for ECT&E and Situational Judgement Test (SJT) Prep Guides coming soon! [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 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](#)