

## Safety Checklist for Fire Service Operations

**Purpose:** This checklist is a guide to assist employers with focusing their injury prevention efforts. A separate checklist is available for the Fire Station building.

Topic	Description of Requirement	OSHA Standard
<b>Focus Area 1: Respirator Program</b>  <i>(Fire Personnel)</i>	Written Respirator Program	1910.134 (c)(1)
	Record of medical evaluation to authorize individual to use a respirator. <i>(hired after 2/1/19)</i>	1910.134 (e)(1)
	Documentation annual Fit Test.	1910.134(f) and (m)
	Documentation annual training.	1910.134(k)
	Respirator is used at all fires beyond incipient stage, overhaul, and when air contaminants could be above OSHA permissible limits.	1910.134 (g)(4)(iii) 1910.156 (f)(1)(ii)
	Criteria to authorize removal of respirators	1910.134(g)(4)(iii)
	Lab certification of grade “D” air provided by air compressor (at least annual).	1910.134(i)
	Procedures for cleaning and storing respirators.	1910.134(h)(1)
	Inspection log for monthly inspection of SCBA harness, regulators, flow rate, facepiece, hose, cylinders, PASS, alarms, and other components.	1910.134(h)(3)(i)[B]
<b>Focus Area 2: Personal Protective Equipment</b> <i>(Fire/EMS)</i>	PPE selected according to task.	1910.132(d)(1)
	Turnout gear is maintained in clean condition.	1910.132(a)
	Turnout gear not stored in living or eating areas.	1910.141(e)
	Disposable nitrile gloves worn when cleaning turnout gear, hose, and equipment at the station.	1910.138(a)
	Turnout gear and PPE worn according to policy and training.	1910.132 (f)(1)-(2)
<b>Focus Area 3: Ladder belts</b> <i>(Fire Personnel)</i>	Ladder belt is used in tower platform, and when working at stationary position on elevated ladder.	1910.67 (c)(2)(v)
	Training documentation for ladder belts used on elevated ladder/tower truck.	1910.30(a)
	Training documentation for persons who operate a ladder/tower truck.	1910.67(c)(2)(ii)
<b>Focus Area 4: Struck-by Vehicles</b> <i>(Fire/EMS Personnel)</i>	Roadway incidents set up to prevent struck-by motorist vehicle.	OSHA General Duty, MUTCD 6I.01.07
	High-visibility clothing worn by Fire/EMS personnel working in roadways. (Exception: fire attack personnel or proximity to fire.)	1910.132(a)
	Training documentation for Traffic Incident Management for all Fire/EMS personnel who may work at a road incident.	OSHA General Duty, MUTCD 6I.01.07

Topic	Description of Requirement	OSHA Standard
<b>Focus 5:</b> <b>Tools, Equipment and Station</b>	Tools maintained in good working conditions. (i.e., Chainsaws, cut-off saws, hydraulic tools, hose, nozzles).	1910.156(d)
	FF trained on tools they are assigned to use.	1910.156 (c)(1)
	4-gas meter calibration logs maintained.	1910.134(d)(1)(iii)
	Electrical wiring in Station used as designed.	1910.303-305
	Extension cords not used as permanent wiring	1910.305(g)(1)
	Electrical panels are not blocked.	1910.303 (g)(1)(vi)
	Opening at fire pole covered to prevent migration of diesel exhaust into living areas.	1910.1000
	Opening at fire pole and other floor openings more than 4 feet above a lower level protected by railing.	1910.28(b)(1)
	Station floors are kept clean, orderly to prevent slip/trip injury.	1910.22(a)
<b>Focus 6:</b> <b>Bloodborne Pathogens</b> <i>(Fire/EMS Personnel)</i>	Written <i>Exposure Control Plan</i> for Fire and EMS.	1910.1030 (c)(1)
	Documentation of annual training.	1910.1030 (g)(2)
	Records of Hepatitis-B vaccine or declination.	1910.1030 (f)(2)
	Medical follow-up after an exposure incident.	1910.1030 (f)(3)
	Disinfection of equipment after blood exposure.	1910.1030 (d)(2)(xiv)
	PPE for potential blood exposure.	1910.1030 (d)(3)
	EMS uses safer needle devices.	1910.1030 (d)(2)(i)
<b>Focus 7:</b> <b>Ladders</b> <i>(Fire Personnel)</i>	Sharps disposal containers used.	1910.1030 (d)(2)(viii)
	Ladders are inspected and broken equipment not used.	1910.23 (b)(9)
<b>Focus 8:</b> <b>Heat Stress/ Rehab</b> <i>(Fire Personnel)</i>	Employees trained in ladder use. Training repeated if lack of skill demonstrated.	1910.30(b)(2)
	Rehab procedures to prevent heat stress in firefighters at fire scene.	OSHA General Duty Clause

For more information: Department of Labor Standards Call 508-616-0461 or email: [safepublicmailbox@mass.gov](mailto:safepublicmailbox@mass.gov)

For additional resources or to contact DLS, visit: [mass.gov/info-details/safetyworks-resources](https://mass.gov/info-details/safetyworks-resources).