



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Executive Office of Public Safety and Security
Department of Fire Services



CHARLES D. BAKER
GOVERNOR

KARYN E. POLITO
LT. GOVERNOR

DANIEL BENNETT
SECRETARY

P.O. Box 1025 ~ State Road

Stow, Massachusetts 01775

(978) 567~3100 Fax: (978) 567~3121

www.mass.gov/dfs

PETER J. OSTROSKEY
STATE FIRE MARSHAL

To: ALL PERSONS WHO MANAGE, PERFORM, SUPERVISE, OR DELEGATE HOT WORK

Subject: REQUIRED HOT WORK SAFETY TRAINING

We are reaching out to you for your assistance by helping us spread the word that there are important changes regarding the permitting of Hot Works in Massachusetts.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT

Following a March 26, 2014 fire that was sparked by unpermitted and improperly performed welding that tragically took the lives of two Boston Firefighters, one of the many lessons learned was that there was a lack of training and understanding surrounding hot works and hot works safety. The Board of Fire Prevention (BFPR) established a Hot Works Task Group in 2015 to make recommendations to the BFPR for incorporation into the regulations to increase safety awareness in an attempt to mitigate such tragedies from reoccurring. On January 1, 2018, the newly revised 527 CMR 1.00 Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code, included the Task Force recommendations, including Chapter 41, *Welding, Cutting, and Other Hot Works*.

WHO NEEDS TO KNOW

Welders
Plumbers
Sheet Metal Workers
Roofers
Pipefitters

Electrical Workers
Construction Contractors
Iron Workers
Utility Workers

As of July 1, 2018, individuals must receive training to be qualified to serve as a Permit Authorizing Individual (PAI) to perform, supervise or delegate hot work; as well as perform fire watches. This includes any person needing to secure a permit from the local fire department to conduct such work. A qualified person must provide documentation that he or she has successfully completed training approved by the State Fire Marshal in order to serve in any of these capacities. Successfully completed means that a certificate of completion has been issued to the individual with the date of completion on the certificate and a provider's/instructor's signature acknowledging such individual attended and completed the program.

TRAINING

Those persons who still require training may either attend a class or take the class on-line. Currently, there are two training programs either approved or pending approval by the State Fire Marshal. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) has training that is approved by the State Fire Marshal and more information is available on their website at (<https://www.nfpa.org/Training-and-Events/By-topic/Hot-Work>). Additionally, the State Fire Marshal's office is reviewing the Hot Works Training produced by Gould Construction Institute and pending final approval, will appear in their training calendar located on their website at (<http://www.gwgci.org/Training-Calendar/Other-Programs-Offered>).

For further information or assistance please contact the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services Code Compliance and Enforcement Unit at (978) 567-3375.