



With great thanks to Governor Bill Lee and the General Assembly, the State Fire Marshal's Office (SFMO) and the Commission on Firefighting (FFC) are pleased to announce the **Volunteer Educational Incentive Program (VEIP)** for volunteer firefighters. The SFMO recognizes the hard work and dedication of volunteer firefighters across the state and encourages volunteer firefighters to increase their training and certification which, in turn, provides a high degree of safety to firefighters and the communities they serve.

Designed to correspond with the current program for career firefighters, the VEIP will provide \$600 annually to volunteer firefighters for completing the program requirements of 30 hours of annual training with educational directives related to achieving Firefighter I certification. It is critical to note that based on feedback received from a number of stakeholders, the FFC extended the length of time for a number of requirements related to achieving Firefighter I certification, as outlined in the rules linked below. In short, volunteer firefighters will complete 30 hours of annual training, be required to complete Live Burn training within 36 months, and certify to the IFSAC/ProBoard Firefighter I certification within 60 months of joining the program.

The FFC has program oversight for the VEIP and has been working to provide training on the program rules. Fire Chiefs and Training Officers of fire departments impacted by the VEIP should review the [State of Tennessee Rule 0360-07 Educational Incentive](#) for program guidance and should contact their Regional Coordinator or the Commission Office with questions related to the program. Again, we are grateful for the opportunity to officially announce the VEIP which will serve to provide education and continued annual training and will help ensure that volunteer firefighters are prepared to encounter the ever-changing challenges faced by the fire service in Tennessee.

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