

Fire Inspectors Association of Nova Scotia (FIANS)

Fire Inspector Level 1 Certification program

April 2015

Home Study Program: As part of the FIANS Fire Inspector Level 1 Certification Program, the Home Study Program is a primary building block. The Home Study Program contains 6 modules capped off by a field inspection with your mentor and an exam. The intent of the program is for participants to complete the manual on their own. Each module requires the participant to read, on their own, parts of the manual as well as excerpts from other resources. At the end of each module, an assignment must be completed and forwarded to the course coordinator for review and grading. When numbers permit, FIANS will hold a 6 day session, spread out over three months where each module's contents are reviewed in a classroom environment. The classroom sessions are completed with a review and exam.

Legislation – Fire Safety Act & Regulations: This one day course provides an in depth study of the current legislation related to Fire Safety in Nova Scotia. Sections pertinent to fire inspection such as, Powers under the Act, Orders, Warrants and Appeals are examined in more detail. A final exam is part of this program.

NFPA 96 Course: This two day program covers NFPA 96 “Ventilation Control and Fire Protection for Commercial Cooking Operations.” This intensive study covers the application of the standard as well as the requirements related to the design, installation, maintenance and operation of grease ventilation and fixed fire protection equipment. The program includes an on-site inspection exercise and a final exam.

Basic Electrical Inspection: This one day program, facilitated by the Province of Nova Scotia Chief Electrical Inspector offers an overview of basic electrical safety and inspection. In this course, the basic building electrical systems are considered as well as the more common electrical safety hazards. This course includes a comprehensive reference handout and is an “attendance-only” program with no exam requirement.

NFPA 10: This one day program provides the basic information included in NFPA 10 “Portable Extinguishers.” Students are familiarized with the standard while focusing on the requirements for the selection, placement, inspection and maintenance of portable extinguishers in buildings. The course contains some practical components and a final exam.

Building Classification: This two day program deals with the basic requirements of the Nova Scotia Building Code as they relate to the determination of the basic information needed to properly classify a building. Occupancy type, building area, number of storeys and their related topics are covered in this program which also includes a practical component and a final exam. (Note: FIANS Level 1 applicants who are currently qualified in NS as a Level 1 Building Official will be granted with an equivalency for this course.)

Fire Protection for Small Buildings: This four day program provides a close look at parts of the Nova Scotia Building Code referenced in the National Fire Code of Canada relating to fire protection in Part 9 Buildings. Egress from floor areas, fire separations, spatial separations and fire alarm systems are just some of the topics covered in this course. It also includes a practical component and exam. (Note: FIANS Level 1 applicants who are currently qualified in NS as a Level 1 Building Official will be granted with an equivalency for this course.)

Fuel Safety: This three day program consists of three separate days of instruction, one each on the CAN/CSA-B-365 “Installation Code for Solid-Fuel-Burning Appliances and Equipment”, the CAN/CSA-B139 “Installation Code for Oil-Burning Equipment”, and the CAN/CSA-B149.1 and B149.2 “Natural Gas and Propane Installation, Storage and Handling Codes.” The programs contain some degree of practical components and examinations.

Hazmat Awareness: This one day program offered through the Nova Scotia Firefighters School provides students with a basic awareness of hazardous materials information and identification. It contains an exam component and is often offered throughout the province as part of the Fire School Outreach program. (Note: FIANS Level 1 applicants who have a current WHMIS certificate will be granted with an equivalency for this course.)

Basic Fire Alarm and Sprinkler Systems: This two day course provides participants with the basic knowledge related to the design, installation, inspection and maintenance of both fire alarm and automatic sprinkler systems. High level requirements of building and fire codes and their related referenced documents are covered. This program also contains practical components and exams.