

NZFS Volunteer Firefighter Qualification

EMQUAL and NZFS are working together to help Volunteer Firefighters gain the New Zealand Certificate in Fire and Rescue Services (Urban Fire and Rescue Operations) Level 2.

We are using a Recognition of Current Competency (RCC) process developed by EMQUAL and NZFS and agreed to by the NZFS National Training Advisory Group (NTAG).

RCC is an acknowledgement that, not only has learning taken place at some time, but also that the learning remains current.

How will this happen?

To start this process you will need to sign a Training Agreement to register for the New Zealand Certificate.

The New Zealand Certificate is made up of Unit Standards. Many of these Unit Standards will be achieved naturally in your role as a Volunteer Firefighter through courses and regular training.

This table shows where evidence for each of the Unit Standards comes from.

OSM	Unit Standards Achieved at NZFS Courses
3272	First Aid Unit Standards 6400 series or 26551 and 26552 25411 23406 Rural Unit Standards 3285 3286 3287 3288 20388
497	
3270	
26992	
26994	
3278	
3283	
20393*	
14557	
20386 (Pump operators only)	
3271	
4647	

* To achieve Unit Standard 20393 the CFO needs to sign an EMQUAL form for each individual volunteer to support evidence already available on OSM.

What else you need to know

What does a volunteer have to do?

No additional training is involved as long as volunteers are up to date and green on OSM.

EMQUAL will manage the rest of the process.

Does it cost anything?

No. NZFS has agreed to cover the cost

How long does it take?

The qualification usually takes eighteen (18) months. It could be less. It will depend on the green lights on OSM and brigade training. A minimum of three (3) months is needed by EMQUAL to complete all the paperwork.

Why would a volunteer do this?

- It recognises the skills gained as a volunteer.
- It is a recognition of a volunteer's time and contribution to their community.
- It is a nationally recognised qualification to keep.

What if the qualification changes?

EMQUAL will manage this. The volunteer will not be disadvantaged in gaining a qualification.

To find out more contact your Regional Advisor.

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