# Mississippi Fire Chief Designation Program

## Purpose
The purpose of this program is to provide an established set of standards for chiefs of fire departments in the State of Mississippi.

## What It Is
Beginning January 1, 2009, the Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association made available the designation of **Mississippi Fire Chief**. The opportunity to receive the designation of **Mississippi Fire Chief** shall be made available to those who demonstrate:
- their willingness to promote and support the Mississippi fire service
- the established knowledge, skills, and ability expected of a **Mississippi Fire Chief**.

The following designation levels are available:
- Level - I
- Level - II
- Level - III

All levels require a valid Mississippi driver's license, high school diploma, a minimum of 5 years of fire service experience, and current membership in the Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association. All candidates must also meet ethical, moral, and professional expectations.

## AVAILABLE LEVELS OF DESIGNATION

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Requirement</th>
<th>Level-I</th>
<th>Level-II</th>
<th>Level-III</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tenure as <strong>Fire Chief</strong></td>
<td>Basic Fire Fighter 1001-I or Volunteer Fire Fighter – I or 10 Years of Experience Prior to 1990</td>
<td>Basic Fire Fighter 1001-I or Volunteer Fire Fighter NFPA 1001-Based</td>
<td>Candidate must meet requirements for MS Fire Chief Level II, and; Complete “Certified Chief Fire Officer” through the center for Public Safety Excellence, Inc. Follow the link below for more information.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Fire Fighter Training</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fire Officer Training</strong></td>
<td>Fire Officer 1021-I or Volunteer Fire Officer - I or Fire Management 101 or Certified Rural Fire Officer</td>
<td>Fire Officer 1021-I &amp;II or Volunteer Fire Officer - I &amp;II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Higher Education Completed</td>
<td>NA</td>
<td>Approved Executive Fire Officer Program or Associate's Degree in fire service or management field or Bachelors Degree in fire service or management field</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*All qualifications are subject to revision after their original inception by approval of Fire Chiefs Association.*

[http://www.cpse.org/professional-credentialing/chief-fire-officer/application-information.aspx](http://www.cpse.org/professional-credentialing/chief-fire-officer/application-information.aspx)
Who Sponsors This Program?
This program is a consolidated effort between the Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association and the Mississippi State Fire Academy. This designation is not mandatory but is created and endorsed by the Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association.

Who Is Eligible?
This designation is available to personnel who currently serve in the position of fire chief. Personnel who serves in positions as Director of Fire Services, County Fire Coordinator, etc. are also eligible.

What Steps are Required to Become a designated Mississippi Fire Chief?
1. Obtain an application
   a. From the MFCA website
   b. From the Mississippi State Fire Academy website
   c. Contact the Mississippi Fire Chief Designation Program Coordinator @ 601-932-2444
2. Complete the application and forward it to the Mississippi Fire Chief Designation Program Coordinator.
   a. All applicable documents must be included.
   b. There is a $25.00 fee, Payable to Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association.
   c. Applications will be processed on a monthly basis.
3. Designation certificates will be presented at the annual summer conference.
4. Your designation is valid for a 2-year period and must be renewed before the end of the 2-year period.

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Section I – General Information

Last Name: ________________________________  First Name: ________________________________

Official Title: _____________________________________

Fire Department or Organization Represented: _______________________________________

Contact Information:
  Email address: ____________________________________________________________________
  Mailing Address: _________________ ____________________________
                  Street Address __________________________________________
                  City _______________ State _______________ Zip Code ___________
  Telephone Numbers: Office: _______________ Cell: _______________ Other: _______________

Section II – Standard Requirements

1. Do you have a current Mississippi driver’s license?  …………………………………………...   YES   NO
   (Remember to include a copy.)

2. Do you have a high school diploma or GED?  ………………………………………………...   YES   NO
   (Remember to include a copy.)

3. Do you have at least five (5) years of fire service experience?  ……………………………...   YES   NO
   (Remember to include a letter or other proof of this experience.)

4. Are you a current member of the MS Fire Chiefs Association?  ……………………………...   YES   NO
   (Remember to include a copy of your membership card.)

5. Do you meet the ethical, moral, and professional standards expected of a fire service administrator? ……………………………………………………………………   YES   NO

Section III- Indicate the level of designation you are applying to receive

☐ Level - I    ☐ Level - II    ☐ Level – III

Must include copies of applicable certificates, diplomas, degrees, etc. in application package.
Also, include document to verify the tenure based on the level you are requesting.

For candidates who are applying for re-designation only, List the expiration
date:______________

Send completed packages to:  Mississippi State Fire Academy
  MS Fire Chief/Chief Fire Officer Designation Program
  #1 Fire Academy U.S.A., Jackson, MS 39208

Send $25 application fee to:  Mississippi Fire Chiefs Association, Attn: Richard Watkins, P.O. Box 5231
  Jackson, MS 39296-5231

For questions and more information, please contact: Steven Ashby, sashby@msfa.ms.gov , 601-932-2444