ORGANIZATION & ADMINISTRATION

Board of Directors

M. H. Jim Estepp, Chair
(IAFC)
Steven T. Edwards
(At-Large)
Roger Krupp
(IAAI)
Joshua Smith
(IAFF)
Brian Brauer
(Ex-officio, COA Chair)
Nicole Newville
(Ex-officio, Executive Secretary)

James A. Burns, Vice Chair
(NASFM)
John Cunningham
(NAFTD)
Barry Chase
(NFPA)
John Culbertson
(Advisory Committee Chair)
Robert W. Rand
(Ex-officio, Accreditation Manager)

The National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro Board) was founded solely to enhance the job performance and credibility of those individuals within the fire service and allied professions. The Pro Board is incorporated as a non-profit organization and all funds received through the National Registry and certificate distribution are reinvested back into the program. A Board of Directors administers the system and consists of one member from the International Association of Arson Investigators, Inc. (IAAI), the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC), the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM), the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the North American Fire Training Directors (NAFTD), the International Association of Fire Fighters, one member At-Large and the Chair of the Pro Board Advisory Committee. The Accreditation Manager, The Chair of the Committee on Accreditation, and the Executive Secretary serve as a non-voting, ex-officio members on the Board. The Board of Director's primary responsibility is to set policy for the system and ensure fiscal stability for continued operation.

Committee on Accreditation

Brian Brauer, COA Chair
Robert W. Rand, COA Vice Chair, Accreditation Manager

(Annual appointments by the Board of Directors)

Steve Gervais
Martinez Jacobs
Alan Joos
Michael Lee
Mark Pare

Effective 01-2026

Vilma Perez-Atwood
Tracey Johnson
Chris Senaratne
Daniel Smith
R. Craig Richardson (Agency Development, Nonvoting-Staff)
Keegan Standring (Technical Analyst, Nonvoting- Staff)
Ryan Snow (Technical Analyst, Nonvoting- Staff)
Fred Piechota, (Special Projects, Nonvoting- Staff)

(Terms expiring at the 2027 Advisory Committee Meeting)
Andrela Riley
Matt Sherwood

(Terms expiring at the 2028 Advisory Committee Meeting)
Emma Thomas
Tara Youngblood

(Terms expiring at the 2029 Advisory Committee Meeting)
John Culbertson (Advisory Committee Chair)
Lisa Pine
Peter Dodge
James Burgess (Alternate #1)
Ken Fowler (Alternate #2)

The Committee on Accreditation (COA) is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the Pro Board's accreditation activities. The COA reviews accreditation and reaccreditation self-assessment documents; conducts initial and 5-year site visit evaluations; approves or denies requests for accreditation or reaccreditation; and ensures compliance with the operating procedures of the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications. The Advisory Committee elects seven members and two alternates to the COA, and the Board of Directors appoints the remaining members. Members representing the Advisory Committee are elected in alternating years for three-year terms and they may be elected to successive terms. Members serving at the pleasure of the Board of Directors are appointed annually. The Advisory Committee elects one member from the Advisory Committee to serve as its chairperson; and that person also serves as a member on the Board of Directors and one of the members of the Committee on Accreditation. The Advisory Committee Chairperson is elected for a three-year term and may be re-elected to consecutive terms.

In the event an elected position becomes vacant, the next alternate shall be placed in the open position for a 3-year term and will be eligible for re-election. Except for the Accreditation Manager, the COA Chair and the Technical Analysts, people serving on the COA do not receive compensation for their participation but are reimbursed for their expenses. The COA shall meet at least quarterly and have two-thirds of the members present for a quorum. To preserve the integrity and impartiality of the accreditation process, individuals serving on the COA shall not concurrently hold leadership positions—defined as executive, board-level, or strategic roles—with any organization that offers a similar accreditation program.

Advisory Committee

Advisory Committee Chair – John Culbertson *(Term expires at the 2029 Advisory Committee Meeting)*

The committee will consist of representatives of the following agencies:

United States Agencies

Alabama Fire College and Personnel Standards Commission
Alaska Fire Standards Council
Arkansas Fire Training Academy
Bucks County Public Safety Training Center (PA)
California Department of Forestry – Office of the Fire Marshal
California Specialized Training Institute
Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control
Colorado Metropolitan Certification Board (CMCB)
Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection, Commission on Fire Prevention and Control
Delaware State Fire School
Fire Department Safety Officers Association (FDSOA)
Florida Bureau of Fire Standards and Training
Georgia Firefighter Standards and Training Council
Great Oaks Career Campuses – Public Safety Services (OH)
Illinois Fire Service Institute
International Association of Arson Investigators
International Association of Fire Chiefs
International Association of Fire Fighters
Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau
Lake Area Technical Institute (SD)
Louisiana State University Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute
Maine Fire Service Institute
Maryland Fire Services Personnel Qualifications Board
Massachusetts Fire Training Council
Michigan State Police, Fire Marshal Division
Minnesota Fire Service Certification Board
Mississippi State Fire Academy
Missouri Division of Fire Safety
Montana State University Fire Service Training School
National Aeronautics and Space Administration
National Fire Protection Association
National Park Service
Nebraska State Fire Marshal
New Hampshire Department of Public Safety – Division of Fire Standards and Training
New Jersey Division of Fire Safety
New Mexico Fire Academy
New York State Office of Fire Prevention and Control
North Carolina Fire Rescue Commission
North Dakota Firefighters Association

Ohio Department of Public Safety – Division of EMS
Oklahoma State University Fire Service Training
Pennsylvania Office of the State Fire Commissioner
Regional Alliance for Firefighter Training RAFT (MI)
Rhode Island Fire Academy
Sinclair Community College (OH)
South Carolina Fire Academy
State of Hawaii Department of Transportation – Airports Division
Tennessee Commission on Firefighting Personnel Standards and Education
Texas A&M Emergency Services Training Institute
United States Department of Defense Firefighter Certification System
University of Kansas Fire Service Training
Utah Fire and Rescue Academy
Vermont Fire Service Training Council
Virginia Department of Fire Programs
Washington State Fire Marshal's Office
West Virginia University Fire Service Extension
Wisconsin Regional Emergency All-Climate Training Center
Wyoming Department of Fire Prevention and Electrical Safety

Canadian Agencies

British Columbia – College of the Rockies
British Columbia – Justice Institute
British Columbia – Vancouver Island Emergency Response Academy
Manitoba Emergency Services College
National Indigenous Fire Safey Council
New Brunswick Office of the Fire Marshal
Nova Scotia Fire Service Professional Qualifications Board
Office of the Fire Commissioner – Alberta Municipal Affairs
Ontario – Office of the Fire Marshal
Quebec National Fire Academy

Overseas Agencies

Arab Fire Safety and Security Academy
Fire Service Academy – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
Fire Service College- United Kingdom
Global National Training Institute
International Company for Security Services and Training (Qatar)
JAHEZIYA (UAE)
Pacific Region Aircraft Rescue & Firefighting Training Center, Saipan, CNMI
SABIC Emergency Response Academy (SERA)
Saudi Aramco Fire Protection Department
United Arab Emirates- Civil Defense Academy

The Advisory Committee is a standing committee consisting of one representative from each accredited agency as established by the Board of Directors in accordance with the By-Laws of the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications. The purpose of the Advisory Committee is to advise the Board of Directors on procedural and policy issues as well as improvements to the system. People selected to serve on the Advisory Committee are appointed by their Accredited Agency.

The Advisory Committee elects one member from the Committee to serve as its chairperson; and that person also serves as a member on the Board of Directors and a member of the Committee on Accreditation. The Chairperson is elected for a three-year term and may be re-elected to consecutive terms.

The Advisory Committee elects seven members (and two alternates) from the Committee to serve on the Committee on Accreditation (COA). Each elected member serves a three-year term and may be re-elected to consecutive terms.

The Advisory Committee meets annually at a time and place designated by the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors may also call special meetings of the Advisory Committee.

Advisory Committee Eligibility Policy

For the purposes of this policy, a "designated individual" is defined as (in order of succession):

1) the Agency Director as indicated on the accredited agency's Application for Accreditation, or as amended;
2) the specified "Contact Person"; or,
3) in their absence, a person designated in writing by the Agency Director.

The designated individual:

1) shall be the official spokesperson for the agency during the Advisory Committee meeting;
2) shall be entitled to vote on behalf of the agency; and
3) shall be eligible for stipends and/or reimbursements when such stipends and/or reimbursements are approved by the Board of Directors.

All designated individuals shall be identifiable during the Advisory Committee meeting.

Attendance at Advisory Committee meetings shall be open to any interested parties. Participation in Advisory Committee meetings is restricted to designated individuals and to other people that the Advisory Committee Chair recognizes.

If a person elected by the Advisory Committee to any position loses their eligibility which allowed their initial election, it shall be incumbent upon the individual to notify the Advisory Committee Chair upon any change in their eligibility status. The individual shall be allowed to serve out the remainder of his/her term with appropriate documentation from both the new and past organizations. Specifically, to be eligible to continue to serve in the elected position, the individual shall be required to produce, within 45 days of losing their eligibility, written documentation from their original organization that the organization is agreeable to the individual continuing to serve in the capacity and written documentation from their new organization (if applicable) the individual will have full support to fulfill the duties and obligations of the elected position.

Effective 01-2026

Awards Selection Committee

This Committee shall make the selection for the recipients of the following awards:

The Johnny G. Wilson Memorial Award
The Chief V. Kenneth Elmore Memorial Award

- A member of the Board of Directors serving as Chair of the Committee.
- Four of the elected members of the Committee on Accreditation, appointed by the Board of Directors, serve staggered 3-year terms of which one is an alternate.

John Culbertson	*(Term expires in 2028)*
Tracey Johnson	*(Term expires in 2026)*
Lisa Pine	*(Term expires in 2026)*
Emma Thomas (Alternate)	*(Term expires in 2028)*

- The Committee on Accreditation Chair
- The Accreditation Manager (Non-voting)