

**CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT  
FINAL EXAMINATION BIBLIOGRAPHY  
2026 BATTALION CHIEF**

FINAL: 11/21/2025

The exam application filing dates will be **December 16 - 30, 2025**. The written examination for Battalion Chief will be held on **Saturday, February 21, 2026**, at a location to be determined.

NOTE: New reference material issued after November 21, 2025, will NOT be included on the written examination portion of the process.

Candidates who pass the written examination will be scheduled for the oral board portion of the examination (assessment center), tentatively scheduled for May 11-15, 2026. **\*NEW\*** for Fire promotional examinations, the PSCSC updated Rule 9.12, which means candidates must achieve a passing score on the oral boards to be placed on the Register.

Please see the "Outline of the Command Job" for the general scope of the promotional examination. The assessment center examination exercises will be based on the 1) skills and abilities identified by the job analysis as critical for successful job performance as a Battalion Chief, 2) information from the Promotion Development Committee who serve as subject matter experts, and 3) reading materials in the bibliography. Therefore, the assessment center topics are not limited to materials on the bibliography.

Please contact the Civil Service Department Public Safety Exams Unit Yoshiko Grace Matsui ([yoshiko.gracematsui@seattle.gov](mailto:yoshiko.gracematsui@seattle.gov)) or Thivia Mogan ([thivia.mogan@seattle.gov](mailto:thivia.mogan@seattle.gov)) if you have any questions on the bibliography or the exam process.

[PDF copies of some bibliography sources may be found here.](#)

A bibliography of study material on which the written examination will be based includes the following:

| TITLE                                                                                                         | CONTENTS                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| OPERATIONS                                                                                                    |                                                                                                                                              |
| Brannigan's Building Construction for the Fire Service 6th Edition by Glenn Corbett, Francis Brannigan (2019) | All (Excluding all case studies, wrap-ups, tactical considerations, tables, figures, words from Brannigan, and Appendices.)                  |
| Art of Reading Buildings by Mittendorf, Dodson, Fire Engineering Books & Videos (2015)                        | Chapters: 2 (pages 11-13), 3 (pages 29-42), 4 (pages 52-82), 5 (pages 101-103), 7 (pages 141-164), 8 (pages 165-199), 10 (pages 258-279), 11 |
|                                                                                                               | Rapid Street Read Guides:                                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                               | SFD 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8                                                                                                                         |
|                                                                                                               | MFD 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                               | COM 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25                                                                                                                   |
|                                                                                                               | MANF 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32                                                                                                              |
|                                                                                                               | OFF 33, 34, 36, 37, 38                                                                                                                       |
|                                                                                                               | INST 39, 40, 41, 42                                                                                                                          |

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|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                              | PUB 43, 44, 45, 47,                                                                 |
|                                                                                              | MISC 49, 50, 51, 52                                                                 |
|                                                                                              | (Excluding Interior and Exterior Features.)                                         |
| D1SIR, SFD                                                                                   | 8820 Nesbit Ave N. (9-9-2024)                                                       |
|                                                                                              | SB I-5 at Lakeview (7-28-2022)                                                      |
|                                                                                              | 14324 Fremont Ave N. (2-7-2025)                                                     |
|                                                                                              | 2800 S. Massachusetts St. (9-22-2024)                                               |
| Fire Incident Safety Officer 3rd Edition by David W. Dodson, Jones & Barlett Learning (2020) | Chapters 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 9, 10, 12 (Excluding Figures, Awareness tips and Wrap-ups.) |
| Maydays by the Numbers by Don Abbott, Mayday Project                                         | All                                                                                 |
| Mayday Communications Clues by Donald Abbott, Firehouse Magazine, Feb. 1, 2018               | All                                                                                 |
| Post Incident Analysis Reports, SFD                                                          | North 48 St. Multiple Fatality Fire (9-2-2023)                                      |
|                                                                                              | Sturgis Ave South 3-11 (08-20-2020)                                                 |
| SOGs, SFD                                                                                    | Including all corresponding command sheets and reference documents (if applicable). |
|                                                                                              | Defensive Fire (03-12-2025)                                                         |
|                                                                                              | Derelict Building (03-12-2025)                                                      |
|                                                                                              | Electrical Vault (04-29-2021)                                                       |
|                                                                                              | Fire in Building with Barricaded Suspect (10-24-2023)                               |
|                                                                                              | Fireground Communications (03-12-2025)                                              |
|                                                                                              | General Command Operations (12-02-2020)                                             |
|                                                                                              | General Fire Operations (10-12-2023)                                                |
|                                                                                              | Hazardous Materials (04-19-2019)                                                    |
|                                                                                              | High-Rise (09-29-2020)                                                              |
|                                                                                              | Low-Rise (05-24-2021)                                                               |
|                                                                                              | Marine Fire (5-20-2025)                                                             |
|                                                                                              | Mayday (08-03-2019)                                                                 |
|                                                                                              | Multiple Casualty Incident (09-07-2023)                                             |
|                                                                                              | Natural Gas (02-24-2025)                                                            |
|                                                                                              | Rapid Intervention Team (08-06-2019)                                                |
|                                                                                              | Rescue - Elevator (09-07-2025)                                                      |
|                                                                                              | Rescue - Rope (03-10-2023)                                                          |
|                                                                                              | Rescue - Water (01-17-2022)                                                         |
|                                                                                              | Rescue Extrication - Vehicle (09-06-2022)                                           |
|                                                                                              | Scene of Violence (01-17-2022)                                                      |
|                                                                                              | Single-Family Residence (10-12-2023)                                                |
|                                                                                              | State Route 99 Tunnel (02-01-2019)                                                  |
|                                                                                              | Water Supply Group (10-23-2025)                                                     |
| Training Guides Manuals, SFD                                                                 | #08-04 Limited Access Roadway                                                       |
|                                                                                              | #08-05 Vehicle Collision Investigation                                              |

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|                                                                                                                                                         | #10-02 Confined Space                                                                                                                                |
|                                                                                                                                                         | #10-4 Structural Collapse                                                                                                                            |
|                                                                                                                                                         | #10- 8 Trench Rescue                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                                                                                                                         | #10-11 Seattle Street Car Emergency Response Info                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                         | #18-2 Incident Command                                                                                                                               |
|                                                                                                                                                         | #20-2 Electrical Safety for Firefighters                                                                                                             |
| UL Firesafety Institute                                                                                                                                 | Technical Reports only - videos are not assigned.                                                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Analysis of the Coordination of Suppression and Ventilation in Multi-Family Dwellings - Chapter 5 "Tactical Considerations"                          |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Analysis of the Coordination of Suppression and Ventilation in Single-Family Homes - Chapter 5 "Tactical Considerations"                             |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Exploratory Analysis of the Impact of Ventilation on Strip Mall Fires - Chapter 5 "Tactical Considerations"                                          |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Impact of Ventilation on Fire Behavior in Legacy and Contemporary Residential Construction - Chapter 9 "Tactical Considerations"                     |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Study of the Effectiveness of Fire Service Vertical Ventilation and Suppression Tactics in Single Family Homes - Chapter 6 "Tactical Considerations" |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Study of Residential Attic Fire Mitigation Tactics and Exterior Fire Spread Hazards on Fire Fighter Safety - Chapter 10 "Tactical Considerations"    |
|                                                                                                                                                         | Understanding and Fighting Basement Fires – Chapter 6 “Tactical Considerations”                                                                      |
| <b>EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES</b>                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                      |
| Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured, 9th Edition, AAOS, Jones and Bartlett Publishers                                             | Chapter 3 (Pages 72-84, excluding "You are the Provider" sections.)                                                                                  |
| <b>LEADERSHIP AND CULTURE</b>                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                      |
| 2022-2026 Strategic Plan by Race & Social Justice Initiative, City of Seattle                                                                           | All                                                                                                                                                  |
| A Guide to Managing Stress for Disaster Responders and First Responders by Substance Abuse and Mental by Health Services Administration, September 2022 | All                                                                                                                                                  |
| Chief Officer: Principles and Practice: Principles and Practice 3rd Edition by David J. Purchase, Jones and Bartlett Publishers (2019)                  | All (Excluding "Voices of Experience, You are the Chief Officer Summary, Wrap-Up", and Chapter 10)                                                   |
| Crucial Influence, Third Edition: Leadership Skills to Create Lasting Behavior Change by Joseph Grenny et al, McGraw Hill (2023)                        | All                                                                                                                                                  |
| Effective Supervisory Practices: Better Results Through Teamwork (Municipal Management Series) 4th Edition, by Scot Wrighton (August 1, 2005)           | Chapters 1, 3, 4, 5, 9-11, 16, 17                                                                                                                    |

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| Is Everyone Really Equal?, 2nd Edition, by Sensoy, DiAngelo, and Banks (2017)                                                                                                             | Chapters 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 (Excluding "Discussion Questions" and "Extension Activities".) |
| Fire Service Discrimination & Harassment Toolkit by National Volunteer Fire Council, Women in Fire (2023)                                                                                 | All                                                                                   |
| Sexual Harassment Prevention Training Manual for Managers and Supervisors, Third Edition, by Paul Gibson, J.D., S.P.H.R. and Marjorie A. Johnson, J.D (2005)                              | All                                                                                   |
| Strategies for Increasing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in Fire and Emergency Services by King County Fire Chiefs Association, prepared by Plumb Research Services LLC (February 2021) | All                                                                                   |
| The Leader's Guide to Unconscious Bias: How To Reframe Bias, Cultivate Connection, and Create High-Performing Teams by Pamela Fuller, Mark Murphy, Anne Chow, Simon & Schuster (2020)     | Chapters 1 -13 (Excluding narrative stories, end-of-chapter activities.)              |
| <b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                       |
| Local 2898 Union Contract (Effective January 1, 2022 to Dec 31 2026)                                                                                                                      | All                                                                                   |
| Local 27 Union Contract (Effective January 1, 2022 to Dec 31 2026)                                                                                                                        | Articles 7, 8, 10, 11, 13 -15, 18, 20 and MOA Staffing                                |
| Public Safety Civil Service Commission Rules of Practice and Procedure, Amended April 18, 2025                                                                                            | Rules 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13                                                         |
| Policies and Operating Guidelines, SFD (Revised November 2025 – pdf version only)                                                                                                         | Including all Policies that relate to the Guidelines listed below.                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | Volume I                                                                              |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 1000 – 1002                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 2001 (Pages 21 -23)                                                                   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3002 – 3005                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3008                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3011                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3012                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3014                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 3017                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 4003 - 4005                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | Volume II                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5001 - 5019                                                                           |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5501                                                                                  |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 5502 (Pages 1 -4)                                                                     |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 6002-6004                                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 6005 (Pages 1, and 7 - 9)                                                             |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 6006 (Pages 10-16)                                                                    |
|                                                                                                                                                                                           | 6007                                                                                  |

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|                                                                           | 6009 - 6010                                                                       |
|                                                                           | 7007                                                                              |
|                                                                           | 7008                                                                              |
|                                                                           | 8006                                                                              |
|                                                                           | 8009                                                                              |
|                                                                           | 9001                                                                              |
|                                                                           | 9002                                                                              |
|                                                                           | 9003                                                                              |
| Safety Standards for Firefighters 296-305 WAC<br>(Updated 2023)           | Sections: 01501, 01503, 01507, 01509, 01511, 02012,<br>05000, 05002, 05101, 05113 |
| Outline of the Command Job, Fire & Police Exams<br>Unit (rev. 11-19-2025) | All                                                                               |