

**CIVIL SERVICE DEPARTMENT
FINAL EXAMINATION BIBLIOGRAPHY
2026 FIRE CAPTAIN**

FINAL: 11/21/2025

The exam application filing dates will be **December 16 - 30, 2025**. The written examination for Fire Captain 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 April 20 – 25, 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 Fire Captain, 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) or Thivia Mogan (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	
2024 Emergency Response Guidebook by J. J. Keller & Associates (2024)	Inside cover, pages 4-15, 18-27, 28, 88, 148-149, 280-282, 283 - 290, 344-357, 360-366 (Excluding table on 366), 372
Art of Reading Buildings by Mittendorf, Dodson, Fire Engineering Books & Videos (2015)	Chapters: 2, 3, 4 (pages 52-82), 5 (pages 101-103, up to and excluding size considerations), 7 (pages 141 starting at foundation types -164), 8, 10 (pages 258 starting from building size-up - 279), 11. (Excluding review exercises.) 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

	PUB 43, 44, 45, 47,
	MISC 49, 50, 51, 52
	(Excluding Interior and Exterior Features)
D1SIR, SFD	7414 Winona Ave N. (8-16-2023)
	9300 Aurora Ave N (8-10-2024)
	3295 SW Avalon Way (4-03-2021)
	8820 Nesbit Ave N. (9-9-2024)
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 - Vancouver WA	Electrocution Fatality Ash St; Vancouver, WA (12 -27- 2024)
Post Incident Analysis Report - SFD Responses	North 48 St Multiple Fatality Fire (9-2-2023)
SOGs, SFD	Including all corresponding command sheets and research documents (if applicable)
	Defensive Fire (03-12-2025)
	Derelect 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)
	Water Supply Group (10-23-2025)
Training Guides, SFD	#08-04 Limited Access Roadway
	#10-02 Confined Space (Pages 1-16)
	#18-2 Incident Command Pages 1-12 to "Tab Three"
	#18-08 Search - Single Family Residence
	#18-08 Search - Single Family Residence - Appendix A

	#20-2 Electrical Safety for Firefighters
UL Firefighter Safety 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"
	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”
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES	
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.)
Seattle and King County 2023 EMT Patient Care Guidelines	Pages 5-54 (includes stroke guidelines) Pages 72-73 Pages 116-124 Pages 79-101 (includes Decisional Capacity Pages 66-68 (SFD CPR Flowchart)
LEADERSHIP & CULTURE	
2022-2026 Strategic Plan, Race & Social Justice Initiative, City of Seattle	All
A Big Picture Approach to Personnel Issues, Chief Paul Atwater	All
A Guide to Managing Stress for Disaster Responders and First Responders by Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, September 2022	All
Beating the Workplace Bully: A Tactical Guide to Taking Charge by Lynne Curry, Harper Collins Leadership (2016)	Chapters 25-28
Crucial Accountability: Tools for Resolving Violated Expectations, Broken Commitments, and Bad Behavior, Second Edition by Patterson, et al (2013)	All (Excluding all sections which are highlighted in shaded boxes or begin with "My Crucial Conversation" or “Vital Smarts” and references to online learning module.)
The Effect of Servant Leadership on Employee Engagement in the Fire Service by Dr. Michael Jay Williams, Jr. Firehouse Magazine January 7, 2025	All

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
First In, Last Out: Leadership Lessons from the New York Fire Department by John Salka, Portfolio, 2005	Chapters 2-11
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 and end-of- chapter activities.)
Workplace Bullying, Emotional Abuse and Harassment in Fire Departments, John C. Griffith and Donna L. Roberts, Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University 2018	All
ADMINISTRATIVE	
Local 27 Union Contract (Effective January 1, 2022 to Dec 31 2026)	Articles 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 13, 15, 20
Memos, SFD	No. 32-21 Selection and Assignment for Admin
	No. 115-23 MOA - Staffing Shortage Pilot Program - Phase 2 Extended
PSCSC Rules 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
	1005 – 1007
	2001 All (Excluding 2001.101 starting at "Battalion II, Station 2")
	2002
	3002 – 3005
	3007
	3008
	3009
	3010 (pages 1-10 to the funeral support matrix)
	3011-3013
	3015
	3017 - 3018
	4000, All (Excluding 4006 and 4007)
	Volume II
	5001
	5003-5005
	5007 (pages 1-5)
	5010-5013
	5015
	5016

	5018
	5501
	5502
	5505 - 5507
	6002-6010
	7002
	7004 (Pages 1-4, excluding all charts.)
	7005-7007
	7008 (Pages 1-4, and 29-33)
	8009
Outline of the Command Job, Fire & Police Exams Unit (rev. 11-19- 2025)	All