



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

Effective March 1, 2026:

- All certification candidates are required to maintain an active Acadis user portal account. (Acadis portal location = OSFC website/ Training and Certification Portal, or click here: [ENVISAGE Acadis®](#))
- All certification candidates are to be registered with the designated test site and rostered for the certification test.
- All certification candidates are to be registered within Acadis for the certification test.
(You will need to register twice for the certification test, with the test site *and* Acadis)

Aerial – Driver/Operator Skill Stations NFPA 1002 – Chapters 4 and 6 (2017 Edition)

Station A	Preventive Maintenance	Mandatory Station
Station B	Driving, Public Roadway	Mandatory Station
Station C	Obstruction Navigation	Mandatory Station
Station D	Aerial Pre-Use Inspection	Mandatory Station
Station E	Aerial Positioning & Operating (<i>See Note Below</i>)	Mandatory Station
Station F	Emergency Lowering of an Aerial	Random Station
Station G	Elevated Master Streams	Random Station
Station H	Fixed Equipment Operation	Random Station

NOTE: For Skill Stations A, B, and C there are equivalencies that meet the competency criteria which will be accepted as successful completion of the stations. The following documentation is required:

- Skill Station A, Preventative Maintenance - Valid CDL with no restrictions (Tank and Air Brake)
- Skill Station B, Driving, Public Roadway - Valid CDL with no restrictions (Tank and Air Brake)
- Skill Station C, Obstruction Navigation - Valid CDL with no restrictions (Tank and Air Brake)

OR

PSFA EVDT/EVOC course, 16 hours (See Notes Below)

Emergency Vehicle Driver Training (EVDT) - An EVDT certificate **MUST** indicate the type of apparatus / vehicle operated by the candidate to complete the obstacle course. If unable to verify type / size of apparatus utilized to complete the training, Station C becomes mandatory.

Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC) - If using EVOC for Station C (Obstruction Navigation), the candidate **MUST** provide a certificate of attendance for a 16-hour Emergency Vehicle Operators Course in which the individual completed the course using the aerial device in question. If the candidate is unable to verify type / size of apparatus utilized to complete the training, Station C becomes mandatory.

To prove pre-existing competency in a skill station, ALL documentation MUST be submitted with the application BEFORE the test begins.

NOTE - Station E: If the candidate is using an elevating platform, the candidate needs to operate the aerial device from both positions (i.e., turntable and platform) to meet the JPR 6.2.3 requirement.



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION A – Preventive Maintenance		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 4 Mandatory Station JPRs 4.2.1, 4.2.2	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type _____Initial _____Retest

Evaluator Note: For any item deemed not applicable, please note N/A and calculate PASS based on the remaining applicable “Yes” marks.

Directions: Using appropriate PPE and given the manufacturer’s specifications, and local procedures, perform visual and operational checks on the systems and components of a fire department apparatus, and service and correct (as able) any deficiencies found so that the operational status of the apparatus is verified. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **15 of 15** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Checks battery(s) for condition, connections, charging, and fluid		
2	Checks braking system for damage, leaks, high pressure cut off, & low air warning		
3	Checks coolant system for leaks, hose conditions, and system integrity		
4	Checks vehicle electrical system, including functionality of all components		
5	Checks fuel system integrity		
6	Checks hydraulic fluids and system integrity (if applicable)		
7	Checks oil and other fluids for capacity and system integrity		
8	Checks tire thread depth, thread wear, condition, and pressure		
9	Check the steering system for smooth operation, fluid levels, excessive free play and system integrity		
10	Checks belts for wear, tension, and condition		
11	Checks that all tools, appliances and equipment are securely mounted		
12	Checks built-in safety features (if applicable)		
13	Recognizes a system problem(s) and document on departmental forms the visual and operational checks and reports any deficiencies according to policies		
14	Utilizes hand tools to correct any noted problem in accord with department policy (if applicable)		
15	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator’s Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION B – Driving on Public Roadways		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 4 Mandatory Station JPR 4.3.1	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____ Initial ____ Retest

Evaluator Note: For an item is deemed not applicable, note N/A and calculate PASS based on the remaining applicable “Yes” marks (i.e., no tiller unit then PASS based on 15 of 15 tasks).

Directions: Operate a fire department vehicle, given a vehicle and a predetermined route on a public roadway that incorporates the maneuvers and features as specified in the following tasks which a driver/operator is expected to encounter during normal operations, so that the vehicle is safely operated in compliance with all applicable state and local laws and departmental rules and regulations. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **16 of 16** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Utilizes passenger restraint systems as appropriate		
2	Adjusts mirrors, seat height and steering wheel as appropriate		
3	Scans dashboard instruments routinely and can provide instrument information		
4	Negotiates four left and four right turns		
5	Negotiates a straight section of urban business street or two-lane rural road of at least 1 mile (1.6 km) in length		
6	Negotiates one through-intersection and two intersections where a stop must be made		
7	Negotiates one railroad crossing		
8	Negotiates one curve (either left or right)		
9	Negotiates a section of limited-access highway which includes a conventional ramp entrance and exit, and a section of road long enough to allow two lane changes.		
10	Negotiates a downgrade steep and long enough to require downshifting and braking		
11	Negotiates an upgrade steep and long enough to require gear change to maintain speed		
12	Negotiates one underpass or a low clearance bridge		
13	Maintains a safe following distance with other vehicles throughout the trip		
14	Operates apparatus in accordance with all applicable posted speed limits, lane restrictions and height/weight restrictions		
15	Identifies the height, weight, and length of the apparatus		
16	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION C – Obstruction Navigation		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 4 Mandatory Station JPRs 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.6	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type _____ Initial _____ Retest

Directions: Operate a fire department vehicle, given a vehicle and a predetermined route on a public roadway which incorporates the maneuvers and features specified in the following tasks which a driver/operator is expected to encounter during normal operations, so that the vehicle is safely operated in compliance with all applicable state and local laws and departmental rules and regulations. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **6 of 6** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Back a vehicle from a roadway into a restricted space from both the right and left sides of the vehicle, given a fire department vehicle, a spotter, and restricted spaces 12ft (3.66 m) in width, requiring 90-degree right-hand and left-hand turns from the roadway, so that the vehicle is parked within the restricted area without having to stop and pull forward and without striking obstructions.		
2	Operate the vehicle around roadway obstructions while moving forward and in reverse, given a fire department vehicle, a spotter for backing, and a roadway with obstructions, so that the vehicle is maneuvered through the obstructions without stopping to change direction of travel and without striking obstructions.		
3	Turn a fire department vehicle 180 degrees within a confined space, given a fire department vehicle, a spotter for backing, and an area in which the vehicle cannot perform a U-turn without stopping and backing up, so that the vehicle is turned 180 degrees without striking obstructions within the confined space.		
4	Maneuver a fire department vehicle in areas with restricted horizontal and vertical clearances, given a fire department vehicle and a course requiring the operator to move through areas with restricted horizontal and vertical clearances, so that the operator accurately judges the ability of the vehicle to pass through the openings and that no obstructions are hit.		
5	Operate a fire department vehicle using defensive driving techniques under emergency conditions so that vehicle control is maintained.		
6	Demonstrates ability to utilize mirrors while operating the apparatus		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____

Evaluator # _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION D – Aerial Pre-Use Inspection		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 6 Mandatory Station JPR 6.1.1	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type _____ Initial _____ Retest

Evaluator Note: For any item deemed not applicable, please note N/A and calculate PASS based on the remaining applicable “Yes” marks.

Directions: Given a fire department aerial apparatus, manufacturer’s specifications, and while using appropriate PPE, perform a visual and operations check to determine the readiness of an aerial device on an aerial apparatus. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **17 of 17** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Visually checks cable systems (if applicable)		
2	Check hydraulic lines for leaks and tank level		
3	Operates PTO and checks operation		
4	Checks slides and rollers.		
5	Checks stabilizer system		
6	Checks leveling devices (if applicable)		
7	Checks all safety systems / interlocks		
8	Checks hydraulic pressure gauges		
9	Checks load indicating devices (tip load/platform capacity if applicable)		
10	Checks breathing air systems (if applicable)		
11	Checks communication system		
12	Checks master stream / waterway		
13	Check tools, appliances and equipment for proper mounting		
14	Utilizes hand tools for inspection in accord with department policy (if applicable)		
15	Recognizes a system problem(s) and corrects deficiencies according to policies (if applicable) (6.1.1)		
16	Document on departmental forms the visual and operational checks and report any deficiencies		
17	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION E – Aerial Positioning and Operating		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 6 Mandatory Station JPRs 6.2.1, 6.2.2, 6.2.3	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type _____ Initial _____ Retest

Evaluator Note: For any item deemed not applicable, please note N/A and calculate PASS based on the remaining applicable “Yes” marks. **Please make sure items 6, 11, and 13 are appropriately marked.**

Directions: Given an incident location, maneuver and position the aerial apparatus so that the aerial device (i.e., ladder or platform) is properly deployment for rescue and ventilation activities. The candidate will position the aerial for operations to a window and for roof operations. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **18 of 18** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Area is assessed for hazards (i.e., overhead wires, collapse zone, terrain)		
2	A spotter is used for positioning (if needed)		
3	Apparatus is positioned in accord with applicable standards for the given scenario		
4	Power is transferred to the stabilizing system		
5	Apparatus wheels are chocked.		
6	Stabilization / Leveling system properly used: ___ Automatic ___ Manual		
7	Aerial properly leveled		
8	Stabilization verified / locked – pinned (if applicable)		
9	Power is transferred to aerial system		
10	Aerial device is maneuvered to achieve the given objective		
11	Load indicating devices checked (Tip load / Platform capacity): _____ Plate _____ Gauge _____ Operating Knowledge		
12	Safety locks are engaged (where/if applicable) How Verified? _____		
13	Controls operated smoothly from both control stations (if applicable) Check those that apply: _____ Turntable Position _____ Platform Position		
14	Candidate remained clear of obstructions and overhead wires		
15	Aerial device is bedded correctly		
16	Stabilization system retracted/stowed properly		
17	Apparatus returned to service		
18	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION F – Emergency Lowering of an Aerial		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 6 Random Station JPR 6.2.4	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____ Initial ____ Retest

Evaluator Note: The evaluator may request that the manufacturer's operations guide be provided for the evaluation.

Directions: Given a fire department aerial device, demonstrate the ability to retract, center, and lower an aerial from a raised position using the emergency backup system. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **6 of 7** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Area is assessed for hazards (i.e. wires, tree limbs, etc.)		
2	Emergency operating system is activated		
3	Aerial device is unlocked, retracted, and centered in order to bed the aerial in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and procedures		
4	Aerial device is lowered into the bed in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations and procedures		
5	Emergency operating system restored to normal mode		
6	Vehicle restored to driving mode (aerial device moved out of hazard area)		
7	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION G – Elevated Master Streams		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 6 Random Station JPR 6.2.5	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type ____ Initial ____ Retest

Evaluator Note: For any item deemed not applicable, please note N/A and calculate PASS based on the remaining applicable “Yes” marks.

Directions: Given a positive source, properly set up and position the aerial device and produce an effective master stream. Making sure safety devices are set, the rated flow of the nozzle is achieved and maintained, and the aerial apparatus is continuously monitored for potential problems. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **7 of 9** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Area is assessed for hazards (i.e. overhead wires, trees, etc.)		
2	Aerial device is properly positioned for water operations		
3	Aerial device is properly set up and stabilized		
4	Master stream device attached (if applicable)		
5	Establish an appropriate water supply to waterway		
6	Master stream device properly controlled (Remote or Manual)		
7	Nozzle reaction monitored (water controlled slowly)		
8	Tip loading or platform capacity monitored and not exceeded		
9	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____



PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

AERIAL - DRIVER/OPERATOR (ADO) SKILL STATIONS

STATION H – Fixed Equipment Operations		Reference NFPA 1002 (2017 Ed), Chapter 4 Random Station JPR 4.3.7	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type _____ Initial _____ Retest

Evaluator Note: The evaluator should make every effort to pick five (5) different systems or pieces of equipment for the candidate to operate. In situations where the apparatus has a limited inventory of fixed or portable equipment, and use of a similar system/pieces of equipment is used, the evaluator shall provide an explanation. In all cases five items must be used for this station.

Directions: Given systems and equipment, manufacturer’s specifications and instructions, and departmental policies and procedures for the systems and equipment, operate all fixed systems and equipment on the vehicle not specifically addressed elsewhere in this standard so that each system or piece of equipment is operated in accordance with the applicable instructions and policies. Types of equipment and systems include but are not limited to: electric generators, floodlights, air compressors, air cascade systems, hydraulic rescue-tool systems, power reels for air or hydraulic hoses. Other equipment may include: exhaust fans, saws, and cord reels. Do you have any questions?

Performance Outcome: Pass / Fail is determined by **6 of 8** tasks being correctly performed.

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	List Equipment Operated (MUST use 5 different pieces of equipment) _____ _____ _____ _____ _____	_____	_____
2		_____	_____
3		_____	_____
4		_____	_____
5		_____	_____
6	All equipment/systems operated in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations and applicable departmental policies/procedures		
7	Notes and corrects any deficiencies in accordance with departmental policies/procedures		
8	Completes all tasks without compromising personal safety		
Please indicate skill outcome		PASS	FAIL

Evaluator Comments: _____

Evaluator Signature: _____ **Evaluator #** _____