



# PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN 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)

### **Skill Stations**

NFPA 1006 Swift Water Rescue Technician – Chapter 18 (2021 Edition)

Station A	Entry Rescue	18.3.1, 18.3.2	Mandatory Station
Station B	200 Yard Swim (Pool)	18.3.1, 18.3.2	Mandatory Station
Station C	Negotiate a Designated Swift Water Course	18.3.1, 18.3.2	Mandatory Station
Station D	Entry Rescue from a Platform	18.3.1, 18.3.2, 18.3.3	Mandatory Station
Station E	Victim Packaging and Removal	18.3.1, 18.3.2, 18.3.3	Mandatory Station
Station F	Capsized Watercraft	18.3.3	Mandatory Station

#### PPE Requirements:

• Personal Floatation Device (PFD)	Two (2) Locking Carabiners
• Water Rescue Helmet	One (1) Whistle
• Water Rescue Gloves	One (1) Knife
• Dry suit w/ appropriate layering	One (1) light source
• Water-appropriate boots/shoes	

Note: If testing both Surface and Swift Water, the following Surface Water Technician stations will satisfy the listed Swift Water Technician requirements, but the converse is **NOT** applicable:

- Surface Water Technician Station A – “Entry Rescue” will satisfy the requirements of Swift Water Rescue Technician Station A – “Entry Rescue”
- Surface Water Technician Station C – “Negotiate a Designated Swift Water Course” will satisfy the requirements of Swift Water Technician Station B – “Negotiate a Designated Surface Water Course”
- Surface Water Technician Station D – “Entry Rescue from a Platform” will satisfy the requirements of Swift Water Technician Station C – “Entry Rescue from a Platform”
- Surface Water Technician Station E – “Victim Packaging and Removal” will satisfy the requirements of Swift Water Technician Station E – “Victim Packaging and Removal”
- Surface Water Technician Station F – “Capsized Watercraft” will satisfy the requirements of Swift Water Technician Station F – “Capsized Watercraft”



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## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

<b>STATION A – Entry Rescue (POOL or OPEN WATER Site)</b>		<b>Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 18 Mandatory Station: JPRs 18.3.1, 18.3.2</b>	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Retest

**Evaluator Note:** Tasks 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10 can be accomplished in a pool or at the open water site. Should this station be completed in a pool, it should not less than 25 yards in length. Forward swimming strokes include the crawl (freestyle), breast, and side stroke. Candidates may wear swim goggles while completing this station.

**Directions:** Perform an entry rescue in the swift water environment, given an incident scenario, PPE, and swift water rescue tool kit, so that rescue is accomplished and adopted policies and safety procedures are followed.

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

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Size up the water environment for access/egress locations, hazards, conditions		
2	Selects and utilizes appropriate PPE		
3	Ensures RIT is staged for deployment prior to water entry		
4	Demonstrates communication and distress signals		
5	Evaluate incident location for victim retrieval locations based on evaluation of hazards and shore-based rescue limitations.		
6	Selects appropriate floatation to assist the victim and to maintain separation. i.e., throw ring, swim board.		
7	Completes a 50-yard aided swim utilizing a forward stroke to reach a simulated victim in under 4 minutes.		
8	Establishes communication with the victim, and rescuer gains control of the victim		
9	Demonstrate defensive tactics to escape from the grasp of a panicked victim		
10	Completes a 50-yard aided tow or push while maintaining control of the victim		
11	Completes PAR checks		
12	All tasks were completed in a safe manner		

Please indicate skill outcome  PASS  FAIL

**Evaluator Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Evaluator Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Evaluator #** \_\_\_\_\_



# PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

<b>STATION B – 200 Yard Swim (POOL)</b>		<b>Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 18</b> <b>Mandatory Station: JPRs; 18.3.1, 18.3.2</b>	
<b>Test Site</b>	<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Candidate #</b>	<b>Check the Test Type</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Initial</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Retest</b>

**Evaluator Note:** Items 3 through 5 should be completed in a pool not less than 25 yards in length. Forward swimming strokes include the crawl (freestyle), breast, and side stroke. Candidates may wear swim goggles while completing this station. Items will be conducted at the moving water site by having candidates reach targets such as crossing the body of water or reaching eddies.

**Directions:** Negotiate a designated swift water course, given a course that is representative of the bodies of swift water existing or anticipated within the geographic confines of the AHJ, water rescue PPE, and swim aids as required, so that the specified objective is reached, all performance parameters are achieved, movement is controlled, hazards are continually assessed, distress signals are demonstrated, and rapid intervention for the rescuer has been staged for deployment.

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

<b>No.</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>1</b>	Size up of the water environment for access/egress locations, hazards, and conditions		
<b>2</b>	Selects and utilizes appropriate PPE.		
<b>3</b>	Ensures RIT is staged for deployment prior to water entry		
<b>4</b>	Demonstrates communication and distress signals		
<b>5</b>	Complete a 200-yard unaided swim utilizing a forward stroke in under 12 minutes		
<b>6</b>	Par Checks complete		
<b>7</b>	All tasks were completed in a safe manner		
<b>Please indicate skill outcome</b>			<b>PASS</b> <b>FAIL</b>

**Evaluator Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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# PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

<b>STATION C – Negotiate a Designated Swift Water Course (OPEN WATER)</b>		<b>Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 18 Mandatory Station: JPRs; 18.3.1, 18.3.2</b>	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Retest

**Evaluator Note:** Items will be conducted at the moving water site by having candidates reach targets such as crossing the body of water or reaching eddies.

**Directions:** Negotiate a designated swift water course, given a course that is representative of the bodies of swift water existing or anticipated within the geographic confines of the AHJ, water rescue PPE, and swim aids as required, so that the specified objective is reached, all performance parameters are achieved, movement is controlled, hazards are continually assessed, distress signals are demonstrated, and rapid intervention for the rescuer has been staged for deployment.

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

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Size up of the water environment for access/egress locations, hazards, and conditions		
2	Selects and utilizes appropriate PPE.		
3	Ensures RIT is staged for deployment prior to water entry		
4	Demonstrates communication and distress signals		
5	Evaluate incident location for victim retrieval locations based on evaluation of hazards and shore-based rescue limitations.		
6	Swims the designated moving water course and reaches the objectives identified by the evaluator. (Can be accomplished in the pool or open water site.) Will demonstrate: Defensive swim posture for traveling downstream (self-rescue) _____ Demonstrates setting proper ferrying angle for direction designated by evaluator _____ Offensive swim to and from a simulated eddy, demonstrating proper body positioning _____ Offensive swimming skills to negotiate a strainer _____		
7	Par Checks complete		
8	All tasks were completed in a safe manner		
Please indicate skill outcome			<b>PASS</b> <b>FAIL</b>

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**Evaluator #** \_\_\_\_\_



# PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

<b>STATION D – Entry Rescue from a Platform</b>		<b>Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 18</b> <b>Mandatory Station: JPRs; 18.3.1, 18.3.2, 18.3.3</b>	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Retest

**Evaluator Note:** A rescue platform can include a vessel, boat, watercraft, or other waterborne transportation aid.

**Directions:** Perform an entry swift water rescue from a rescue platform such as a vessel, boat, watercraft, or other waterborne transportation aid while negotiating a designated swift water course, given a course that is representative of the bodies of swift water existing or anticipated within the geographical confines of the AHJ, water rescue PPE, and swim aids as required, so that the specific objective is reached, all performance parameters are achieved, movement is controlled, hazards are continually assessed, distress signals are demonstrated, personnel accountability is implemented, and rapid intervention for the rescuers has been staged for deployment.

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

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Size up of the water environment for access/egress locations, hazards, and conditions		
2	Selects and utilizes appropriate PPE.		
3	Ensures RIT is staged for deployment prior to water entry		
4	Demonstrates communication and distress signals		
5	Performs an entry from the rescue platform using appropriate techniques		
6	Stability of the watercraft is maintained while the candidate enters the water		
7	Reaches and establishes communication with the victim		
8	Brings the victim back on board the watercraft utilizing a proper technique		
9	Completes PAR checks		
10	All tasks were completed in a safe manner		
<b>Please indicate skill outcome</b>			<b>PASS</b> <b>FAIL</b>

**Evaluator Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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# PENNSYLVANIA STATE FIRE ACADEMY

## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

<b>STATION E – Victim Packaging and Removal (POOL)</b>		<b>Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 18 Mandatory Station: JPRs; 18.3.1</b>	
Test Site	Test Date	Candidate #	Check the Test Type <input type="checkbox"/> Initial <input type="checkbox"/> Retest

**Evaluator Note:****Directions:**

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

No.	Tasks	Yes	No
1	Size up of the water environment for access/egress locations, hazards, and conditions (pool and moving water site)		
2	Selects and utilizes appropriate PPE.		
3	Ensures RIT is staged for deployment prior to water entry		
4	Demonstrates communication and distress signals		
5	Evaluate incident location for victim retrieval locations based on evaluation of hazards and shore-based rescue limitations.		
6	Selects appropriate materials to package the victim		
7	Demonstrate appropriate victim packaging and removal techniques		
8	Monitor victim for signs and symptoms of aquatic medical emergencies		
9	Par Checks complete		
10	All tasks were completed in a safe manner		

Please indicate skill outcome

**Evaluator Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Evaluator Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Evaluator #** \_\_\_\_\_



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## SWIFT WATER TECHNICIAN SKILL STATIONS

<b>STATION F – Capsized Watercraft</b>		<b>Reference NFPA 1006 (2021 Edition), Chapter 18</b> <b>Mandatory Station: JPRs 18.3.3</b>	
<b>Test Site</b>	<b>Test Date</b>	<b>Candidate #</b>	<b>Check the Test Type</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Initial</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Retest</b>

**Directions:** Utilizing AHJ policies and procedures, deploy a watercraft, negotiate a designated water course in the watercraft so that the watercraft is launched and recovered without damage or injury, and demonstrate recovery techniques for a capsized watercraft. Do you have any questions?

**Performance Outcome:** Pass / Fail will be determined by **ALL** tasks being correctly performed.

<b>No.</b>	<b>Tasks</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>1</b>	Size up of the water environment for access/egress locations, hazards, and conditions		
<b>2</b>	Selects and utilizes appropriate PPE.		
<b>3</b>	Ensures RIT is staged for deployment prior to water entry		
<b>4</b>	Demonstrates communication and distress signals		
<b>5</b>	Demonstrates the broaching or flipping of a boat (whole process)		
<b>6</b>	Completes PAR checks		
<b>7</b>	All tasks were completed in a safe manner		

**Please indicate skill outcome**

**Evaluator Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_  
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**Evaluator Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Evaluator #** \_\_\_\_\_