

Dear Chiefs and/or Training Officers –

The BCFFA offers work capacity tests (aka “pack tests”) every Wednesday night in May – 1700 hours – at the Boulder County Regional Fire Training Center (BCRFTC) at 6055 Reservoir Road, Boulder, CO 80301.

NEW THIS YEAR we are asking each agency to ***PRE-SCREEN*** test candidates, either using the attached “Health Screening Questionnaire (HSQ),” physician check-ups, or the like – and to protect those results in-house (HIPAA).

After clearing a candidate, Chiefs and/or Training Officers must authorize testing by signing a PAPER copy of the attached “Informed Consent” form and sending it with the candidate to our test site.

NO SIGNED FORM, NO TESTING, NO EXCEPTIONS. Unfortunately, unaffiliated or “independent” candidates can no longer test with the BCFFA.

Why the change? As always, we follow the widely-accepted USFS policies on WCTs which require test takers to complete two forms prior to testing...

1. Health Screening Questionnaire (HSQ)
2. Work Capacity Test: Informed Consent

However, the current HSQ is very detailed, including rule-out criteria based on cholesterol level, BMI, smoking, blood pressure, physical inactivity, etc., not to mention cardiac, diabetic, asthma, dizziness, and similar conditions. Not only is that level of screening problematic at test time, we are not in a position where we can protect the confidentiality of such personal information.

Sorry for any inconvenience but, hopefully, there is still sufficient time to complete this screening and these forms prior to our 2018 testing dates of... May 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30. Please distribute this information among your membership so no one is caught unaware.

Thank you and please direct any questions to the BCFFA Board.