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# Fire Safety Job Interview Preparation Guide.

#### Question #1

Tell us what are my options for testing if I am unable to attend the regional scheduled certification exam or require a retest?

#### Answer:-

If you are unable to take the exam on the scheduled region date/location or need to retest, you may test at any of the regional testing dates or at the Division of Fire Safety, located in Jefferson City, every third Saturday of the month. Deadline dates for these Saturday exam dates can be found on the testing and course calendar.

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#### Question # 2

Suppose I am a certified Fire Investigator, Fire Inspector or Fire Service Instructor and have not received my renewal notice. Why?

#### Answer-

Most of the time it is because you have moved and we were not notified of your new address. It is important that you update your information with the Division of Fire Safety so that you are properly notified when your recertification is due. Failure to do so may result in expiration of that level.

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#### Question #3

Explain what are the registration requirements of the act for users of explosives?

#### Answer:-

Any individual, proprietorship, partnership, firm, corporation, or company that uses explosives in Missouri must register with the division prior to use. A \$200 fee must be submitted with the initial registration. Any explosives user required to register must also file an annual report with the division for the preceding calendar year by January 31. A \$500 fee, plus \$2 per ton of explosives used in Missouri for the year must be submitted with the annual report. Failure to register will result in penalties and fines.

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#### Question # 4

Explain does the Division of Fire Safety regulate storage bunkers for fireworks?

#### Answer:-

No. The U. S. Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF) and some local governmental jurisdictions have regulations for bunkers used for storage of explosive material.

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#### Question # 5

Tell me how often should I conduct fire and disaster drills?

#### Answer:

You must conduct fire drills on a monthly basis and disaster drills every three months.

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#### Question # 6

Explain why are un-vented gas appliances not allowed?

#### Answer:

Un-vented gas appliances are not allowed due to potential carbon monoxide risks. Nationally recognized fire codes do not allow these appliances to be located in a childcare setting. It should be noted that manufacturers' guidelines instruct the owner to keep a window open during the use of these appliances.

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#### Question # 7

Tell me is there a fee for a boiler or pressure vessel to be inspected and receive a state certification?



#### Answer:-

Yes, to obtain the state-operating certificate, the fee is \$20 for each object. If the inspection is conducted by a Division of Fire Safety Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspector an additional fee is charged based on the size and type of the object inspected (\$16 for pressure vessels; \$18 for water heaters; and \$25 to \$45 for boilers).

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#### Question #8

Explain what advantages are there to using a professional assessor?

#### Answer:

Statistics show that a large percentage of businesses that experience a medium to large fire never actually recover. A professional assessor will more effectively identify potential fire risks, which if rectified will substantially reduce the chances of a fire destroying your business, and may save lives.

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#### Question # 9

Tell me how long do I have to submit my completed Fire Officer practical skills book?

#### Answer:

Two months. Failure to do so will result in automatic failure.

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#### Question # 10

Tell me are investigations conducted by the Division of Fire Safety the same as investigations conducted by an insurance investigator?

#### Answer:

No, although these types of investigations are similar in nature and often parallel each other, investigations conducted by the Division of Fire Safety are completely separate from investigations conducted by insurance investigators on behalf of an insurance company.

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#### Question # 11

Tell me what is the statute violation for burning a vehicle?

#### Answer:-

Knowingly burning, which is when a person knowingly damages property of another by starting a fire, is a Class D felony.

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#### Question #12

Tell me is there any state regulations relating to surface blasting operations in Missouri?

#### Answer:

No, local governmental jurisdictions in some areas of the state have restrictions and regulations. The state Department of Labor and Industrial Relations Bureau of Mines regulates underground blasting operations.

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#### Question # 13

Explain does Missouri have a statewide fire code?

#### Answer:-

Missouri does not have a statewide fire code, but Missouri does have state regulations affecting most licensed day cares nursing home facilities and other state licensed facilities. Always contact your local jurisdiction for any applicable adopted codes.

Read More Answers.

#### Question # 14

Tell me why am I required to have my fire extinguisher inspected annually?

#### Answer:

Fire extinguishers are considered a high-pressure device. A malfunctioning gauge can indicate a full charge when in fact the extinguisher is not fully charged. Also, the hose can become blocked by debris.

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#### Question # 15

Suppose if a boiler or pressure vessel was installed after Nov. 12, 1986, does it have to comply with ASME Code in relation to construction and be registered with the National Board of Boiler & Pressure Vessel Inspectors?

#### Answer-

Yes, all boilers and pressure vessels that fall under the state jurisdiction laws/rules must be code constructed and National Board registered. The Missouri Boiler & Pressure Vessel Board may grant a variance to this requirement during one of its quarterly meetings in Jefferson City.

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#### Question # 16

Tell me is an inspector with the Division of Fire Safety required to conduct the safety inspection?



#### Answer:-

No. Typically, insurance providers for boilers and pressure vessels have individuals on staff that have been approved and commissioned by the state to conduct required safety inspections.

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#### Question #17

Tell me when is a re-inspection required?

#### Answer:

A re-inspection is required on all life safety violations. This includes fire service, sprinkler systems and any major violations that could cause injury to a rider. The Division of Fire Safety will usually indicate on the letter outlining violations if a re-inspection is required.

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#### Question # 18

Tell me do we need to provide Fire Safety Training for our Employees?

#### Answer.

Yes. Under The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety Order) 2005, employers are obliged to provide staff fire safety training on commencement of employment (ie as part of the induction training) and annually for all employees.

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#### Question # 19

Tell me how often should we change the battery in a smoke detector?

#### Answer:-

The Division of Fire Safety recommends the battery in smoke detectors be changed twice a year, once in the spring and once in the fall. At a minimum, smoke detector batteries should be replaced annually. Detectors should also be checked monthly to be sure the audible alarm is operating properly.

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#### Question # 20

Tell me what courses are you accepting for the Rescue Technician certification process?

#### Answer:

The only classes currently approved for the certification process are offered by the University of Missouri, Fire and Rescue Training Institute.

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#### Question # 21

Explain who enforces the requirements of the Missouri Blasting Safety Act?

#### Answer:-

The Missouri Division of Fire Safety enforces the Missouri Blasting Safety Act. The division is responsible for testing blasters and investigating violations of the act. The State Blasting Safety Board is also responsible for assisting the division in regulating the act's requirements.

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#### Question # 22

Explain how does a blaster obtain a license?

#### Answer:-

The Division of Fire Safety administers standard examinations for qualifying individuals to obtain a blaster's license. No individual is allowed to take an examination to obtain a blaster's license unless that individual has completed an approved training course within two years of taking the examination. The division must also approve all training courses for blasters.

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#### Question # 23

Explain how often should I change the battery in my smoke detector?

#### Answer:-

It is recommended that the battery be changed at least once a year or whenever the detector makes a chirping sound, indicating low battery power.

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#### Question # 24

Explain do I need a carbon monoxide detector?

#### Answer-

If your home has any gas-fired or wood burning appliances (cook stove, water heater, furnace, fireplace, etc.) or has an attached garage, a carbon monoxide detector is required. Generally, the carbon monoxide detector should be installed in a central location so the occupants can hear it. Carbon monoxide detectors should not be installed inside a furnace room.

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#### Question # 25



Tell me why are portable space heaters not allowed?

#### Answer:

Portable space heaters are well known for causing or being a contributing factor in fires. These devices are easily tipped over and pose a burn injury risk to children.

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#### Question # 26

How to know if a particular amusement ride has been inspected?

#### Answer:-

Upon completion of the permitting process, the Division of Fire Safety issues each ride an adhesive operating permit that is to be placed on or near the rides control panel or operator's station.

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#### Question # 27

Tell me are inflatable or bounce attractions required to be inspected?

#### Answer:-

No, these attractions are not required to obtain a state-operating permit due to the absence of mechanical moving parts, although inflatable dry slides over 20 feet in height shall have an annual inspection and obtain a state operating permit.

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#### Question # 28

Tell me what is the purpose of Missouris Boiler & Pressure Vessel Safety Act?

#### Answer:-

The purpose of the act is to protect property and ensure the safety of those who work with and come in contact with boilers and pressure vessels.

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#### Question # 29

Explain what elevator code is being enforced in Missouri?

#### Answer-

The Elevator Safety Board has adopted ASME A17.1 1996 as well as established a minimum state standard applicable to elevators and installations installed prior to July 1999.

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#### Question # 30

Suppose there is a Fire Certificate in force for my premises. Do I still need to carry out a Fire Risk Assessment?

#### Answer:

Yes. From October 2005, the Fire Certificate System is no longer valid (apart from in Northern Ireland).

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#### Question #31

Suppose I have successfully completed a course and received my course completion certificate. When can I take the state certification written examination?

#### Answer:

The Division of Fire Safety establishes regional testing dates and locations throughout Missouri. Please refer to our testing and course calendar for dates and locations.

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#### Question #32

Suppose if I dont pass the state exam, how long do I have before retesting?

#### Answer-

A student failing the exam may retest 14 days after receiving notification of failure. Visit the testing and course calendar for test dates and locations or contact the Division of Fire Safety offices. Also, if a student does not retest within one year of the course completion date, his or her records will be deemed inactive.

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#### Question #33

Tell me if I do not pass a practical skills examination, can I retake it?

#### Answer:-

This differs slightly for each certification level. Please refer to the appropriate certification booklet for clear examination requirements.

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#### Question # 34

Suppose if I am a certified Fire Investigator, Fire Inspector, or Fire Service Instructor do I need to re-certify to keep my certification current?

#### Answer:-



Yes. Please refer to the certification booklets found in each certification level on the training unit homepage for recertification requirements.

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#### Question #35

Suppose I have misplaced my State Certificate(s). Can I get a copy?

#### Answer:-

No. We do not issue replacement certificates for any level. Once the original State Certificate is issued, we cannot reproduce a certificate. While we will not replace certificates, we can issue an official verification letter on our letterhead stating the levels for which you have been certified.

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#### Question # 36

Tell me when can a person be charged with negligent burning?

#### Answer-

When they start a fire with criminal negligence (should have been aware of the risk) that causes damage to property of another.

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#### Question # 37

Explain do I need to have fire safety equipment inspected?

#### Answer:-

If you are in a community that has adopted a fire code or your licensed facility requires compliance with fire safety rules, then equipment such as fire extinguishers, fire alarms, sprinkler systems, standpipes, etc. are typically required to be serviced on an annual basis. Other systems may require inspections at different times throughout the year. Fire protection and extinguishing systems can only be installed and serviced by companies qualified to do so.

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#### Question # 38

Tell me what is the best type of fire extinguisher to have in my facility?

#### Answer-

Generally speaking, the best type is one marked "ABC." The minimum size allowed is one marked 2A-10B:C.

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#### Question #39

Tell me can artwork be hung on walls?

#### Answer:

Artwork and teaching materials are limited to 30 percent of the wall's surface.

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#### Question # 40

Tell me can artwork be hung from the ceiling?

#### Answer:-

Not unless the material used has a fire resistive rating or has been treated with a fire resistive material. Rapid flame spread occurs when combustible material is hung from the ceiling and burning debris can fall onto occupants.

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#### Question # 41

Tell me what is the safety inspection based upon?

#### Answer:

An amusement ride safety inspection is to be conducted based upon nationally recognized inspection standards and the manufacturer's recommendations and guidelines.

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#### Question # 42

Explain is it against the act/law to operate a boiler or pressure vessel in Missouri without a valid state inspection certificate?

#### Answer:

Yes, operating a boiler or pressure vessel in the state without a valid state inspection certificate is a Class A misdemeanor as specified by the act/law.

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#### Question # 43

Why do we need to carry out a Fire Risk Assessment?

#### Answer:-

Current regulations, i.e. The Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005 requires that all employers carry out a Fire Risk Assessment of their premises.

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#### Question # 44

Suppose If a Fire Risk Assessment is not carried out, what could be the consequences?

#### Answer:

Under current legislation an employer can be prosecuted for not carrying out a Fire Risk Assessment.

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#### Question #45

Tell me how long after successfully completing a course do we have to take the State Certification Exam?

#### Answer-

You must complete the certification process within one year of the course completion date. You will be required to retake the course if you want to become certified and have failed to meet the one year requirement.

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#### Question #46

Tell me after my Fire Fighter I and II classes are complete, can my instructor then administer the state written examination?

#### Answer-

No. All Division of Fire Safety State Certification written exams must be administered or proctored by a Division of Fire Safety staff member.

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#### Question # 47

Do we have to test within our region?

#### Answer:-

No. You may test at any location throughout the state. Just remember to submit your application and required documentation by the due date listed on the testing and course calendar.

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#### Question # 48

Tell me from what sources are the state certification exam questions generated?

#### Answer:-

Each certification level uses different reference material for the generation of the test questions. Please refer to each certification booklet for references used.

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#### Question # 49

Tell me who can request services of the Division of Fire Safetys Investigations Unit?

#### Answer:-

Services can only be requested by representatives of law enforcement and fire service agencies. Citizens or representatives of the insurance industry cannot request investigative services.

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#### Question # 50

Tell me when can a person be charged with reckless burning?

#### Answer:

When they recklessly (was aware of a substantial and unjustifiable risk) damage or destroy a building or inhabitable structure of another by starting a fire.

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#### Question #51

Tell me what is considered a violation of the act for users of explosives?

#### Answer:-

It is a violation of the Missouri Blasting Safety Act for any explosives users to:

Engage in blasting other than by a licensed blaster or an individual working under the direct supervision of a licensed blaster.

Fail to calculate the scaled distance, conduct monitoring of vibration and noise levels, and conduct record keeping as required.

Fail to carry a minimum of \$1 million in commercial general liability insurance.

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#### Question # 52

Tell me do I need a fire inspection?

#### Answer:-

Because fire and building codes are adopted at the local level in Missouri, there is no state requirement for facilities to have an annual inspection unless such occupancy is regulated by Department of Health and Senior Services, Department of Mental Health or Department of Social Services. Some communities have adopted local fire or building codes with which occupancies are required to comply. The Division of Fire Safety strongly encourages commercial occupancies to have an annual fire safety inspection to ensure compliance with nationally recognized fire codes. Such inspections provide a safe working environment for you, your employees and your customers.



#### Read More Answers.

#### Question #53

Tell me how to know if an individual has been approved by the Division of Fire Safety as a qualified ride inspector?

#### Answer:-

The division maintains an up-to-date list of those individuals who meet the status of a qualified inspector. Simply contact the division to obtain the list or inquire about a specific individual.

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#### Question # 54

Explain are all climbing walls required to be inspected?

#### Answer:-

All climbing walls over 10 feet in height are required to pass and annual safety inspection and have a state operating permit. Climbing walls less than 10 feet in height are exempt from the inspection and permitting process.

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#### Question # 55

Tell us the act/law requires boiler or pressure vessels be constructed to the American Society of Mechanical Engineers Boiler & Pressure Vessel Codes (ASME Codes). Can boilers and pressure vessels constructed before a certain date still be operated without complying with this code?

#### Answer:-

Yes, in general, if the boiler or pressure vessel was installed before Nov. 12, 1986, and the object complies with a safety inspection, it may be grandfathered from such construction codes.

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#### Question # 56

Explain are state inspection certificates required on boilers or pressure vessels located in private residences or other locations where childcare is being provided as regulated by the Department of Health or other state agencies?

#### Answer-

Yes, all objects in day care locations regulated by the Department of Health or other state agencies must comply with the Boiler & Pressure Vessel Act.

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#### Question # 57

Tell me if violations cannot be corrected within the 120 day time frame, can additional time be provided?

#### Answer:

Yes, to request additional time you must submit in writing a request for an extension with details outlining proposed dates of completion.

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#### Question # 58

Tell me how often is a state inspection required?

#### Answer:-

A state inspection is required annually.

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#### Question # 59

Tell me the local authority Fire Officer visits my premises regularly. Does he/she not complete this assessment?

#### Answer:

No. The local Fire Officer represents the local fire authority who enforce the fire regulations, and they are in a position to prosecute employers who contravene these regulations.

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#### Question # 60

Suppose once a Fire Risk Assessment is completed, are there any further requirements?

#### Answer:

Simply yes! Once an assessment has been completed and problems identified and rectified, the assessment needs to be continually monitored and periodically reviewed. Typical examples of when a review needs to be carried out are a change in work processes, structural alterations, or a "near miss― incident.

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#### Question # 61

What is the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order?

#### Answer:

The Fire Safety Order came into force on October 1st 2006 and replaced the Fire Precautions Act 1971 and the Fire Precautions (Workplace) Regulations. It is now the primary fire safety legislation. The Order affects all non-domestic premises and even applies to certain activities taking place outdoors. The Fire Safety Order



places the emphasis towards risk reduction and fire prevention.

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#### Question #62

Tell me should we have a fire extinguisher in a home and what type should we purchase?

#### Answer-

The Division of Fire Safety recommends you keep at least one fire extinguisher in your home, preferably one extinguisher per level. A fire extinguisher should be placed in your kitchen near cooking appliances in case of emergencies. An extinguisher should also be available in the garage area or where mechanical rooms (furnace, water heater, electrical panel) are located.

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#### Question #63

Tell me does the Division of Fire Safety recommend the use of carbon monoxide detectors in a home?

#### Answer:-

Yes, if your home has any gas-fired or wood burning appliances (cooking stove, heating appliance, water heater, fireplace, etc.) or has an attached garage, then a carbon monoxide detector is needed. Generally, the carbon monoxide detector should be installed in a central location so occupants can hear the audible alarm. Carbon monoxide detectors should NOT be installed inside a furnace or mechanical room.

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#### Question # 64

Tell me do I have to successfully complete a course and pass the State Certification tests for Hazardous Materials Awareness or Operations before I can be certified at the Fire Fighter I and II level?

#### Answer:-

Yes. In order to be certified to the Fire Fighter I and II 1001-current standard you must have documentation that you have successfully completed the Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations courses and then passed the appropriate State Certification Exams for both.

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#### Question #65

Tell me how long after I have taken the written State Certification Exam will I receive my results?

#### Answer:

The Division of Fire Safety will score all exams and students will be notified by letter or certificate accordingly within 30 days of the exam.

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#### Question # 66

Suppose if I call the division can I get my written certification exam results?

#### Answer:

No. Certification test scores are not released to any individual, instructor, fire chief, agency or organization, and they are not retained in the individual's file. A letter of notification of pass/fail status is forwarded to each student completing the exam at his or her home address.

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#### Question # 67

Explain who does the Missouri Blasting Safety Act regulate?

#### Answer:-

The act regulates users of explosives, which are defined as "any individual, proprietorship, partnership, firm, corporation, company, or joint venture that is required to hold authority to receive or use explosives under statutes or regulations administered by the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and who employs licensed blasters.―

The act also regulates blasters defined as persons â€equalified to be in charge of and responsible for the loading and firing of an explosive or explosive material. ―

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#### Question # 68

Tell me are water related rides such as slides or wave pools required to be inspected?

#### Answer:

No, these attractions are exempt; however, water rides with mechanical moving parts are required to obtain state operating permits.

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#### Question # 69

Tell me who can conduct amusement ride safety inspections?

#### Answer:-

Amusement ride safety inspections must be conducted by an inspector approved by the Missouri Division of Fire Safety. To be an approved inspector, an individual must be certified by the National Association of Amusement Ride Safety Officials (NAARSO) or meet minimum criteria as outlined in the State of Missouri Promulgated Rules

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#### Question # 70

Tell me does the act/law require a facility to allow access to a boiler and pressure vessel inspector to conduct the safety inspection?

Yes, access to a facility during a reasonable hour is required for the following inspections: to determine if a boiler or pressure vessel is required to comply with the act/law; to conduct an external inspection without prior notification being given; to conduct an internal inspection during a mutually agreed time prior to the expiration of a state operating certificate; and to conduct an investigation of an accident or alleged violation(s).

#### Question #71

Explain what is the cost of an elevator inspection?

Competitive pricing drives the cost of an inspection. Costs may vary between different state licensed inspectors, so it is recommended that a customer obtain more than one bid for conducting the inspection. Usually if a re-inspection is required, a cost is associated with the re-inspection.

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#### Question #72

Tell me after completion of the inspection who do I contact to get information on how to correct any violations?

You may either contact your elevator service company or the inspector that conducted the inspection. The Division of Fire Safety will provide written notification of the violations and notice of 120 days to comply. 

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#### Question # 73

How to important are evacuation drills?

Evacuation drills are the most effective way of ensuring that: staff are familiar with evacuation procedures. fire safety and evacuation procedures are adequate. shortfalls & deficiencies in the emergency plan can be identified/corrected

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#### Question #74

Tell me do I need to carry out a Fire Risk Assessment if I only employ a small workforce?

Yes, even if only one person is employed. However you do not need to record the results of the assessment in writing unless more than five staff are employed. Read More Answers.

#### Question # 75

Tell me is a Fire Risk Assessment going to be expensive?

#### Answer:-

The cost of an assessment can only be determined by having detailed information about your premises, operations and employees. A free quotation can be provided following further discussions or a visit to your site.

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