



Coffee Break Training - Fire Protection Series

Administration: The Insurance Services Office Public Protection Classification Class 8B

No. FP-2015-8 February 24, 2015

Learning Objective: The student will get an understanding of the Insurance Services Office Public Protection Classification (PPC™) Class 8B and Class 9, as well as their requirements.

To be eligible for PPC Classes 1 through 8, there must be a minimum water supply of 250 gallons per minute (gpm) available at a fire location for a period of two hours. If the fire department delivers water through a tanker shuttle, large diameter hose, or other alternative water supply, the minimum water supply must be available within five minutes of the arrival of the first-due engine, and the department must be able to maintain the flow without interruption for the two-hour duration.

In some Fire Protection Areas (FPAs), the available water supply may not meet the minimum flow criteria mentioned above and therefore not be eligible for Classes 1 through 8. Such FPAs might still qualify for either Class 8B or Class 9.

Class 8B

To be eligible for Class 8B, an FPA must meet the minimum requirements of the Fire Suppression Rating Schedule (FSRS): organization, firefighter response to alarm, training, emergency communications, apparatus, and housing. The FPA must also meet the following additional specific requirements for emergency communications, fire department and water supply:

Emergency Communications

An FPA must receive a minimum credit of four out of the eligible 10 points for emergency communications.

Fire Department

An FPA must have a fire department that meets the following requirements:

- **Engine pump** — the fire department must have at least one apparatus that has a permanently mounted pump with a rated capacity of 750 gpm or more at 150 pounds per square inch.
- **Equipment** — the engine(s) must be at least 40 percent adequate in terms of pumping capacity, hose quantity and equipment as evaluated by the requirements of the FSRS.
- **Firefighting response** — a minimum of six firefighters must respond on the initial alarm to all reported structure fires. Two of the six may be automatic-aid firefighters. The chief officer may be one of the six responding firefighters.
- **Personal protective clothing** — each credited firefighter must, while on the fireground, have a protective clothing ensemble.
- **Training** — each active firefighter must receive a minimum of 24 hours per year of training in fighting structure fires.

Water Supply

- The fire department must be capable of delivering a minimum uninterrupted flow of 200 gpm for 20 minutes (4,000 gallons of water) on the initial alarm to all reported structure fires within five minutes of arrival of the first-due engine.
- The fire department must be able to deliver the minimum fire flow with only the primary responding fire department and automatic-aid fire department(s).
- The fire department must be able to deliver the minimum fire flow to the buildable areas of the FPA within 5 road miles of the responding fire station.

For more details on the PPC program, see <http://www.isomitigation.com/ppc/0000/ppc0001.html>.

In the next series of Coffee Break Training sessions, you will learn more about the Insurance Services Office Class 9 and its requirements.



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