



Protecting Roadways throughout New England

American Flagging & Traffic Control

American Flagging & Traffic Control Training Program Instruction Overview

Section I Overview - Orientation & Initial Training

The first section of training is employee orientation and basic instruction. It includes an overview of American Flagging and Traffic Control, introduction to Traffic Control/Flagging and basic Flagging instruction. The Associated General Contractors Training Video Series is utilized as well as handouts from various publications including, The State of New Hampshire Flaggers Handbook, The State of Vermont Guide to Highway Work Zones, The Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD), and American Traffic Safety Services Association (ATSSA).

Each topic is accompanied by a group discussion and question and answer period. Specific topics such as Customer Service, Functions of Flagging, Human & Public Relations, Communication, Clothing and Equipment, Do's and Don't of Traffic Control are emphasized. Time allotted for these topics is based on the difficulty of the section and degree of student comprehension.

At the conclusion of each training session a 50 question written tests is administered. The tests include: true/false questions, multiple choice questions, and essay questions in which candidates must attempt to resolve specific Traffic Control and public relations issues which may arise during their employment.

Candidates must successfully complete and pass each written exam with 80% or better in order to qualify for intermediate training and job placement. Personnel who do not pass initial exams are provided additional training and re-tested on the portion of the exam they failed.

At the completion of this section an assessment is made of the candidates overall performance. Test scores are summarized, and comments from the question and answer periods and round table discussions are made.

Section II Overview - Job-Specific Training

Once the initial phase of training is complete the employee will enter the second phase of training. They will receive job-specific training. This training provides information about the type of worksites each employee may be assign to i.e. Utility, Paving, and Construction. Each class addresses:

- Flagging Procedures.
- Daytime/Nighttime Flagging
- Station or Position
- Paddles/Flags
- Signing
- Safety
- The Do and Don't of Flagging.
- Public Relations.
- Equipment/ Clothing
- First aid
- Work Zones the importance of their role and function.
- Be aware of and visible to oncoming traffic to perform the required traffic control as directed by the engineer
- Stand facing traffic unless otherwise directed or authorized by the Engineer
- Remain out of any vehicle at all times
- Wear proper field uniform, with ANSI approved outerwear

- Arrive and depart at times posted and/or prescribed by the Engineer
- Provide for safe movement of traffic through their assigned area, in accordance with the approved Traffic Control Plan
- Position themselves throughout the site as directed by the Engineer
- Receive and communicate specific instructions clearly and firmly
- Understand and apply safe traffic control practices, recognize dangerous traffic situations, and warn workers in sufficient time to avoid injury
- The use of cell phones during operations is considered a distraction and is strictly prohibited

This portion of our training includes some video presentations however the primary tool used for this type of training is open table discussions and role playing. Additional training including First Aid Training meeting the standards of the American Red Cross, American Heart Association, American Lung Association or an equivalent organization is also provided during this phase of training. Written exams are also utilized and made part of the employee file.

Section III Overview – On the Job Training

At the completion of Phase II, candidates receive “On the Job Training”. This training involves a detailed review of the class room training at specific customer locations. All of the “on the job Training” is administrated by one of American Flagging and Traffic Control Certified instructors, who have received extensive technical training Provided By the Association of general Contractors, The Uniform Traffic Control Devices, and the American Traffic Safety Services Association.

All Flaggers performing work on public roadways in the Commonwealth of MA will comply with the following minimum equipment requirements

- White Hard Hat (with reflectorized tape)
- Lime Vest
- Lime Pants (Vest and pants combined must meet ANSI Class III visibility)
- Two-way radios
- Stop/Slow paddles meeting MUTCD requirements
- Weighted red flags for emergency work
- Air Horn
- Adequate signs and cones to implement an MUTCD approved work zone set-up