

Santa Ana College Fire Technology



1530 W. 17th Street • Santa Ana • CA 92706-3398 • (714)564-6845

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Dear Firefighter I Candidate:

Welcome to Santa Ana College, home of the largest, finest and oldest fire technology program in California! You have made a wise career choice. Your success will depend on whether you have the proper attitude, tenacity and mental discipline to achieve your goal. Our counselors, my staff and I are ready to help you. Listen closely to what they have to say and you should succeed. Our graduates have attained firefighter positions in many departments in California, throughout the United States & abroad.

The Santa Ana College Fire Academy program is administered under the guidance of the Orange County Fire Chiefs' Association and is nationally recognized as a premier fire-training program. This program meets the Orange County Fire Service standards and has been approved by the State Fire Marshal and the State Board of Fire Services as the **First Accredited Regional Fire Academy in California**. Our standards far exceed the minimum qualifications and training required for California Firefighter I Certification. Additionally, our graduates receive certificates in Vehicle Extrication, Hazardous Materials First Responder, Rescue Systems I, Fire Control III, and Low Angle Rope Rescue.

If you require additional information, please visit the Fire Technology Office at 1530 W. 17th Street, in the Cesar Chavez Building, Room A-113, or call (714) 564-6845 and speak with my friendly staff. They will be happy to help you attain your career goals.

Sincerely,

Donald E. Mahany

Donald E. Mahany
Associate Dean
Human Services & Technology / Fire Technology

Santa Ana College Mission Statement:

Santa Ana College inspires, transforms and empowers a diverse community of learners.

Fire Technology Mission Statement:

The Santa Ana College Fire Technology Department serves a diverse community of students. The program provides students the opportunity to develop the technical, academic and professional competencies required for fire and emergency service professions, as well as, transfer to higher educational institutions. The department is committed to developing civic leaders that advocate, champion and engage in the ethical administration of public policy.

INFORMATION SHEET/NEW STUDENT PROCEDURES FIREFIGHTER 1 PROGRAM

STEPS TO COMPLETE ELIGIBILITY FOR 060 BASIC FIRE ACADEMY

STEP 1.

To learn as much as you can about being a firefighter, please **sign up online** at www.sac.edu for a **Fire Technology Program Orientation** through our **Counseling Department**. You will need to have a student I.D. # for the college to sign up. Also, purchase a copy of the Santa Ana College catalog in the Don Bookstore and read all about the degree options available such as our most popular Public Fire Service Option (0646). Visit our website: www.sac.edu/firetech

You have made the decision to become a firefighter. There is considerable competition for every job, so provide yourself with every chance of success. Be properly prepared to take maximum advantage of all opportunities that will help you achieve your goal. The more you have to offer a potential employer the better your chances of being hired.

MEASURE YOUR EXISTING SKILLS AND ABILITIES

STEP 2.

Our Assessment Center (AC) will send you an email with your English and Math placement recommendations based on your self-reported high school grades and GPA that you provided in your SAC application. This process will take about 3 business days.

Students who do not have access to their high school transcripts or studied outside of the U.S. can take the **Guided Self Placement**, which is available on the AC website. It will take about 3 business days for students to receive an email.

Students can also meet with a Counselor in the AC during the drop-in hours, listed on their website. The Assessment Center is located in the Library building on the second floor (L-223). Their Phone # is (714) 564-6148

Students with an AA degree or higher are exempt from 3SP requirements, which include, placement, orientation, and educational planning. Students can complete an exemption form in the Counseling Center S-112.

GENERAL EDUCATION IS AN IMPORTANT PART OF THIS TRAINING

STEP 3.

Study Smart! Take your courses in the recommended sequence to achieve high grades in courses required for this major. If you are working, do not take a class load greater than you can successfully handle. Completion of general education classes before you begin your studies in this major will improve your chance for success. General education courses are listed in the catalog and should be reviewed with the Counselor before enrolling.

TAKE THE FIRE TECHNOLOGY CORE CLASSES

STEP 4.

All core classes must be completed with a grade of “C” or better to be eligible for the Basic Fire Academy. Fire Technology 101 & 102 must be taken prior to taking 104, 105 and 106.

3.0 Units - Fire Technology 101, Fire Protection Organization
3.0 Units - Fire Technology 102, Fire Behavior and Combustion
3.0 Units - Fire Technology 103, Principles of Fire & Emergency Services Safety & Survival
3.0 Units - Fire Technology 104, Fire Prevention
3.0 Units - Fire Technology 105, Building Construction for Fire Protection
3.0 Units - Fire Technology 106, Fire Protection Systems
3.0 Units - Fire Technology 121, Physical Fitness for Public Safety Personnel
0.3 Units - Fire Technology 121L, Physical Fitness for Public Safety Personnel - Performance and Assessment

OPENING A FILE

STEP 5.

Upon successful completion of Fire Technology 101 & 102, come to the Fire Technology office in A-113 to complete a Prerequisite Verification (a check-off sheet). **Keep your address, phone numbers & email up-to-date with the Fire Technology Office, in addition to the Admissions Office, in case we need to contact you.**

FIRE ACADEMY 008, PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (BIDDLE)

STEP 6.

A physical ability test is required to be eligible for the Basic Fire Academy. You register for the class online under FAC 008. All students must pre enroll & pay, as **there is no on-site enrollment**. The physical ability test is a pass/fail exam. Once your file is open, **it is your responsibility to make and turn in a copy** of the Physical Ability letter into our office, **(keeping the original for yourself)**. Most Fire Departments require a physical ability test prior to employment.

The Physical Ability test was designed to identify persons who can meet the physical demands of a firefighter. To pass the Physical Ability Test, candidates must complete all of the events successfully within the required time standard of 9:34. This test was developed and validated with firefighters from 41 different cities in both Orange and Los Angeles counties. The test is a work sample test designed to simulate tasks performed by firefighters during fire suppression operations and other emergencies. **BE ADVISED IF YOU PASS THIS ASSESSMENT AT A MINIMAL LEVEL, YOU MAY NOT HAVE THE STRENGTH AND STAMINA NECESSARY TO SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETE THE ACADEMY.**

Candidates may only participate in the test once in a single day (once per semester). If you fail, you may return on a subsequent test day for another attempt. Physical Ability tests are scheduled approximately once per month during the fall and spring semesters and can only be taken 6 months at a time with our college. Physical Ability training classes (FAC 018 B, C & D) are also offered throughout the semester for students who need additional practice and training. You may pick up a description of the Physical Ability Test in the Fire Technology Office. The FTC 121 class will also provide you with a description and an opportunity to practice the test.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN I

STEP 7.

You must complete an **Emergency Medical Technician I** course that leads to National Registry. Upon completion of your EMT Course you must take & pass the **National Certification Exam** to receive **certification in the state of California as an EMT. This must be done prior to attending the academy.** If you possess the “California State License EMT Card” you may also provide us with a copy of that. It does supersede the ‘National Registry Card.’

Note: Please bring a copy of your National Registry card to SAC A-113 for your file. Prerequisite for most EMT courses: CPR Healthcare Provider Card.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION

STEP 8.

A medical exam is **required** for all academy students prior to their academy placement.

You can use any physician you choose. However, be sure your doctor understands the requirements and **you know what your costs will be up-front.**

Your doctor will need the **NFPA 1582 Standards booklet and the medical form** to complete your medical examination. You can purchase the National Fire Protection Agency, 1582 Standards (NFPA 1582) booklet from the Firefighter Bookstore and obtain the medical exam form from the Fire Technology Office. A list of providers is included in that packet.

In addition to a completed medical exam form, you must provide the Fire Technology Office with a signed statement from a licensed physician stating you meet the standards of NFPA 1582. **Turn in a copy of the front page of your medical report form which has the doctor’s approval and signature. Keep the original for yourself.** The medical examination is comprehensive because it is very similar to the exams fire departments use to screen new employees. The medical exam will let you know if you meet minimum medical hiring standards. This medical is valid for **two years** from the first examination date.

If you are unable to meet the NFPA 1582 medical requirements, you may not qualify for employment as a firefighter. You may want to consider other options in the fire service

such as fire protection engineer, fire inspector, investigation, sprinkler installation, etc.

TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR THE BASIC FIRE ACADEMY

STEP 9.

It is a first come, first serve basis. Students will be placed immediately in the **next available academy** upon successful completion of all academy prerequisites.

The academy prerequisites students **must** have completed are listed below:

- A. You have 'opened a file' in Fire Technology Office, A-113, after completion of FTC 101 & 102 with the grades posted.
- B. Passed all Prerequisite Classes with a "C" or better grade:
 - FTC 101, Fire Protection Organization
 - FTC 102, Fire Behavior & Combustion
 - FTC 103, Principles of Fire & Emergency Services Safety & Survival
 - FTC 104, Fire Prevention
 - FTC 105, Building Construction for Fire Protection
 - FTC 106, Fire Protection Systems
 - FTC 121, Physical Fitness for Public Safety Personnel
 - FTC 121L, Physical Fitness for Public Safety Personnel - Performance and Assessment
- C. Provide the Fire Technology Office with a **copy** of your "**National Registry Card**" from an EMT course which meets DOT standards. If you possess the "California State License EMT Card" you may also provide us with a copy of that. It does supersede the 'National Registry Card'
- D. Provide the Fire Technology Office with a **copy** of your **Official Biddle Certificate** - FAC 008 - Physical Ability Test (NOT done in FTC 121)
- E. A complete Medical that has been **checked off & signed** by your own Dr. or any Dr. from the three locations listed on our Medical Form

If it becomes necessary for a student to give up their spot in an academy prior to notification of the Pre-Academy (P.A.M.) meeting, and they notify the Fire Technology Office, the student will be assigned to a future academy.

If a student fails to meet deadlines they will forfeit their spot in the academy.

STEP 10.

An Academy Coordinator will notify candidates, by email, of:

- Basic Fire Academy start date
- Registration information
- Pre-Academy meeting date (P.A.M.)

So please make sure your contact information is current in your file.

FIRE ACADEMY 060 - BASIC FIRE ACADEMY
(Offered in two different schedules)

Schedule 1 – Full Time

Approx. 16 weeks (560 hours)
Monday through Friday

Concurrent enrollment in FAC 007,
Physical Fitness

Schedule 2 – Part Time

Approx. 35 weekends (560 hours)
Friday evenings, all day Saturday, and one
Sunday per month.

Concurrent enrollment in FAC 007,
Physical Fitness

There are 24 subject areas:

Apparatus, Tools & Equipment – 16 hours
*Auto (Vehicle) Extrication - 24 hours
Breathing Apparatus/Search & Rescue - 32 hrs
Career Development – 4 hours
Combined Drill – 8 hours
Communications – 4 hours
*Confined Space Awareness – 8 hours
*EMS (Re-certification) Skills – 24 hours
Facilities Maintenance/ Equipment Issue – 8 hrs
Final Exam – 4 hours
*Fire Behavior & Control – 48 hours
*Firefighter Survival – 16 hours
Forcible Entry - 8 hours
*Hazardous Material First Responder- 28 hours
Hose Operation - 60 hours
IS-100 / IS-700 – 8 hours

*ICS 300 – 24 hrs
Orientation - 8 hours
Ladder Operation - 52 hours
*Low Angle Rope Rescue Operations – 24 hours
*Physical Ability Test – 8 hours
*Rescue Systems I - 40 hours
Ropes and Knots - 8 hours
Salvage Operations - 24 hours
Ventilation Practices - 32 hours
*Wildland Fire Control - 64 hours
*State Firefighter I Certification Training -
(Written & Skills) – 40 hours
**Total Hours for Fire Academy Instruction
and Testing – 560 hours**

***Certification Given**

The Basic Fire Academy has strict grooming standards. The candidates should possess a high degree of self-discipline, maintain a positive mental attitude to handle stress, and be able to adjust easily to a structured organization. The Academy emphasizes attitude, teamwork, self-confidence, self-discipline, quick thinking and the ability to follow exact instructions and orders.

Nondiscrimination Policy

The Rancho Santiago Community College District complies with all Federal and state rules and regulations and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender or disability. This holds true for all students who are interested in participating in educational programs and/or extracurricular school activities. Harassment of any employee/student with regard to race, color, national origin, gender or disability is strictly prohibited. Inquiries regarding compliance and/or grievance procedures may be directed to the District's Title IX Officer and/or Section 504/ADA Coordinator.

RSCCD Title IX Officer and Section 504/ADA Coordinator:
Judyanne Chitlik, 2323 N. Broadway, Santa Ana, CA 92706
714-480-7489

Equal Employment Opportunity Clause

The parties to this contract agree to promote equal employment opportunities through its policies and regulations. This means that both parties will not discriminate, nor tolerate discrimination, against any applicant or employee because of race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientations, national origin, age, disabled, or veteran status. Additionally, the parties will provide an environment that is free from sexual harassment, as well as harassment and intimidation on account of an individual's race, color, religion, gender, sexual orientation, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status.