



I WANT TO BE A FIRE FIGHTER

There are two certifications required to be eligible for employment as a fire fighter in the State of Florida: EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) and Firefighter II.

EMT is a 16 week course taught at the Fire Academy of the South Emergency Medical Training Facility. Classes are Tuesday and Thursday nights (6pm – 10 pm) and all day Saturdays (8am – 5pm). The course is comprised of lecture, lab training, and clinical internship. There is a total of 250 contact hours. Upon completion students will be eligible to sit for the National Registry examination for EMTs. The approximate cost of the class is \$1500.

Fire Fighter I/Fire Fighter II is a 398 hour course taught at the Fire Academy of the South. The course is taught Monday and Wednesday evenings (6pm – 10 pm) and all day Saturdays (8am – 5pm). The course lasts approximately 7 months. The course is comprised of lecture and practical exercises required to learn the skills of a fire fighter. Upon successful completion students will be tested by the Florida Bureau of Fire Standards for certification as a FFII. The approximate cost of the class is \$2600.

The Firefighter I/Fire Fighter II program is a limited access program. The admissions criteria mirror the employment requirements of area fire departments.

The educational prerequisite is certification as an EMT. A medical examination, physical ability test, and an extensive background check is required as part of the admissions process.

What is the first step?

EMT and FFI/FFII classes start every 4 months. The admissions process begins with an orientation session approximately one month before the start of EMT and two months before the start of FFI/FFII.

Call Joseph Wisniewski at (904) 646-2139 to be placed on the orientation notification list, or e-mail jwisniew@fscj.edu and provide your name, mailing address, and phone number. You will be notified via e-mail of the next available session.

Frequently asked questions?

Is there financial aid available?

Unfortunately there is very limited or no financial aid available for the programs offered at the Fire Academy of the South. The South campus Financial Aid office can be reached at 646-2020.

Is all the money due up front?

The costs listed include physicals, background check fees, tuition, and other fees. Money will be spent as each phase of admission progresses. Tuition is due prior to start of classes. The timeline is covered in the orientation session.

Does the GI bill apply?

Fire Fighter I, Firefighter II and EMT are covered by the GI bill. Bright Futures and Florida Pre-paid scholarships only cover Fire Fighter I and II.

What if I already am an EMT or a FF/I?

Call Joseph Wisniewski at (904) 646-2139. He will schedule you for the appropriate admissions process.

Why should I enroll at the Fire Academy of the South?

The bottom line is you get the best training from the best instructors. The EMT/Fire Fighter program takes one year to complete. The schedule is consistent and you will be working with the same core group of students and instructors from start to finish. The pass rate for the state certification exam at the Fire Academy of the South is over 95%. The results speak for themselves.

For further information or if you have more questions,

Call Joseph Wisniewski at 646-2139 or email jwisniew@fscj.edu or sreed@fscj.edu.

“Real training for the real world.”