



Fire Academy

MACOMB COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## FULL-TIME FIRE ACADEMY REGISTRATION PROCESS

Thank you for your interest in a career in firefighting and the Fire Academy program at Macomb Community College. There are challenges ahead in preparing to enter this competitive field, but the lifelong rewards make the sacrifices worthwhile. Following are requirements for registration to the Fire Academy and general goals that are either required or can help one to gain employment as a professional firefighter in the State of Michigan. To be eligible to register, students must meet the following requirements.

- 18 years of age minimum by the first day of class
- High school diploma / GED
- Must possess a current, valid Michigan driver's license
- Must have no felony convictions
- Complete a physical exam and provide a signed Physician's Release Form
- Minimum GPA of 2.0
- Pass the Fire Academy physical agility test (scheduled approx. 1 month prior to start of class)
- Complete background check and drug screen (Students with a misdemeanor may/may not be admitted.)

### REGISTRATION

Students successfully completing the Fire Academy program will receive Firefighter I & II certification through the State of Michigan Fire Fighter Training Division and earn 12 credit hours that can be applied toward a Fire Science associate degree or Paramedic/Firefighter associate degree. Students must register in person at the Fire Academy administrative office (Room 110) at East Campus, which is located at 21901 Dunham Road, Clinton Township, MI 48036. Registration typically takes about one hour, which includes an orientation to the Fire Academy.

- **The next full-time Fire Academy will start on September 4, 2018, and run through November 2, 2018. There will be a graduation ceremony on Monday, November 5. Registration for the academy begins Monday, July 2, 2018, and runs through July 31.**
- **Call 586-498-4020 to make a registration appointment.**
- Bring the following to register:
  - Current, valid Michigan driver's license
  - Original or copy of high school diploma
  - Copy of most current transcript **other than MCC** (either high school or college). Unofficial is acceptable--can be printed from online.
  - Deposit payment of \$500 (Check, credit or debit card, money order accepted. Make checks and money orders payable to Macomb Community College. **CASH IS NOT ACCEPTED. If using a credit card in someone else's name, the primary cardholder must sign a Credit Card Payment Information form. Contact Fire Academy office in advance at 586-498-4020 for the form.**

Upon completion of registration, students will be provided a list of Important Dates & Student Responsibilities that gives due dates for Physician's Release Form, background check & drug screen, and provides the scheduled date and time of the agility test.

### AGILITY TEST

All pre-service students must successfully complete the Fire Academy agility test, which is scheduled on a weekend about one month prior to the academy start date. The test consists of seven timed physical performance requirements to assess the student's physical abilities related to the job of firefighter. They are simulations of actual aspects of a firefighter's job, but they do not require previous firefighter training. Detailed agility test information and the scheduled test date will be provided at the time of registration. **This test date is the only time the agility test will be given.** Testing generally takes 2 -3 hours.

## **FIRE ACADEMY STUDENT ORIENTATION**

An orientation explaining all Fire Academy requirements, procedures, and information on ordering uniforms and personal protective equipment (PPE) will take place following completion of agility testing. Information also is provided as part of the student's registration packet.

## **EXPENSES**

The cost for tuition including textbook is \$3,475. Rental of personal protective equipment (PPE--\$670) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA--\$350) is normally required. If either/both can be borrowed from a fire department and they pass our inspection, your cost would be reduced. In addition, uniforms cost approximately \$200; and the combined cost for the drug test/background check is approximately \$79. The cost of a physical exam should be included in your expenses.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS**

There are a number of great scholarship opportunities available to Fire Academy students. Detailed scholarship information will be provided to students during the student orientation. Fire Academy students can apply after successfully completing the agility test. Applications are due by the end of the second week of class. Scholarship recipients will be announced at the Fire Academy graduation ceremony.

## **ACADEMY TRAINING**

The Fire Academy is a rigorous 9-week program meeting weekdays 7:45 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. and one required evening session. Drill days can run longer, so students must be flexible in their schedule.

- Military style protocol is adhered to.
- Academic progress is measured through 23 chapter exams, 9 weekly cumulative exams, mid-term and final exams.
- Skills requirements are measured through performance skills tests covering 23 subject areas.

All students must attain a score of 70% or higher on all written exams and successfully complete 12 required skill stations as provided by the Michigan Fire Fighter Training Division. Testing will be scheduled on site at East Campus.

## **ADDITIONAL FIRE SERVICE CAREER REQUIREMENTS**

### **EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN / PARAMEDIC**

In addition to Firefighter II certification, most fire departments require state certification as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) as a minimum; and many departments require Advanced EMT or Paramedic certification as well. Successful completion prepares you to take the National Registry Exam required for state licensure. A current EMT license is required to apply for the Paramedic program. EMT certification can be achieved by taking three separate EMSA (EMT) classes offered through the traditional Macomb College EMSA program worth a total of 12 credit hours. Traditional per credit hour fees apply. For specific information regarding the EMT and/or Paramedic program call 586-286-2069.

### **FIRE SCIENCE CERTIFICATE/ASSOCIATE DEGREE**

A few fire departments require a certificate, an associate degree in Fire Science, or credit hours in some other related field as a requirement for employment or a requirement for promotion. For specific information call 586-226-4991.

### **WORK/LIFE EXPERIENCE**

Other goals that will enhance one's opportunities for employment are experience as a Part Paid Firefighter or experience as an AEMT or EMT for a public or private EMS service provider.

**NOTE:** Because each municipality has its own hiring criteria and requirements, it is advised that you contact several municipalities to get an idea of the requirement differences and commonalities.

## **FIRE ACADEMY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE**

Please contact the Fire Academy office at **586-498-4020** for further assistance and information.