



Ride-Along Program

Experience emergency responses with crew members during your ride-along! This adventure will provide a great example of the skills required to be a firefighter, allowing you to see and feel the compassion and bravery firefighters provide their community.

If you are 18 years of age (or 16-17 years of age and with the permission of a parent/guardian), you can ride-along with any Fresno Fire apparatus. To be considered as a ride-along candidate, please complete the necessary request form found at www.fresno.gov/fire. After successful completion of a short background check, you will be contacted by a department member to schedule your ride-along for a duration of time convenient to your schedule.



Fire Explorer Program

The Fresno Fire Explorer Program is a youth program sponsored by the Fresno Fire Department and the Golden West division of "Learning for Life." This youth program allows individuals, ages 14-21, the opportunity to consider a career in the fire service.

Explorer meetings are held every other Saturday at the Fresno Fire Department's training tower, located at 1144 E Street. During these meetings fire explorers are introduced to basic firefighting skills, fire service tools/equipment and policies/procedures. After a predetermined training curriculum, fire explorers have the opportunity to become "certified" and ride-along on an engine or truck company.

Recruitment for the Fire Explorer Program is held once a year in the months of February/March. Prospective explorers will be contacted when recruitment begins and will be given the opportunity to take part in the Fire Explorer Program entry process, which includes a physical ability test, 1-mile run, and an interview. Interested candidates may visit the website for more details: www.FFDExplorers.com.



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Teamwork, Trust, Commitment



*"More than a job ...
a dedication of service!"*



Desirable Education and Training

- California State Fire Marshal Accredited Academy
- Firefighter I certification
- Fire science courses
- College degrees are recommended but not required
- Paramedic license



Desirable Traits and Qualities of a Fresno Firefighter

Firefighters have a servant's heart, are team players, honest, dependable and have a positive impact on the community. Firefighting is both physically and mentally demanding, requiring one to be physically fit, highly trained, motivated, and possess a strong



work ethic. Our firefighters often volunteer or are involved in various community service projects off duty, as well.

After successful completion of the testing process, candidates will be hired as Firefighter Trainees and attend a Firefighter



Trainee Academy. The Firefighter Trainee Academy is held Monday-Friday, from approximately 7am-5pm for either seven weeks or fifteen weeks, depending on the necessary level of training and recruitment required. Trainees must successfully complete the academy in order to promote to Firefighter within the Fresno Fire Department.

It cannot be emphasized enough that a clean background (history of making good choices) is important. The background investigations process includes a polygraph exam.

Compensation and Benefits

The salary of an entry-level firefighter is competitive with other public safety positions in the Central

Valley. With benefits such as medical/dental/vision insurance, paid vacation, holiday, and sick leave, retirement pension, 457 plan, as well as promotional opportunities and specialty team training, firefighters can be a part of an admired profession protecting and serving their community.

Minimum Qualifications

- 20 years old at time of application
- High school graduate or GED certificate
- Valid driver's license (CA by time of appointment)
- Current Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Current CPR card
- Current Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) <http://www.cffjac.org/go/jac/cpat/>

Typical Entry Level Testing Process

- Preparation/application
- Written and/or oral examination
- Fire Chief's interview
- Extensive background check/polygraph examination
- Medical exam



America's Heroes

Firefighters are known as America's Heroes. They have a "servant's heart" and are willing to respond to those in need. Firefighters are called to serve at several types of emergencies, including fires, traffic accidents, medical emergencies, hazardous materials incidents, and rescues. In addition, firefighters are involved in their community through public education events, inspections of businesses and dangerous buildings, as well as hydrant maintenance.

Firefighters work a 2-on/4-off schedule (48 hours on duty / 96 hours off duty). On a two-day shift, firefighters not only respond to calls for service at a moment's notice, they are also continually training to maintain their skill sets, engage in physical activity, and conduct various inspections in the community. A crew quickly becomes a family as they will eat together, often work through the night as a team, and maintain their stations like a home. When not at the firehouse, firefighters are able to spend quality time with family and friends, enjoying other activities outside work.