

FIRE ACADEMY with EMT, Certificate – (Noncredit)

Fire - Office of Academic Affairs & Workforce Development

CIP Code: 430203

The Fire Academy provides theory and practical application of firefighter skills that exceed the instructional objectives of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 Firefighter I and II training standards. The instructional content of HACC's Fire Academy includes classroom and practical training in firefighting operations; hazardous materials targeting NFPA 472 and 29 CFR 1910.120 "Operations" level competencies; NFPA 1500 standard; physical development; Emergency Medical Technician; Vehicle Rescue Operations; and Technical Rescue Awareness Level Training. The course topics covered are intended to prepare students to successfully pass a nationally recognized Firefighter I and II certification exam and the Pennsylvania Department of Health Emergency Medical Technician certification exam. This training can be completed at the Harrisburg Campus through on-campus/in-person instruction.

Harrisburg Area Community College has conducted an average of two Fire Academies each year since 1989, graduating over 500 career firefighters. It is the only true "Open Enrollment" career Fire Academy in Pennsylvania that has the ability to continually accept firefighters from various career fire departments and be able to graduate them with high efficiency. The instructor cadre has grown to include some of the best instructors from Pennsylvania and beyond. Our staff is experienced and professional in their approach to training and evaluating firefighter cadets. They are personally chosen by their expertise in the given topic area.

This course is conducted weekdays from 7:30 a.m. - 4:45 p.m., with few exceptions. This course can be taken in 14 weeks, totaling 590.25 hours, or in eight weeks, totaling 300 hours. (The eight-week course does not contain the EMT portion.) The course is operated under a semi-military environment with strict guidelines established for cadet's behavior, attitude and interaction. For training purposes, the Academy does have a command structure. Cadets are required to assume in-class leadership roles during the academy. Cadets are exposed to daily and weekly academic testing, intense physical exercise, and development. Although not a pre-requisite, preparatory physical exercise greatly enhances a cadet's ability to meet the physical rigors of academy training.

Competency Profile

This curriculum is designed to prepare students to

- Obtain course completions of: NIMS 700, 100 & 200
- Obtain National Professional Qualifications Certifications in:
 - NFPA 1001 - Fire Fighter I and Firefighter II Certifications
 - NFPA 472 - Haz Mat Awareness and Haz Mat Operations Certifications
 - American Heart Association Certificates in both Professional CPR and First Aid.
- Obtain course completions of PA DOH Basic Vehicle Rescue series.
- Complete the HACC's Emergency Medical Technician Certificate of Completion
- Receive a total of four (4) college credits to individuals who successfully complete the HACC's Fire Academy and who formally enroll as matriculated students into HACC's Fire Science Technology programs. These four credits can be applied towards the required 60-credits needed for graduation, but they may not substitute for any required Fire Science courses.

Career Opportunities

Municipal Firefighters – (paid full time, part time or per call)

PROGRAM ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS (Pre-service cadets)

- Must be a U.S. Citizen
- Required to be a minimum of 21-years of age by the first day of the training course
- Possess a valid operator's license
- High school diploma or G.E.D (transcript required)
- Submit college transcripts if applicable
- A \$25 fee is required to take the HACC Fire Academy Physical Fitness Entrance Exam.
- Provide proof of medical insurance
- Complete physical examination in accordance with NFPA 1682. Complete psychological examination (MMPI and a clinical interview with the psychologist)
- Complete a Child Abuse History Certification (DHS)
- Complete a Federal Criminal History Background Check (FBI)
- Obtain a Criminal History Check through the PA State Police
- Obtain a 10-year Department of Transportation driving record check
- If applicable, submit a copy of military discharge document (DD214)
- Three letters of reference from non-relatives

- Three letters of reference from present or former employers
- Successful completion of an oral interview
- Agree in writing to abide by the Academy Rules and Regulations

(Note: In-service cadets are enrolled through a similar process and requirements with their employing agency)

RECOMMENDED SEQUENCE

Students must successfully complete the 590.25 Hour course in its entirety to receive a certificate of completion. 590.25 Hours – 266.5 Lecture Hours / 323.75 Lab Hours