



Emergency Fire Services

Frequently Asked Questions

What requirements do I need to meet to enter firefighter training?

Health Screening

- A comprehensive health screening is required prior to admission to a fire training course. Contact the Fire Program Coordinator for a Health Screening form and for further information.

EMS Training

- EMS training is required prior to admission to a fire training course (The Volunteer course is exempt from this rule). There are three options to meet this rule:
 - Provide valid EMS certification.
 - Complete an EMT course with a passing score.
 - Take an 8-hour emergency medical care/CPR course that provides the necessary training to meet the requirement.

Contact the Fire Program Coordinator for further information

CPR Certification

- A current BLS Provider card from the American Heart Association is required.

BCI Background Check

- A background check is required prior to admission into a fire training course. Contact the Fire Program Coordinator for information on how to obtain the BCI background check.

How do I become a certified Firefighter?

Complete a fire course with a grade of “C” or higher, then take and pass the State of Ohio Firefighter certification practical testing and written test.

What type of training do I need to get hired on a fire department?

The majority of fire departments require candidates to have the following certifications:

- Firefighter Certification
- EMS Certification

Each fire department may vary on certifications they will accept to be hired. Stark State College offers the fire training, EMT-B training, and Paramedic training in our Emergency Fire Services degree.

What if I miss a day of training in the fire course?

All course hours are required to be completed to be eligible to sit for the State of Ohio certification test.

What type of equipment will I need for a fire course?

BOOKS

- Check with the Fire Program Coordinator for current required books.
- Student Manual Packet – ONLY AVAILABLE IN THE STARK STATE COLLEGE BOOKSTORE

BOOKS ARE REQUIRED THE FIRST DAY OF COURSE

A syllabus will be made available the first day of course.

EQUIPMENT

Stark State College can supply students with most of the required Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA). If a student is using equipment from the college, they shall keep it in good condition and shall pay a fee for cleaning at the end of the course. If a student is on a fire department and is bringing his own PPE and SCBA the equipment must be in good condition for use at the college. The following is a list of equipment requirements:

- Fire Jacket
- Fire pants with suspenders
- Fire boots
- Fire helmet
- SCBA with facepiece
- *Fire Gloves and Fire Hood(Available from vendor during course)(Approximately \$90-100)
- *Eye protection (Safety glasses)
- *Hearing protection (Disposable foam earplugs)
- *Uniform shirt (Available from vendor during course)

***These items are the students' responsibility and are not supplied by Stark State College**

Is there a uniform requirement for the fire course?

Yes, see the following excerpt from the student manual:

All students must dress in an appropriate fashion. Clothing is to be neat, clean, and presentable.

- **Students associated with a fire department:** department work uniforms may be worn to all course sessions. To wear a department shirt or uniform, the student must be affiliated with that department. Color cannot be faded or streaked. No holes, tears, or fraying is permitted.

- **Students not associated with a fire department:**
 - **Shirts:** T-shirt, collared golf shirt, sweatshirt, hoodie, or long sleeve t-shirt. No sleeveless or tank tops are permitted. No holes, tears, or fraying is permitted. Color cannot be faded or streaked.
 - **Shirt color:** there are two types of shirts that are acceptable; plain blue or stark state embroidered blue.
 - **Plain blue:** no graphics or writing. Must be dark navy or a color as approved by the coordinator.
 - **Stark State Fire Academy embroidered blue:** Must be dark navy or a color as approved by the coordinator.
 - A vendor will be made available during course for the student to purchase a Stark State Fire Academy shirt.
 - **Pants:** pants must be blue or black. Denim is acceptable. No holes, tears, fraying, or any graphics are permitted.
 - **Shorts:** Shorts may be worn during classroom sessions. During **any** practical training evolution fire pants must be worn over the shorts. Shorts must be a minimum of fingertip length when the wearer is standing upright. Shorts must have pockets including rear pockets. Color is to be black, blue, or khaki. No athletic shorts are permitted, no nylon, polyester, or spandex. Denim shorts are permitted but cannot be cut-offs. Denim shorts must be stitched at the bottom of the pant leg.
- **Shoes:** Clean and presentable shoes shall be worn at all times. Sandals, open toed shoes, or shoes without an enclosed heel are not permitted.
- **Jewelry:** Watches, wedding bands, and medical alert tags will be permissible to wear. All other jewelry must be removed.
- **Hair:** Hair must be off the collar when operating on the training ground. Individuals with long hair will put their hair up when training.
- **Hats:** Hats of any type are not permitted in the classroom areas.
- Pants and shirts must not be too tight, too low cut or too loose as to create a distraction, or deter from professionalism.
- Exposed skin between shirt and pants is unacceptable.
- While on a training ground all students must wear at minimum, helmet, boots, and gloves. Full turnout gear when required by instructors.
- Beards and goatees will not be permitted for safety reasons. Students must be clean shaven at the start of each course session. Groomed mustaches are permissible but may not extend past the corner of the mouth.