

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

~ CLASS SCHEDULE ~

- **Classes are held** Monday through Friday from 7:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with a few exceptions.
- **Each class** runs through 14 weeks. Graduation is held during the 14th week (may vary).

~ TUITION ~

- **Tuition** is presently \$4,000.00 per recruit. However, there is no guarantee this rate will be in effect at the time you would attend a class.
- **Tuition** is always due, in full, two (2) weeks prior to the first day of class.
- **Payment** may be made with a credit card (Visa, MasterCard, or Discover), a check card/debit card, cashier's check or money order. Personal checks are **NOT** accepted. Cash is **NOT** accepted. (A 3% service fee is charged for all credit card payments.) (There is no service fee charged for check card/debit card payments.)
- The Fire Academy **does not** offer any type of payment plan.
- The Fire Academy **DOES** accept Department of Veterans' Affairs Education Benefits. For information, please contact Betty Stoeklin at 314-889-8670.

~ TURNOUT GEAR ~

- * You must provide your own N.F.P.A. approved turnout gear by the second day of class that you attend. *

Turnout gear can be purchased new or used. Contact information for turnout gear distributors can be found on the St. Louis County Fire Academy's website: www.stlocofireacademy.com. **New turnout gear can be very expensive.** There are some fire departments/districts that will lend turnout gear to individuals sending themselves through the St. Louis County Fire Academy. You would need to contact the individual agencies to inquire if they lend gear and what their procedures/requirements are. There is a contact list for the departments/districts on the Fire Academy's website.

Gear can also be rented. Turnout Rental is a company that offers a complete rental ensemble to students attending the St. Louis County Fire Academy. They offer secure online ordering at www.turnoutrental.com or they can be reached at 866-887-6688. To receive a 5% discount off the gear rental and a 50% discount off the refundable security deposit, use School Code: STLCOFA

ST. LOUIS COUNTY BASIC FIREFIGHTER TRAINING ENTRANCE STANDARDS

Age: Must be at least 18 years of age at the time of application.

Education: Must have a High School Diploma or General Equivalency Diploma.

Police Record Check: Must not have been convicted of a misdemeanor involving moral turpitude or a felony under which the circumstances reasonably affect a person's competency to perform the duties of a firefighter. Applicants are required to provide a background check from the Missouri State Highway Patrol. It must be a fingerprint based search. The current cost is \$28.30.

Driver's License: Must possess a valid driver's license.

Military: Separation must have been "Under Honorable Conditions".

Candidate Physical Ability Test (C.P.A.T.): See information under **CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (C.P.A.T.)**.

Medical Insurance: Must have coverage for the entire duration of class attended & for the CPAT.



GENERAL OVERVIEW

There are 43 different fire departments and fire protection districts in St. Louis County. Each agency does their own hiring and has their own individual hiring requirements. Therefore, you would need to contact them directly regarding employment.

To work at any of the 43 fire service agencies in St. Louis County, you must be certified through the St. Louis County Fire Academy.

There are two ways to go through the Academy. **One way** is to be hired as a full-time, paid firefighter by a fire department or fire protection district in St. Louis County. Anyone hired as such must attend the St. Louis County Fire Academy's Basic Firefighter Training Program within six (6) months of their employment date. Therefore, **New Hires** receive first priority in seating in each Academy Class.

While some of the 43 agencies will hire an individual and send them through the Academy, others will only hire those individuals who have already been through the Academy. In addition, you will find that most of those agencies which do hire and send through the Academy require a Paramedic license for employment.

For your information, there are approximately 1,551 firefighters presently working at the 43 different agencies in St. Louis County. Of those, 82% are Paramedics, 12% are E.M.T.s (Emergency Medical Technician), and 6% have no E.M.S. licensure whatsoever. So, as you can see, a Paramedic license is very important when seeking employment within the St. Louis County Fire Service.

The second way to go through the Academy is to participate in the admission process for **Self-Sponsored Students**. That process involves obtaining, completing and submitting an application packet.

BASIC INFORMATION

- There are normally three (3) classes held each year, usually beginning in January, April and September. While there are usually 32 students in each class, this may vary.

- Each class is a combination of New Hires from St. Louis County fire agencies and Self-Sponsored students.

- **Upon certification, each individual seeks their own employment in the fire service. St. Louis County Government, the St. Louis County Fire Standards Commission and the St. Louis County Fire Academy, Inc. do not hire firefighters, nor do they provide a job placement service after certification.**

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (C.P.A.T.)

The C.P.A.T. consists of eight (8) critical physical tasks that simulate actual job duties on the fire ground. (Stair Climb, Hose Drag, Equipment Carry, Ladder Raise & Extension, Forcible Entry, Search, Rescue, and Ceiling Breach & Pull.)

To view a video of the C.P.A.T. and for a detailed booklet on this test, please visit the Fire Academy Inc.'s website: www.stlcofireacademy.com.

This test is physically demanding and requires that you be physically fit to be successful. This test, as well as the job of a firefighter, requires high levels of cardiopulmonary endurance, muscular strength and muscular endurance.

Applicants with current CPAT certification shall have priority over those without CPAT certification for entry into the St. Louis County Fire Academy. Applicants without CPAT certification will be allowed entry into the Fire Academy but must pass the CPAT in order to graduate with their respective class. Candidates who do not pass the CPAT prior to completing the ninth (9th) week of their Academy training will not be eligible to sit for any of the final exams, will not graduate with their class, and must repeat the entire course at their own expense to obtain St. Louis County certification.

The CPAT offered at the St. Louis County Fire Academy is ONLY for those individuals seeking employment within the St. Louis Metropolitan area. Pre-registration is required. Call Betty at 314-889-8670 to register. CPAT testing is offered twice a month (subject to change). The CPAT dates can be found on the Academy's website: www.stlcofireacademy.com. The fee for the C.P.A.T. is \$125.00 and is due in advance.

E.M.S. LICENSING INFORMATION

Listed below are a few training entities which offer E.M.T. and Paramedic Courses. For a comprehensive list, please contact Missouri's Bureau of Emergency Medical Services at 573-751-6356 or on the web at <http://health.mo.gov/safety/ems/pdf/TrainingEntityDirectory.pdf>

St. Louis Community College
314-644-9925
www.stlcc.edu

Jefferson College
636-797-3000
www.jeffco.edu

IHM Academy of EMS
314-768-1234 ext. 1120
www.ihmacademyofems.com

Respond Right EMS Academy
314-713-1645 or 636-387-6200
www.respondright.com

St. Charles County Ambulance District
636-344-7600
www.sccad.com

For a detailed curriculum, a contact list for St. Louis County Fire Departments and Districts and additional information, please visit the St. Louis County Fire Academy, Inc.'s website at:
www.stlcofireacademy.com

ST. LOUIS COUNTY BASIC FIREFIGHTER TRAINING PROGRAM

SELF-SPONSORED STUDENT ADMISSION PROCESS

Application for admission to the Academy may be made by requesting an application packet:

- By email at DSnopek@stlouisco.com
- By telephone at 314-889-8690 (Diane Snopek)
- In person at 1266 Sutter Avenue, St. Louis, MO 63133 (8:00 am – 4:00 pm)

When you have completed your application packet, you may submit it to our office in person or via U.S. Mail. ***Incomplete packets will not be accepted.***

Upon receipt, application packets will be date and time stamped. They will then be reviewed to ensure they are complete and accurate, and that all requirements have been met.

Placement in a Recruit Class will be based on a point system. Applicants will earn points as follows:

- Valid Missouri Emergency Medical Technician License = 1 Point
- Valid Missouri Paramedic License = 1 Additional Point
- Fire Standards Commission approved Scholarship, provided the applicant also has a valid Missouri Paramedic License = 1 Additional point.
- Honorable Discharge from Active Duty U.S. Military Service, provided the applicant also has a valid Missouri Paramedic License = 1 Additional Point

Points will be allocated accordingly during the review process of the application packet.

Applicants will be ranked by number of points first, then by the date and time of receipt of their application packet.

If an applicant is not rostered for the upcoming Recruit Class, they may remain on the admission list without reapplying.

If an applicant on the list obtains the licensure and/or approved scholarship required to earn an additional point, they will need to contact the Fire Standards Commission to inform them of this change and submit the appropriate paperwork to be awarded the point.

At that time, they would advance on the admission list to the appropriate point category. They will also retain the date and time stamp of their original application.

All required items must be submitted by the following deadlines to be eligible for the rostering of the specific class mentioned:

- January class – Last Monday in October (class begins on Monday of the first full week of January).
- April class – Last Monday in December (class begins on Monday of the second full week in April).
- September class – Last Monday in June (class begins on Monday of the second full week in September).