



FIRE & EMS NEWS

December 2005

Volume 4 – Issue 6

Welcome to the latest issue of the Fire & EMS News! Some of the highlights of this issue include:

- Spring 2006 Fire Technology related courses offered at Chabot College!
- Holiday gifts that keep on giving!
- Volunteers needed around the Bay Area – EMS classes
- This month's written examination testing tips, courtesy of the Don McNea Fire School!
- FREE Firefighter Preparation Seminars at Chabot College!
- Firefighter employment opportunities – Huntington Beach, CDF, Tucson, and Burbank!

SPRING 2006 FIRE TECHNOLOGY SCHEDULE

- **R**egistration for the Spring 2006 semester has already begun and classes are filling up quickly! For the most up-to-date registration dates and information, check the [Chabot College](#) main website.

Presently, the following fire-technology related courses are going to be offered this Spring:

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (am)	0800 – 1150 hours
FT 50 (Fire Protection Organization)	Monday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
FT 51 (Fire Operations)	Wednesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety/Public Education 1) <i>**State Fire Marshal certificate course</i>	Tuesday (am)	0900 – 1150 hours
FT 52 (Firefighter Safety/Public Education 1) <i>**State Fire Marshal certificate course</i>	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
FT 53 (Fire Behavior & Combustion)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2050 hours
FT 55 (Equipment & Systems)	Thursday (pm)	1830 – 2120 hours
FT 90A (Firefighter 1 Academy) <i>NOTE: The academy is full (it filled up on the first day of registration!)</i>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 90B (Firefighter 1 Academy) <i>NOTE: The academy is full (it filled up on the first day of registration!)</i>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours

COURSE	DAY	TIMES
FT 90C (Firefighter 1 Academy) <i>NOTE: The academy is full (it filled up on the first day of registration!)</i>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0830 – 1650 hours
FT 91A (Wildland Interface Firefighting) <i>Note: Meets May 2, 4, 6, 9, 11, 13 and 15</i>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2050 hours 0800 – 1650 hours
FT 91B (Haz Mat 1 st Responder-Operations) <i>Note: Meets April 18, 20, 22 and 23, 2006</i>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1750 hours
FT 91C (I-200; Basic ICS) <i>Note: Meets April 25, 27, 29 and 30, 2006</i>	Tue & Thurs (pm) Saturday (all day) Sunday (all day)	1700 – 2150 hours 0800 – 1750 hours 0800 – 1750 hours
FT 95 (Work Experience) <i>**Must also be registered in FT 96**</i>	TBA	TBA
FT 96 (Work Experience Seminar) <i>**Must also be registered in FT 95**</i> <i>Note: Class only meets on the following dates:</i> January 18, March 1, 29, April 26 and May 24	Wednesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (mid)	1100 – 1450 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Tuesday (pm)	1800 – 2150 hours
Health 61 (First Responder)	Friday (am)	0830 – 1250 hours
Health 81 (EMT) <i>**Must also be registered in Health 83**</i>	Wednesday (all day)	0800 – 1650 hours
Health 83 (Extrication and Triage) <i>**Must also be registered in Health 81**</i>	Saturday (one day only – TBA)	0830 – 1620 hours
Health 9909 (EMT Refresher) <i>Note: Meets April 24, 26, 29, May 1, 3 and 6</i>	Mon & Wed (pm) Saturday (all day)	1800 – 2200 hours 0800 – 1700 hours
PE2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Mon & Wed (mid)	1300 – 1415 hours
PE2FSC (Fire Science Conditioning)	Tue & Thu (mid)	1300 – 1415 hours

NOTE: The above information is to the best of my knowledge as of the time this went to print. For the most up-to-date information (including room numbers & registration numbers) regarding Spring 2006 scheduling, check the Chabot College web site at www.chabotcollege.org

The Firefighter 1 Academy filled up on the first day of registration, in about an hour or so. What does this mean for you if you want to get into the academy? It means you have to have a DAY 1 PRIORITY NUMBER. The college does registration by the way of priority number. Those folks with the highest priority numbers register first. To learn more about how you can get a high priority number and increase your chances of registering into the academy, go to the main college website at www.chabotcollege.edu and go to the SPRING 2006 registration section. Once there, look for registration dates and priority numbers. Good luck!

Also, for more information about how to best increase your chances on getting into the Firefighter 1 Academy, visit my website section that is dedicated to the academy – www.chabotfire.com/Academy.htm

My suggestion to everyone is to register as soon as you are eligible to. Classes fill up very quickly, and I with more people wanting to become firefighters, I don't see our numbers of students decreasing, only increasing. I would have liked to offer more classes in the summer time and in the fall; however the state budget crisis does not appear to be going away anytime soon. I think we are very fortunate if we get to keep the above courses that I have scheduled. Also, if you are registered in the Chabot College system, you are eligible to take classes at Las Positas College in Livermore as well. Just because one class is full (or does not fit your schedule) at Chabot doesn't mean it isn't being offered at Las Positas. When you register for classes on the Chabot College website, you can see both schedules – Chabot and Las Positas.

HOLIDAY GIFTS THAT KEEP ON GIVING!

With the holidays coming up, here are some suggestions when people ask what they should get you:

1. **Subscription to various Fire Service related publications such as:**
 - a. Firehouse magazine – www.firehouse.com
 - b. Fire Engineering magazine – www.fire-eng.com
 - c. Fire Chief magazine – www.firechief.com
 - d. Fire Apparatus Journal – www.fireapparatusjournal.com
 - e. Journal of Emergency Services (JEMS) – www.jems.com
2. **Subscription to one or more Firefighter testing services that notify you when fire departments are testing:**
 - a. Perfect Firefighter Candidate – www.firecareers.com
 - b. Careers in the Fire Service – www.firerecruit.com
3. **Gift certificates to businesses that sell fire & EMS related books:**
 - a. Firefighters Bookstore – www.firebooks.com
 - b. FSP Books and Video – www.fire-police-ems.com
4. **Association memberships:**
 - a. California Firefighters Association (CSFA) – www.csfa.net
 - b. California Conference of Arson Investigators – www.arson.org
 - c. Women in the Fire Service – www.wfsi.org
 - d. Northern California Fire Prevention Officers Association – www.firepreventionofficers.org
5. **Gym membership:**
 - a. Pick a gym that provides a full compliment of work out equipment and facilities so when asked how you have prepared yourself for the position, you can comment how you have joined a gym and have a workout plan in place (goes back to preparation and motivation).

6. **Thomas Brothers Maps:**

- a. If you have never heard what about a Thomas Brothers Map, then you have missed out on a valuable resource. Thomas Brothers Maps produce maps of specific counties throughout California and parts of the United States. Thomas Brothers Maps can be found at any major book store chain or on their web site at www.thomas.com – take a look to see for yourself. If you are a Costco member, they usually have them available for a very reasonable price.
- b. Why are they so valuable?
 - **Number 1** – to become a firefighter, you are probably going to be doing a great deal of driving around the area if not the state and you'll need a map anyway.
 - **Number 2** – when you take a test for a fire department, you should be doing some basic research such as stopping by fire stations or determining what types of target hazards are found in a community, etc. Besides target hazards, Thomas Brothers Maps list every governmental facility such as fire stations, police stations, city hall, etc. These maps can do a portion of your homework for you!
 - **Number 3** – they are in a book format, thus they won't be easily damaged like regular fold-out maps will.
 - **Number 4** – since many fire departments and ambulance companies use Thomas Brothers Maps in their vehicles, you will be getting a leg up on learning. Reading maps is almost like a lost art in the fire service. Many of the new firefighters we are hiring cannot read a map to save their life. When someone calls 911, we don't have every address memorized in our head – 99.9% of the time, we have to use a map to find the address. Start your training now!
- c. What types of maps do they sell? They usually produce a map of a county or multiple counties, such as:
 - Alameda County
 - Contra Costa County
 - Alameda County and Contra Costa County (Best value – 2 counties in one book)
 - Bay Area Metropolitan Area – All bay area counties in one book (Excellent value)
 - State of California (an excellent book to supplement your other county books)

7. **Private Oral Board Coaching**

- a. [Battalion Chief Paul Lepore](#), (Long Beach Fire Department). [CLICK HERE](#) to go to his the coaching section on his website to learn more about this valuable service geared toward increasing your oral interview scores!
- b. [Captain Bob Smith](#), (Hayward Fire Department – retired). [CLICK HERE](#) to go the coaching section on his website to learn more about this valuable service geared toward increasing your oral interview scores!

8. **Books to help you better prepare yourself to become a firefighter**

- a. [The Aspiring Firefighter's Two-Year Plan](#) by Paul Lepore. This book was reviewed on page 1 of this newsletter, and provides the future firefighter with a great game plan to best prepare you to become a firefighter.
- b. [Smoke Your Firefighter Interview](#) by Paul Lepore. This book was reviewed in the [December 2003 issue](#) of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News and is one of the best firefighter oral interview preparation books out today.
- c. [Become a Firefighter: The Complete Guide to Your Badge!](#) by Captain Bob Smith. This book was reviewed in the [October 2003 issue](#) of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News and is a great resource that provides a wealth of information for the future firefighter.
- d. The Don McNea Fire School offers numerous preparation study guides and books to help you become a better firefighter candidate. Visit their website at www.fireprep.com for more information.

9. **Training and Education Items**

- a. CPAT (Candidate Physical Ability Test) certification – many fire departments are now requiring a candidate to successfully complete the CPAT prior to even applying for their department. There are two locations in California (Dublin – Northern California and Orange – Southern California) where you can sign up to take the test. Once you pass, you receive a certificate that is typically good for 12 months. This is also a great way to see if you are at an entry-level firefighter candidate level of physical fitness. Go to their website at www.cpatonline.org
- b. Ask for the cost of books and class fees for a fire technology course at your local junior college.

Additional items geared for your friends and family members to help ensure they remain safe and sound year round!

- Smoke alarms
- Fire extinguishers (car and home)
- Emergency escape ladders for the home
- Whistle and lanyard
- Carbon monoxide alarms
- Childproofing and safety latch, gate and lock items
- Earthquake and disaster supplies (food, water, self-help)
- Cordless telephone for the pool area
- New large reflective numerals for a home address
- Anti-scald and non-slip devices for the bath and shower
- First-aid kits
- CPR mini-mask (to provide a barrier instead of true mouth-to-mouth resuscitation)
- Registration for a free Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) class with the local fire department
- First aid and CPR training

- Sturdy work gloves, goggles, and face mask
- Scanner radio to listen to the fire department (and/or police department) in action
- An automotive safety check by a certified mechanic
- A chimney sweep and inspection service gift certificate

Thanks to my dear friend, **Brian Humphrey**, Public Safety Officer (Firefighter / Public Information Officer) with the [Los Angeles Fire Department](#) for providing the above suggestions for your friends and family members (and also yourself if you are in need of the items to keep yourself safe and sound!).

Even if you don't get what you want for the holidays doesn't mean you can't invest in some of the above areas to better prepare yourself for your future career as a firefighter. To make money, you have to spend money. I'm not saying you're going to get rich being a firefighter – I'm just using a phrase that has been around for a long time. It basically means success in life doesn't usually fall into your lap. You're going to have to invest some time and money to get you where you want in life.

EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE BAY AREA:

The [San Francisco Paramedic Association](#) is looking for volunteers for the following upcoming EMS related classes:

Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Classes - Volunteers Needed

Dates / Locations / Times:	- Thursday December 15 from 0700 to 0930 hours - Friday December 16 from 1230 to 1730 hours
You will receive:	NOTE: Both of the above classes will be held at the Bay Model Visitor Center in Sausalito (2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito) Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their pluses and minuses. You will also receive a free San Francisco Paramedic Association t-shirt and your choice of an SFPA rescue key chain or ALS field guide.
Your role:	As a volunteer, you will be moulaged and designated to role-play a victim of a trauma emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios.
Contact person(s):	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sfparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/volunteer.htm

THIS MONTH'S TESTING TIPS – Courtesy of the Don McNea Fire School

Some more firefighter written examination testing tips courtesy of the [Don McNea Fire School!](#)

TEST-TAKING STRATEGY #1:

INFORMATION ORDERING

Questions based on Information Ordering measure your ability to apply rules to a situation for the purpose of putting the information in the best or most appropriate sequence.

The secret of success in answering questions based on Information Ordering is to be extremely rigid in your thinking. These questions are based on the premises that:

- 1. There is only one correct order of things or sequence of steps.**
- 2. Every step must be followed in its proper order.**
- 3. No step may be skipped or omitted.**

Strategies:

- 1. Put in order only as much information as you need to answer the questions.**
- 2. Examine alternatives only as far as the point where you find it to be definitely wrong.**
- 3. If you are not sure which item should be placed first in the list, determine which item is last.**
- 4. Go by what you do know for sure.**

One example would be the rules for entering a person's name on a report form. The form may indicate that one should begin by entering the person's last name, then the person's first name, then middle initial. Given these rules, it would be an error to start with the person's first name. It would also be an error to write out the person's middle name, since the rule calls for only the middle initial.

Another example would be a procedure that tells you to inspect a building by checking the cellar first, then the floors above one by one beginning with the first floor, then the fire escape, and finally the sprinklers if there are any. Given this statement of the procedure, it would be an error to do the easy thing by inspecting the cellar and then using the cellar exit to the back yard to inspect the fire escape before going up to check the first floor. It would also be an error to inspect the sprinklers at the same time as you are inspecting each floor. Although a procedure may seem silly to you, there may be technical reasons which justify the procedure. Stick to the procedure given in the question.

Standard procedures are used to ensure that nothing is overlooked due to lack of systematic approach. On a fire scene standard procedures also help a superior to keep track of where Firefighters are at any given moment. At least on an exam, it is an error to modify a procedure. Sometimes a test maker will create a false choice which would be a change in the procedure but seems to make a lot of sense. **Do not fall for this kind of false answer! Strictly adhere to procedures.**

Questions on procedures can be difficult when the procedures list exceptions or include "if's." For example, a procedure may require firefighters to turn off all hydrants when they are not being used by the fire department, except when certain hydrants have been equipped with spray attachments and are being used by children playing on the street in the summertime. Another example might be a procedure that says a firefighter should break a window if smoke is building up inside a building; if there is no build-up of smoke, this procedure would not call for breaking a window. Hence, it is important to take note of any "if's" in procedures and to be aware of any exceptions to procedures which are stated on the exam itself.

When determining what order the information presented to you should be placed, try to look for key words in each choice that would lead to the next step in the process. The key for information ordering is that when put together, the answers present themselves in a paragraph form that correctly states each step.

TEST-TAKING STRATEGY #2:

INDUCTIVE REASONING

There are many different kinds of reasoning. Some reasoning is by simple association. If you see very dark clouds coming your way, accompanied by lightning and thunder, you will probably conclude that it is going to rain, even if you do not understand the scientific explanation for rain. By experience you have learned to associate such dark clouds with rain. By experience a fire marshal may associate a fire in the ceiling of a vacant top floor apartment of a tenement house with arson. This kind of reasoning by association requires some knowledge or experience.

Another kind of reasoning is by comparison. Much of the "legal reasoning" done by a lawyer consists of comparing a case with other cases which have already been decided by the courts. When a firefighter is able to predict that a building will collapse during a fire, it is often by comparison to other fire scenes in which buildings have collapsed; it may not be possible to do a scientific evaluation of the situation at the moment.

Your firefighter exam will include three kinds of mental abilities related to reasoning. These are three kinds of reasoning which do not depend heavily on prior knowledge or experience. They are: inductive reasoning, deductive reasoning, and problem solving.

Inductive Reasoning measures your ability to determine a rule or concept which fits specific situations. You will be given specific situations and then asked to determine the general concept which links or explains the situations.

Inductive reasoning is reasoning which goes from particular facts to a general conclusion. It starts with a number of particular facts. For example, a question may begin with some facts about fires and try to draw general conclusions.

For Inductive Reasoning questions, the answer choices are the general statements. You must test them one by one against the particular facts provided in the question. The facts may be statements. Or the facts may be data from a table. If you need to do some counting, you should write tallies or little notes. If you fail to take notes, you may end up with a few possible answers and not remember all the details; then you will have to start counting again! It will save you time in the long run to take notes the first time you evaluate an answer choice.

A problem with inductive reasoning is knowing how many particular facts are needed to support a general statement. It would not be inductive reasoning to jump from a single particular fact to a general statement. At least a few particular facts are necessary before a general statement can be made. For instance, in reality no one would make a statement about when certain kinds of alarms occur on the basis of data from only one night's alarms. However, there are practical limits to how much data can be put into a test question. You should pick the answer which is supported best by the limited data in the question itself.

Inductive Reasoning questions can take a lot of time. If you have several questions on the same set of data, it may be worthwhile to work out the answers immediately. But if there are a lot of data and there is only one question based on the data, you may want to skip this kind of question and come back to it at the end. Do not get bogged down when there are still lots of other questions to answer.

Since 1950, Don McNea Fire School has prepared over 40,000 fire applicants with their entry level seminars and products. Fireprep.com has over 250 pages of FREE information and careers articles to help you reach your goal of becoming a firefighter.

Go to www.fireprep.com and register for their free fireprep e-mail newsletter that features career articles by the countries top entry level authors. You will also be informed at no cost of firefighter examinations be given across the country.

While at their website don't forget to review our award winning 'Ultimate Firefighter Exam Package'. This product has help hundreds of fire applicants finish in the top 2% of the exam process. Go to the link below to review the ultimate firefighter exam package. www.fireprep.com/ultimate_firefighter_examinati.html

Don McNea Fire School

dmfireschool@aol.com

1-800-989-FIRE

www.fireprep.com

**FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Burbank Fire
Department**

FIRE FIGHTER RECRUIT

NOTE: THIS RECRUITMENT REQUIRES A SPECIAL APPLICATION PACKET NOT THE STANDARD CITY APPLICATION. YOU OR YOUR REPRESENTATIVE MUST PICK UP AN APPLICATION PACKET IN PERSON. THE PACKET MAY BE OBTAINED FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 5:00 P.M., MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY, AT CITY OF BURBANK HUMAN RESOURCES, 301 EAST OLIVE AVENUE, SUITE 101, BURBANK, OR BURBANK FIRE DEPARTMENT HEADQUARTERS, 311 EAST ORANGE GROVE AVENUE. WE WILL NOT MAIL APPLICATION PACKETS. APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED BY MAIL WITH A POSTMARK DATE OF OCTOBER 24, 2005 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2005. APPLICATIONS WITH A POSTMARK DATE BEFORE OCTOBER 24, 2005 OR AFTER DECEMBER 31, 2005 WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED. THE CITY OF BURBANK IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR POSTAL SERVICE. APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MAILED TO:

**CITY OF BURBANK
FIRE FIGHTER RECRUIT
P. O. BOX 3219
BURBANK CA 91508-3219**

SALARY: \$4,354/per month

DEFINITION OF THE POSITION:

Under direction, to graduate from a City sponsored Firefighter recruit academy with demonstrated abilities to respond to alarms and to protect life and property; to participate in fire suppression, prevention, and emergency medical training; station, apparatus and equipment maintenance; and to do related work as required.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS OF THE POSITION:

While in the academy, learns to respond to: alarms and assist in fire suppression, including lifesaving and rescue; perform salvage operations; assists in maintenance of fire apparatus and equipment; maintains fire station and grounds; make required fire prevention inspections; participates in required training programs; performs minor fire hydrant maintenance; participates in preparing exhibits and giving demonstrations for fire prevention and public education purposes; respond and assist in medical emergencies.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS FOR THE POSITION:

EDUCATION/TRAINING: Graduation from high school or equivalent.

LICENSE & CERTIFICATES: Applicants must possess a valid California Class "C" Driver's License or equivalent. NOTE: Must be able to obtain a valid California Class "B" Driver's License within three years of appointment to Firefighter.

AGE: Must be 18 years of age at time of appointment.

CITIZENSHIP: United States citizen or applied for citizenship at least one year prior to last day for filing application.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS & QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants must maintain the physical endurance, muscular strength, and agility to satisfactorily perform the essential functions of Fire Fighter, specifically including but not limited to stooping, lifting and/or carrying heavy objects, running, walking on uneven surfaces, climbing

ladders, pulling heavy hoses, wearing heavy equipment, and crawling; must agree not to use tobacco on or off duty for as long as employed by the City of Burbank Fire Department.

Employees in this classification, who are required by applicable laws and regulations to have respiratory protection, shall comply with the American National Standards Institute's requirements on Practices for Respiratory Protection.

Employees in this miscellaneous, non-safety, classification will not participate in "live fire" situations or responses except under controlled, training exercises.

THE COMPETITION FOR THE POSITION:

Applications will be reviewed. Admission to competitive examination may be limited to those whose applications show the best combination of qualifications in relation to the requirements and duties of the position. Any part of the examination process may be qualifying only.

THE SELECTION PROCEDURE MAY REQUIRE ANY COMBINATION OF THE FOLLOWING: A WRITTEN EXAMINATION, A PERFORMANCE EVALUATION, OR AN ORAL INTERVIEW. IF YOU HAVE A DISABILITY WHICH MAY REQUIRE AN ACCOMMODATION IN ANY OF THESE SELECTION PROCEDURES, PLEASE NOTIFY THE HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION IN WRITING BY THE LAST DATE TO APPLY ON THIS BULLETIN.

Click: [Employment Info](#) - [Employee Benefits](#)

**City of Burbank Human Resources - City Hall Annex - 301 East Olive Avenue, Suite 101, Burbank
818.238.5000**

For more information about the **Burbank Fire Department**, visit their website:
www.burbankfire.us

For more information about the **Burbank Firefighters, Union Local 778**, visit their website:
burbankfirefighters.org

For more information about the **City of Burbank**, visit their website: www.ci.burbank.ca.us

To view the **job flyer**, go to: www.ci.burbank.ca.us/employment/index.htm

MORE FREE FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION SEMINARS!

Become a better firefighter candidate!

*****You are invited to attend a FREE seminar to help learn how to better prepare yourself to become a firefighter!*****

DATES: **Tuesday December 20, 2005**
(More to come in 2006 – I will provide more information in the January and February 2006 issues of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News!)

TOPICS: **Oral Board Preparation** – overview of the oral board process and also the chance to perform a mock oral interview! Also, an overview of most commonly performed errors by candidates and what you can do to not fall into the same footsteps!

Additionally, I will provide some tips of success based on my recent experience as a rater for my department's oral boards. My plan is to provide general information and to try to pass on what the successful candidates did and what the unsuccessful candidates did (or did not do).

Instructor: Steve Prziborowski, Fire Technology Coordinator at Chabot College and Captain with the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

ADDED BONUS!!

Bring a copy of your resume and I will critique it for you free of charge, before the seminar or during one of the breaks (time permitting).

TIME: 6 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
LOCATION: Chabot College
25555 Hesperian Boulevard, Hayward, CA 94545
Room 916 (in Building 900)

REGISTRATION / MORE INFO: To register, email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu or if you do not have internet access, you can leave a message at (510) 723-6851. Thank you for your assistance; look forward to seeing you there!

Please visit the Chabot College Fire Technology website at www.chabotfire.com for more information on becoming a firefighter.

For directions to Chabot College, [CLICK HERE](#).

SEASONAL FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – CDF

The [California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection \(CDF\)](http://www.cdf.ca.gov) is now accepting applications for Firefighter I. Applications will be accepted **November 1, 2005 through January 31, 2006** for the 2006 fire season, which generally starts in the end of May and generally goes through October. If you are interested in applying you must complete a [Firefighter I application \(CDF Form 215\)](#) and mail it or deliver it in person to the North Coast Region I and Cascade Region II units (see next page for locations). Applications will be



accepted on a file in person basis only for the units in Southern California Region III and Central Sierra Region IV. Applications must be filed at each unit in which you wish to be considered for appointment.

There are 21 units through-out the state and they are divided between two regions, North Region, and South Region. In the Northern Region you can mail the completed application to each unit that you are interested in applying for. In the Southern Region they must be hand delivered. A list of the units can be found at the end of this announcement.

What you can expect working as a firefighter for CDF:

A firefighter 1 is a temporary position. You work a 96-hour workweek, four days on and three days off. You work the same four days in a week. Your responsibilities will include responding to vegetation fires, vehicle fires, structure fires, vehicle accidents, medical aides, public assist calls, or any other emergency. You are responsible for maintaining equipment and tools, following oral and written directions, cooking and cleaning around the station and other duties as assigned. At some stations you may get only one call per shift and others may get as many as four or five calls on a busy day.

Because CDF is a statewide fire department, you can get sent to any area within the state on a strike team assignment. You may only be gone one or two days or as many as fourteen days depending on the needs throughout the state. You may be assigned to an incident, usually a large fire, or may be assigned to cover behind other engines on an out-of-county assignment.

In addition to being assigned to working on an engine, a firefighter 1 may be assigned to work at an Air Attack Base refueling aircraft, and reloading tankers with retardant. Another opportunity that is available to firefighter I is to work as a helitack firefighter assigned to one of nine helicopters throughout the state.

There is the opportunity to work as a fire fighter assigned to a Schedule A Contract. This is where a city, county, or fire protection district makes a contract with CDF to provide fire protection for the community. For example in the Santa Clara Unit, the South County Fire Protection District has contracted with CDF to provide the personnel to operate their fire department. As a result CDF personnel operate very much like any other municipal department with firefighter, engineers, captains, and chiefs, operating type I engines, and providing advanced life support medical care.

The hiring process:

After submitting an application, it is reviewed and given a preliminary score based on your education, training and experience. The more boxes you can check the more points you can get. By mid March you should receive a letter indicating weather you passed the preliminary evaluation. If a passing score is given you may then be invited to an interview. The interview is 100 percent of you score. Because each unit must follow the same guidelines for hiring you can expect to hear the same, or close to the same questions at each interview. This can be a big help

when trying to improve your interviewing skills. So the more units that you apply to the better chance you have to interview and improve.

Typically an interview panel is made up of an engineer and a captain. In some cases at the completion of your interview you are given your score, in other cases it is mailed to you. Your score is based from 0 to 100 points. Typically you need to get a score in the upper 90's to be considered for employment. By mid May you should have received a letter indicating whether or not you are being considered for employment. From here one of a number of things can happen, you could get a letter stating that you will not be considered for future employment, or you can be contacted and offered a job, or you could be contacted and offered a slot in an academy but not a job.

The presumption is that a position may open up in the future and you would already be trained to take it. Typically a new hire academy is scheduled for the first or second week in June and consists of learning basic skills needed to work as a fire fighter. The end result is that by attending the class you can obtain the CDF 67 hour Certification.

What generally happens around August or September is some firefighters quit and go back to school opening up position to hire more firefighters. So this provides some people second chance to get hired. If you stay in contact with the hiring coordinator in each unit and are willing to start later in the season you might get picked up as a late hire. After you get hired with CDF and work three months you have automatic rehire rights. Meaning you don't have to go through the same process to get hired the next season.

What CDF can offer you?

CDF is an all risk fire department. They respond to an average of 6,400 wildland fires annually and more than 275,000 non-wildfire emergencies each year. As a firefighter I you will gain experience in working on an engine as part of an engine company. You will get experience working at emergencies under stressful situation. You will learn what station life is like and how to work with people of different backgrounds in that environment.

You will have the opportunity to earn additional certifications including Incident Command Systems, Confined Space Rescue Awareness, Haz Mat Operations, Swift Water Rescue, Auto Extrication, and many other classes. You will gain experience working with the ICS system as part of an engine company at small and large incidents.

Just like anything else you can get out of CDF what you put in. Because of the number of people retiring you have a very good opportunity to gain a permanent position if you put the effort into it. It is now up to you to make the first step.

To view the job flyer and download an application, go to the CDF Careers website at:

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/CDFCareers/SeasonalHiring.asp>

For a list of Contacts including units and stations with in units:

<http://www.fire.ca.gov/MiscDocuments/CDFContacts.asp>

Minimum Qualifications for Seasonal Firefighter positions:

- Must be 18 years of age by time of appointment to a firefighter 1 position

For additional information, contact:

North Coast Region I: (707) 576-2275
Cascade Region II: (530) 224-2472
Human Resources Office: (916) 445-7801
Southern Region III: (951) 782-4140
Sierra Region IV: (559) 222-3714
Equal Employment Opportunity: (916) 653-7577

CDF – NORTH COAST REGION I

File-in-person OR mail-in applications accepted at the units listed below:

Humboldt-Del Norte Unit
118 S. Fortuna Blvd.
Fortuna, CA 95540
(707) 725-4413

Mendocino Unit
17501 N. Highway 101
Willits, CA 95490
(707) 459-7414

San Mateo-Santa Cruz Unit
6059 Highway 9
Felton, CA 95018
(831) 335-5353

Santa Clara Unit
15670 Monterey Street
Morgan Hill, CA 95037
(408) 779-2121

Sonoma-Lake-Napa Unit
1199 Big Tree Road
St. Helena, CA 94574
(707) 967-1400

CDF – CASCADE REGION II

File-in-person OR mail-in applications accepted at the units listed below:

Butte Unit
176 Nelson Avenue
Oroville, CA 95965
(530) 538-7111

Nevada-Yuba-Placer Unit
13760 Lincoln Way
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 823-4904

Siskiyou Unit
1809 Fair Lane Road
Yreka, CA 96097
(530) 842-3516

Lassen-Modoc Unit
697-345 Highway 36
Susanville, CA 96130
(530) 257-4171

Shasta-Trinity Unit
875 Cypress Avenue
Redding, CA 96001
(530) 225-2418

Tehama-Glenn Unit
604 Antelope Blvd.
Red Bluff, CA 96080
(530) 528-5199

CDF - SOUTHERN REGION III

**Applications accepted on a FILE-IN-PERSON basis ONLY at the units listed below.
Each applicant must appear in person Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Riverside Unit

210 W. San Jacinto
Perris, CA 92570
(909) 940-6900

San Bernardino Unit

3800 Sierra Way
San Bernardino, CA 92405
(909) 881-6900

San Diego Unit

2249 Jamacha Road
El Cajon, CA 92019
(619) 590-3100

San Luis Obispo Unit

635 N. Santa Rosa
San Luis Obispo, CA 93405
(805) 543-4244

CDF – CENTRAL SIERRA REGION IV

**Applications accepted on a FILE-IN-PERSON basis ONLY at the units listed below.
Each applicant must appear in person Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

Amador-El Dorado Unit

2840 Mt. Danaher Road
Camino, CA 95709
(530) 644-2345

Madera-Mariposa-Merced Unit

5366 Highway 49 North
Mariposa, CA 95338
(209) 966-3622

Tulare Unit

1968 S. Lovers Lane
Visalia, CA 93277
(559) 732-5954

Fresno-Kings Unit

210 S. Academy Avenue
Sanger, CA 93657
(559) 485-7500

San Benito-Monterey Unit

2221 Garden Road
Monterey, CA 93940-5385
(831) 647-6208

Tuolumne-Calaveras Unit

785 Mountain Ranch Road
San Andreas, CA 95249
(209) 754-3831

NOTE:

A special thank you to Andrew Hunter, former Chabot College Fire Technology student for providing me with this information. Andrew works as a firefighter for the Modesto Fire Department and used to be a Firefighter with CDF. I appreciate your time and assistance!

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Huntington Beach Fire Department

The [Huntington Beach Fire Department](#) (Orange County, CA) will be accepting applications for the position of **FIREFIGHTER / PARAMEDIC** until **Thursday December, 2005** at 5:00 pm.

The following must be met by time of application deadline:

- High School Diploma or G.E.D. equivalent
- At least 18 years of age
- Valid California State Paramedic license
- Completion of at least **one** of the following requirements (Copy of certificate **MUST** be attached to application):
 - Graduation from a California State certified Firefighter 1 Academy (such as Chabot's)**OR**
 - Certification as a Firefighter 1 from the California State Board of Fire Services, **OR**
 - One year of experience as a **full-time paid** firefighter with a Federal, state, county or local agency and have passed the probationary period.

The following must be met by time of appointment:

- Valid California Driver's License
- United States Citizenship

The following must be met after appointment:

- Orange County Paramedic accreditation at completion of HBFD Firefighter Paramedic Academy.
- California Class B/Firefighter Restricted Drivers License prior to completing probationary period.

Current Vacancies:

The City of Huntington Beach Fire Department is seeking career minded individuals who are prepared for long-term career goals in the fire service profession. Ideal candidates will possess excellent interpersonal and multi-cultural skills, have a strong commitment to community involvement, as well as have a good understanding of basic teaching techniques. **Foreign language fluency (especially Spanish or Vietnamese) is highly desirable.** The City anticipates filling several vacancies.

The Department:

The Huntington Beach Fire Department is staffed by 157 members, of which 135 are sworn members. They provide Firefighter/Paramedics with opportunities to gain exposure in a wide variety of fire service activities (e.g. hazardous materials, SWAT paramedics, quad beach detail, fire prevention and arson investigation). They were recently awarded a "Class 1" rating by the Insurance Services Office (ISO).

Examination Process:

An official City job application, and Supplemental Questionnaire must be submitted no later than Thursday December 15 at 5:00 pm. Applicants must completely follow the instructions provided on the “Application and Testing” information sheet. Applicants meeting minimum qualifications will be invited to an examination process which will include the following:

- **Written Exam** (weighted 30% of your final score)
- **Physical Abilities Test** (weighted – pass/fail)
- **Oral Board** (weighted 40% of your final score)
- **Practical EMS Exercise** (weighted 30% of your final score)

Depending on the size of candidate pool, numbers participating in the examination process may be limited on the basis of performance on the written and/or physical ability tests.

Additional items will also be required before successfully being hired, please view the job flyer for more specific information (see website link below).

For more information about the **Huntington Beach Fire Department**, visit their website: [CLICK HERE](#).

For more information about **the position**, to download the job flyer, the supplemental application, additional testing information, and download an application, [CLICK HERE](#).

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Tucson Fire Department



2006 Recruitment Information and Dates

Application Period:

Starting January 1–9, 2006 closing at 5 p.m.

Open Houses:

January 5, 2006 (Thursday) 1800 – 2000 hours

January 7, 2006 (Saturday) 1000 – 1200 hours

January 12, 2006 (Thursday) 1800 – 2000 hours

Written Test:

January 23, 2006

CPAT Orientation:

February 3 – 5, 2006

CPAT:

April 3 – 7, 2006

Training Chief Oral Boards:

April 24 – May 5, 2006

Recruit class to begin July 2006. Second class expected January 2007.

Applications will be available January 1, 2006 through January 9, 2006 on line at www.tucsonaz.gov, then click on the 'JOBS' link in the upper right hand corner. This is where all open jobs can be accessed.

Applications will be accepted until 5 p.m. on January 9, 2006.

The Human Resources Department administers the first step in the recruitment process, the written exam.

Many changes have taken place in the testing process for this upcoming year. The written exam is a general aptitude test including video-based human relations, animated mechanical aptitude and a reading test. For more detailed information and 30+ practice items with discussion, visit the Fire TEAM website at www.fireteamtest.com.

The second step in the application process is the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT). Those candidates who score high enough on the written exam will proceed to this step in the hiring process. The CPAT will be pass/fail.

The third step in the application process is the Training Chief Oral Board.

OPEN HOUSES

Tucson Fire will offer Open Houses to prospective applicants. The Public Safety Academy doors at 10001 S. Wilmot Rd. will be open to the public and provide more information about TFD and Academy life. The dates and times are as follows:

- **January 5, 2006 (Thursday) 1800 – 2000 hours**
- **January 7, 2006 (Saturday) 1000 – 1200 hours**
- **January 12, 2006 (Thursday) 1800 – 2000 hours**

Speakers will be members of the Tucson Fire Department.

CPAT ORIENTATIONS

February 3 – February 5, 2006

Tucson Fire will provide applicants an opportunity to learn more about the CPAT. Only those candidates who score high enough on the written exam will be invited to take the CPAT. Candidates will watch a video on what CPAT entails, how to successfully pass the exam, failure points,

preparation tips, etc. Candidates will then be allowed to either handle some of the equipment, see the test demonstrated, or go through the events (not in the correct order) themselves. The exact content of the Orientations has yet to be determined, but all candidates will have exactly the same opportunities during the Orientations. These Orientations are not required, but are strongly encouraged.

[CPAT Preparation Guide](#)

[CPAT Orientation Guide](#)

These three portions constitute the majority of the Civil Service testing process. Once a candidate has completed these three steps, they are given a total weighted score and ranked (according to their score) on an Eligibility List. Those applicants selected from these interviews are offered a position with the Tucson Fire Department as a Firefighter Recruit. Pending a successful background check and physical examination from the City Physician, the Recruit will start our 22-week training Academy in July.

For information regarding the testing process, please call the City of Tucson Human Resources Department at (520) 791-4241 or the TFD Recruitment Hotline at (520) 791-5211 ext. 1202.

Call the Recruitment Hot Line at (520) 791-5211 x1202 at any time if your questions have not been addressed or answered.

For more information about the Tucson Fire Department, including recruitment information and employment information, visit their website: www.tucsonaz.gov/fire/

CLOSING COMMENTS

First of all, I wish you and your family and loved ones a Happy Holidays and a Happy New Year! May 2006 is very prosperous for you both personally and professionally. I hope 2006 is even better than 2005 was for you.

I hope you have found this newsletter somewhat valuable. If you have learned one new thing, then I think I've done my job. I truly want to see everyone succeed, and I also really enjoy doing what I do. This program is your program. It can only get better with your assistance. There is an old saying, don't just give me problems – give me solutions! I can't read your minds, so please provide me with feedback. Feel free to contact me if you have any questions or want me to clarify any rumors you might have heard. Thank you very much!

Steve Prziborowski, Fire Technology Coordinator - Chabot College

Office: 510-723-6851, Building 1500, Room 1556

Cellular: 408-205-9006

Fax: 510-782-9315

Email: sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu

Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:
Chabot College website:

www.chabotfire.com
www.chabotcollege.edu

***** PLEASE FEEL FREE TO PASS THIS ON TO YOUR FRIENDS OR CO-
WORKERS*****

The Fine Print:

- If you would like to be added to our mailing list (no, I won't give your email address out to others), email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will add you to the list. Benefits of being on the mailing list include being notified when the latest Fire & EMS news is published, and being notified of firefighter testing opportunities, volunteer opportunities, or training opportunities.
- If you know of someone who wants to receive this newsletter (as well as other updates) email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and I will place them on the mailing list.
- If you want to take your name off of the mailing list, just send me an email at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu and in the subject heading, and type in "unsubscribe from mailing list" and I will remove your name.
- If you are subscribed to my email mailing list and you are not receiving anything (a problem some earthlink, aol, hotmail and yahoo users have at times), make sure you add my name – Steve Prziborowski and the email address I use to send this newsletter and other fire and EMS related news items out – sprziborowski@aol.com to your address book, safe list, white list, etc. Since I mass mail items to over 1000 people, some email providers may think these items are spam or junk mail, even though they are not. I typically send a couple of things out per week; if you have not received anything from me in over two weeks, email me to let me know so that I can attempt to troubleshoot the issue.
- Thank you very much for your assistance and cooperation!