



## ***FIRE & EMS NEWS***

September 2005

Volume 4 – Issue 3

**W**elcome to the latest issue of the Fire & EMS News! Some of the highlights of this issue include:

- Firefighter employment opportunity – Emeryville Fire Department
- Is it worth completing my two year degree in Fire Technology???
- Bay Area Firefighter employment opportunities – FIREHIRE!
- This month's written examination testing tips, courtesy of the Don McNea Fire School!
- Volunteers needed around the Bay Area – EMS classes
- Firefighter employment opportunities – San Diego County
- FREE Firefighter Preparation Seminars at Chabot College!
- Paramedic school entrance exams – classes being held around Northern California!
- Firefighter employment opportunity – Sacramento Fire Department
- Firefighter employment opportunity – Las Vegas Fire-Rescue and North Las Vegas Fire Department

### **FIREFIGHTER TESTING OPPORTUNITY:** **Emeryville, CA**

**T**he [Emeryville Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the positions of:

- Firefighter
- Firefighter/Paramedic
- Lateral Firefighter/Paramedic

Applications will be accepted – **ONE DAY ONLY** – on Thursday September 8, 2005, between the hours of 9:15 am and 4:00 pm.

Applications may be obtained at 1333 Park Avenue, Emeryville, CA or you may download an application and job flyer from the City's website at [www.ci.emeryville.ca.us](http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us)

#### **MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

##### **For Firefighter:**

- 18 years of age or older, with high school diploma or equivalent

- Vision of at least 20/70 uncorrected and 20/30 corrected vision in each eye; and cannot be color blind.
- Must have normal hearing abilities.
- A valid California Motor Vehicle Driver's license with a satisfactory driving record. Requirement shall include obtaining and maintaining a Class B license to operate fire apparatus, which is an ongoing condition of employment.
- EMT certification

**For Firefighter/Paramedic:**

- A valid California Motor Vehicle Driver's license with a satisfactory driving record. Requirement shall include obtaining and maintaining a Class B license to operate fire apparatus, which is an ongoing condition of employment.
- A valid Paramedic license
- A valid Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certificate and a valid CPR certificate issued by the American Heart Association or American Red Cross.
- One year of field emergency paramedical experience

**For Lateral Firefighter/Paramedic candidates:**

- In addition to the qualifications above, lateral candidates must have one full year of municipal fire department experience as a Firefighter/Paramedic.

**To view the job flyer and to download an application, visit their Human Resources website at:**

[www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/hr](http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/hr)

**For more information about the Emeryville Fire Department, visit their website:**

[www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/fire](http://www.ci.emeryville.ca.us/fire)

**BAY AREA FIREFIGHTER TESTING OPPORTUNITIES – FIREHIRE**

**FIREHIRE** is going to be accepting applications for Firefighter, Firefighter / EMT and Firefighter / Paramedic positions September 1 through September 30, 2005.

For a list of departments that will be hiring off of this list, take a look at the list on the next page.

**B**enefits of taking this test include:

- You're only taking one test (as opposed to separate tests for each fire department)
- The hiring list will be in effect for one year
- There is a chance other fire departments will hire off of this list

**T**o participate in the entry-level firefighter examination process, you must possess or meet the following minimum requirements:

- High school diploma or GED
- At least 18 years old
- California Drivers License – Class “C”
- Proof of citizenship or legal ability to work in the U.S.

**Y**ou may be wondering, is any fire department going to be hiring? Of course! While the California budget crisis has impacted a number of their clients, and there are some agencies that do not have or do not anticipate any openings in the next fiscal year, there are going to be some departments that will be hiring.

**W**hy then would a department participate if they were not planning on hiring? Well, number one, things can and do change. Just because a department does not have any openings as of this moment, does not mean that situation cannot change over night. Firefighters retire, firefighters get injured, firefighters quit (usually to go to other departments), many times without any advance notice to the department. Number two, many fire departments are required to keep a current, active hiring list because of their civil service rules or union contract. Even if they do not anticipate hiring, many departments still have to have a current list. Why is that so? Well, just like number one, things can and do change. Additionally, it allows them to get the most current “best-of-the-best” candidates out there. Even though fire departments are facing severe (or potentially severe) budget shortfalls, it does not mean they won’t ever hire again. Departments will have to hire at some time in the future to fill vacancies from retirements, permanent injuries, etc. The question is when, and **the bottom line is that if you are not actively testing and on the current hiring list, you do not stand a chance at getting a badge!**

**T**he financial situation in the State is very dynamic and it is just a matter of time when it gets better (when exactly is anyone’s guess). If you decide not to test because of the budget problems, that is your choice. Many departments **ONLY** hire candidates from the [Firehire](http://www.firehire.com) testing process. So, if you don’t take the test, you don’t stand a chance.

**Some of the fire departments might have other requirements** (view the Firehire web site at [www.firehire.com](http://www.firehire.com) for more specific information) such as:

- EMT
- Paramedic
- Firefighter – 1 Academy
- Firefighter – 1 Certificate

**F**or application materials or more information, visit their website at [www.firehire.com](http://www.firehire.com) or if you do not have internet access, call them at 1-800-755-5891.

**T**he examination process consists of the following:

- Completion of the application packet that is sent to you by FIREHIRE

- **Written examination** – 130 question test which you must pass with a score of at least 70%. There are 65 EMT questions from the AAOS Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition textbook, and 65 firefighter questions from the IFSTA Essentials of Firefighting, 4<sup>th</sup> Edition textbook. This portion of the exam is weighted 75% of your total score. **The Written examination is scheduled to be given on Saturday November 5, 2005**
- **Physical Ability Test** – this portion is pass / fail. It will be the Firehire Physical Ability Test (FPAT) tentatively scheduled November 16 – 18, 2005. If you have completed the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT), they will also accept a current CPAT card. For more detailed information on the CPAT, [CLICK HERE](#).
- **Emergency Medical Assessment Center** – this event consists of a patient involved in a trauma and/or medical setting. The treatment is commensurate with your level of training. There are critical care criteria points that must be addressed or it is an AUTOMATIC FAILURE. You are graded on the criteria established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. This event is weighted 25% of your total score, and is tentatively scheduled for December 13 and 14, 2005.

The following fire departments are expected to be participating (based on the information I had available at the time I printed this document) in this recruitment and will be using the list that is established to hire for open positions:

**Fire Department**

**Positions available**

- |                                                        |                                         |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| • <a href="#">Albany Fire Department</a> –             | Firefighter/Paramedic                   |
| • Central County Fire Department –                     | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">El Cerrito Fire Department</a> –         | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Foster City Fire Department</a> –        | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Fremont Fire Department</a> –            | Firefighter                             |
| • <a href="#">Half Moon Bay Fire District</a> –        | Firefighter/Paramedic                   |
| • <a href="#">Kentfield Fire Protection District</a> – | Firefighter/EMT                         |
| • <a href="#">Larkspur Fire Protection District</a> –  | Firefighter/EMT                         |
| • <a href="#">Menlo Park Fire District</a> –           | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Millbrae Fire Department</a> –           | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Mill Valley Fire Department</a> –        | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">North County Fire Authority</a> -        | Firefighter/Paramedic                   |
| • <a href="#">Novato Fire Protection District</a> –    | Firefighter/Paramedic                   |
| • <a href="#">Oroville Fire Department</a> –           | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Petaluma Fire Department</a> –           | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Piedmont Fire Department</a> –           | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">Redwood City Fire Department</a> –       | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • Rio Vista Fire Department –                          | Firefighter/Paramedic                   |
| • <a href="#">Ross Valley Fire Authority</a> –         | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">San Bruno Fire Department</a> –          | Firefighter/Paramedic                   |
| • <a href="#">San Mateo Fire Department</a> –          | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |
| • <a href="#">San Rafael Fire Department</a> –         | Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic |

- [San Ramon Fire Protection District](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- Sonoma Valley Fire & Rescue Authority - Engineer/Paramedic
- [South County Fire Authority](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic
- [South Lake Tahoe Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Vallejo Fire Department](#) – Firefighter/Paramedic
- [Woodside Fire District](#) – Firefighter/EMT & Firefighter/Paramedic

**I** believe that the **Fremont Fire Department** is the only Fire Department **NOT** requiring EMT, Paramedic, Firefighter 1 Academy, or Firefighter 1 Certification. So you have no excuse to NOT take the exam, even if you are just starting out!

**T**o join the **FREE** FIREHIRE mailing list and find out about their latest updates, go to [www.firehire.com/mail\\_list.htm](http://www.firehire.com/mail_list.htm)

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

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

**TEST-TAKING STRATEGY:**

**JUDGMENT, HUMAN RELATIONS AND PROBLEM SOLVING**

**Problem Solving measures your ability to recognize or identify the existence of problems. You will not be tested on the ability to solve the problem, only the ability to identify or recognize it.**

For the purposes of the firefighter exam, Problem Solving questions are somewhat similar to Deductive Reasoning questions. The Deductive Reasoning questions start with a rule. The Problem Sensitivity questions tend to start with a description of some general practice among firefighters. Then the question asks you what might be the best reason for that common practice. For example, a question might start by telling you that firefighters wear helmets made out of hard leather, not metal or plastics. The answer choices might give various possible reasons for this, e.g., it is lighter, it is less costly, it is less likely to get hot or melt. You must pick the answer which gives the best reason for the practice.

Problem Solving questions will be easier to answer if you keep in mind the main goals of firefighting. You probably realize that most fire departments officially state that their purpose is to "protect life and property." Sometimes "life" is more fully stated as "life and limb." The idea behind protecting "life and limb" is to keep people from being killed and, furthermore, to keep them from being seriously injured.

Protecting life and limb is more important than protecting property, and so is stated first. The purpose of a fire department is to protect "life and property." In other words, the safety of people is more important than protecting property.

A fire department is also expected to operate efficiently. Being efficient is important in any kind of work, but is less important than protecting life and property. Hence, if we list the goals of a fire department in the order of their importance, the list would be:

### **1. Safety**

### **2. Protecting property**

### **3. Efficiency**

As the list of goals suggests, the best reason for anything is Safety. If safety is a real issue in the "fact pattern" of the question, then safety is the best reason to justify any practice.

But sometimes there is no real issue of safety. No one is seriously endangered at the moment. In that case, the best reason for any practice is the fact that it is necessary in order to protect property. However, "property" includes fire department property--firehouse, fire engine, tools, etc. Property can be sacrificed when safety is at stake. But if there is no real threat to safety, one must protect property.

If there is no real question of safety and no real threat to property in the situation, then the best reason for doing something is that it is efficient. If several answer choices are based on efficiency, you will be judging which answer choice would really be more efficient.

Any answer which suggests that something should be done because it will bring praise or benefit to the firefighter is not likely to be a correct answer to a test question. Financial benefits to other people are not usually good enough reasons either. Likewise, an answer choice which tries to justify something only on the grounds that it will make the fire department "look good," is not likely to be a correct answer. Being good will always be a better reason than looking good. And financial benefits to anybody are not usually good enough reasons for fire department practices.

Remember that reasons must be realistic. To justify a practice on the basis of safety, there must be something in the question situation to support the idea that safety is at stake. Similarly, a proposed answer based on efficiency should really have the appearance of being possible and efficient. Forest fires can be brought under control to some extent by dropping chemicals on them from planes, but it would not be practical to try chemical bombing of a burning house.

It is especially difficult to choose between some of the answer choices with these questions about the best reasons for doing things. Problem Solving deals with more ambiguous problems than other kinds of questions. But there is an old test taking strategy that may help you here. You should remember that, in a sense, it is ultimately the Mayor or the Fire Chief who is testing you for the firefighter job.

When faced with difficult choices on a question of this type, imagine that the question is being asked personally by the Mayor or Fire Chief. Choose the answer you would give to the Mayor or Chief in face to face questioning.

**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](http://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 our 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\\_exam.html](http://www.fireprep.com/ultimate_firefighter_exam.html)

## Don McNea Fire School

[dmfireschool@aol.com](mailto:dmfireschool@aol.com)

1-800-989-FIRE

[www.fireprep.com](http://www.fireprep.com)

### **WHAT IS KEEPING YOU FROM GETTING YOUR FIREFIGHTER BADGE?**

## It's Your Turn in the Hot Seat!

During previous seminars the candidates volunteered to sit in the "hot seat" not knowing in advance what the next oral board question would be. Everyone quickly learned what they thought was prepared and unique fell short of getting top scores, especially those candidates who volunteered to give it their best shot. You won't believe what these, I thought I was ready, candidates said! This also applied to many in the packed room who gave their .02 cents as the questions were opened up to the attendees.

It proves that still many haven't learned how to take a firefighter interview, which will be the deciding factor in whether you will gain a badge, or not. You've spent time, money and put your life on hold to gain the necessary education and experience to become a firefighter. Your oral board will determine the future. It's game day. You have around 20 minutes to stun the oral board into giving you the opportunity to ride big red. Are you ready to sit in the hot seat and see what you've got? Wouldn't you like to find out how ready you are?

Here are some of the comments from the "It's Your Turn in the Hot Seat" seminars:

- There were so many critical points that I was not aware of. Pat
- The interactive format getting information from many people was amazing. Jim
- The grilling of everybody was a great learning experience. Nathan
- I could have listened to this engaging format for hours. Steve
- The information from this seminar could be the tilting point that could turn things around in your oral boards.



**Y**ou've spent time, money and put your life on hold to gain the necessary education and experience to become a firefighter. Your oral board will determine the future. It's game day. You have around 20 minutes to stun the oral board into giving you the opportunity to ride big red. Are you ready to sit in the hot seat and see what you've got?

**A**t the Chabot College Seminar on Tuesday October 4, 2005, with Captain Bob, you can gain the time-tested strategies of oral boards you might be missing. In a no-nonsense, straight-from-the-hip -- in a total of 2+ hours! --you will gain more information and insights than most candidates learn in an entire lifetime.

**P**lease send Captain Bob your questions on what you want to make sure that is covered at the seminar: Email Captain Bob at [captbob@eatstress.com](mailto:captbob@eatstress.com)

Captain Bob will give a FREE presentation; **It's Your Turn in the Hot Seat. What are You Going to do to Stun the Oral Board into Giving you the Badge!** at Chabot College in Hayward (CA).

**DATE:** Tuesday October 4, 2005

**TIME:** 6 pm to 8 pm

**LOCATION:** Room 916 (in building 900)



**W**hy should you attend? To learn step by step, everything you need to know in the process, starting with the application, written, physical, oral interview, psych interview, background, polygraph, and medical to gain a badge. You will find the inside "Nuggets", tips and resources you can't get anywhere else to shorten the learning curve and the distance between you and that badge. This is information that has helped over 2100 candidates nail their badges!

**F**or more information about Captain Bob, visit his website at [www.eatstress.com](http://www.eatstress.com) He has numerous free tips and suggestions to score better on the oral interview. To register for this unique and excellent opportunity, email me at [sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu](mailto:sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu) and let me know how many people plan to attend. Hurry, seats are limited!

**O**ral interviews are the toughest thing for most people (going for jobs in any line of work, not just the fire department). Why not take this free opportunity to learn at least one new thing? If you learn something that even just raises your score by 1%, it was worth your time to attend!

**Register early – seats will fill up fast!**



**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**

<b>Dates / Locations / Times:</b>	<p align="center">-</p> <p>- Wednesday <b>September 21</b> from 00715 to 0930 hours          - Thursday <b>September 22</b> from 1230 to 1730 hours  <b>NOTE: Both of the above classes will be held at the Bay Model Visitor Center in Sausalito (2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito)</b></p>
<b>You will receive:</b>	<p>Valuable experience watching paramedic level (or higher) students perform patient assessments. Learn from their plusses 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.</p>
<b>Your role:</b>	<p>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.</p>
<b>Contact person(s):</b>	<p>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 <a href="mailto:director@sfparamedics.org">director@sfparamedics.org</a> or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at <a href="http://www.sfparamedics.org/volunteer.htm">www.sfparamedics.org/volunteer.htm</a></p>

**FIREFIGHTER TESTING OPPORTUNITY:**  
**San Diego County, CA**

**F**irefighter/Paramedic applications are being accepted in San Diego County until Friday October 7, 2005 (in person) and September 30, 2005 (if mailing it in).

**The participating agencies include the cities of:**

- Carlsbad
- Encinitas
- Escondido
- San Marcos
- Solana Beach
- Visa
- North County Fire Protection District
- Rancho Santa Fe Fire Protection District

### **Testing Information:**

The next exam is scheduled for Saturday October 15, 2005 at the San Marcos Public Safety Training Facility. Candidates with passing written exam scores will be permitted to take the physical ability test that afternoon.

Immediate openings are available. Candidates with passing test scores will be placed on the applicant list for six (6) months, and the list may be extended. The applicant list will be available to participating San Diego North County Fire agencies as a source for potential candidates for employment as a firefighter/paramedic.

### **Cost:**

No Charge

### **Minimum Requirements:**

- Current California or National Registry EMT-Paramedic license

### **Desirable Qualifications:**

- California State Accredited Firefighter 1 Academy certificate
- California State Firefighter 1 certificate

### **How to Apply:**

Applications can be obtained at any of the participating agencies through their human resources / personnel offices and at the Palomar College – Fire Technology Office. If candidates want an application mailed, they must send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Palomar College – Fire Technology  
182 Santar Place  
San Marcos, CA 92069

**For more information, and to download an application,**

Go to: [www.palomar.edu/fire/testing.html](http://www.palomar.edu/fire/testing.html)

***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 November 1, 2005

**TOPICS:** November 1 **Oral Board Preparation** – overview of the oral board process, tips on how to increase your oral board score, and also the chance to perform a mock oral interview!

Facilitator: 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. each night

**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](mailto: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](http://www.chabotfire.com) for more information on becoming a firefighter.

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

**\*\*\*\*\* REGISTER EARLY – SEATS ARE LIMITED!\*\*\*\*\***

***FIREFIGHTER TESTING OPPORTUNITY:***  
***Davis, CA***

**The [City of Davis Fire Department](#) will be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter – ONE DAY ONLY!!! On Friday September 16, 2005, they will accept the first 150 applications between 0900 and 1200 hours.**

- For the first 150 applications that are accepted, a written examination will be administered at 1300 hours.

### **Application Information:**

The following information must be submitted in person at the Davis Fire Station #33 located at 425 Mace Blvd. in Davis, CA on Friday September 16, 2005 between the hours of 0900 and 1200 hours to be considered for the position.

### **Minimum Requirements (to be submitted on September 16):**

1. A City of Davis employment application (to download an application, go to their website at [www.cityofdavis.org](http://www.cityofdavis.org))
2. Photo copy of your State Firefighter 1 Academy completion certificate
3. Photo copy of your current EMT certificate
4. Photo copy of your current CPAT completion card (current meaning no older than 6 months old). If you don't have a current CPAT card, go to [www.cpatonline.org](http://www.cpatonline.org)
5. Photo copy of a valid California Class B or C driver's license.

Items number 2 through 5 must be attached to your application (do not expect them to make copies for you or provide a stapler). Faxes and mailed applications will not be accepted.

### **To obtain an application and brochure:**

Visit Fire Station #33 (address listed above) or call (530) 757-5644, or download one from their website at [www.cityofdavis.org](http://www.cityofdavis.org)

### **For more information about the Davis Fire Department:**

Visit their website at: <http://www.cityofdavis.org/fire>

## ***PARAMEDIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INFORMATION – Northern California Training Institute***

Northern California Training Institute (NCTI) is holding pre-entrance examinations for their upcoming Paramedic classes in:

- **Livermore** - courses to be held on *Tuesdays and Fridays*
- **Roseville** - courses to be held on *Tuesdays and Fridays* OR *Mondays and Thursdays*
- **Santa Barbara** - courses to be held on *Mondays and Thursdays*
- **Pittsburg** - courses to be held on *Mondays and Thursdays*
- **Emeryville** – courses to be held on *Wednesdays and Saturdays*
- **South Bay (San Jose area)** – courses to be held on *Tuesdays and Fridays*

## **Here is more information I downloaded from their website:**

NCTI holds the HOBET entrance exam for all paramedic program placements. NO late arrivals are allowed at the exam. Please make arrangements to arrive early. All application information is accessible from the NCTI homepage at [www.ncti-online.com](http://www.ncti-online.com) – *Please return all materials prior to the test date!*

## **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

This course fulfills all of the training requirements set forth by the State of California for Mobile Intensive Care Paramedics. Upon successful completion of this course, students will be eligible to take the National Registry Exam which NCTI hosts throughout the year at our Roseville Campus. This certification can lead to employment in a wide range of fields, to include ambulance or fire paramedic, E.R. technician, special functions paramedic, sporting events, concerts, etc. NCTI is owned by American Medical Response, Inc. (AMR) and direct employment referrals are a benefit reserved for NCTI students.

## **TO QUALIFY FOR ADMISSION APPLICANTS MUST:**

- Be at least 18 years of age
- Have a high school diploma or GED certificate
- Complete an approved Anatomy and Physiology course within the last 5 years
- Possess a current CPR card and a current EMT-1 or EMT II certification
- Applicants whose certification expires less than twelve (12) months prior to the enrollment date are also eligible

## **SCHEDULE OF TRAINING**

### **PHASE I** - (Didactic & Lab)

400 Hours (approx. 6 months)

Course days and times will be announced at a later date.

### **PHASE II** - (Clinical Rotations)

160 Hours (approx. 2 months)

individually, as arranged for each student, at one of several acute care hospitals in the area.

***Guaranteed placement by NCTI.***

### **PHASE III** - (Field Internships)

480-720 Hours (approx. 4 months)

Depending on experience and performance individually, as arranged for each student. ***Guaranteed placement by NCTI. (This is a key selling point when shopping around for paramedic schools!)***

## **DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS**

General knowledge of first aid and the ability to handle stressful situations and/or prior experience as an EMT with an ambulance or fire service provider agency.

## **ADMISSION TESTING**

\$50.00 entrance exam fee (non-refundable / non-transferable)

## **COURSE FINANCING**

Tuition may be paid by check, money order, Visa, MasterCard, American Express, or Discover.

## **TESTING DATES & TIMES**

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Livermore, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Thursday October 20, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location
- Thursday October 27, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location
- Thursday May 18, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location
- Thursday May 25, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Roseville, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday October 5, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday October 12, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday March 22, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday March 29, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday May 3, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom
- Wednesday May 10, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Roseville Classroom

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Emeryville, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Thursday March 23, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location
- Thursday March 30, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Santa Barbara, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Tuesday September 13, 2005 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Santa Barbara EMS Agency
- Tuesday September 13, 2005 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Santa Barbara EMS Agency
- Wednesday April 5, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at the Santa Barbara EMS Agency
- Wednesday April 5, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at the Santa Barbara EMS Agency

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in Pittsburg, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Thursday January 19, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location
- Thursday January 26, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location

For their **Paramedic Course** that will be held in the South Bay (San Jose area), CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Thursday February 16, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location
- Thursday February 23, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Satellite Location

**FOR MORE INFORMATION** - Visit their website at [www.ncti-online.com](http://www.ncti-online.com) – also, for links to those above tests and classes, [CLICK HERE](#).

**T**his is not meant to be an endorsement or recommendation of their program. It is listed as a service and a resource for you to evaluate and determine on your own.

## **FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Sacramento City Fire Department**

The [Sacramento City Fire Department](#) is one of the larger fire departments in the State. They operate out of 22 fire stations, protecting 458,000 people over 144 square miles. They are a full-service fire department that includes ALS transporting ambulance service. They will be testing quarterly for the position of **FIRE RECRUIT**.



- **October 15, 2005**      **Cut off for filing for this test is September 16, 2005**

**Note:** Cut-off deadlines and test dates are tentative and are subject to change without prior notification.

### **What is the position of fire recruit?**

The [Sacramento City Fire Department](#) is responsible for the protection of life and property and for providing EMS to the community. Fire Recruits attend the Sacramento Fire Training Academy for 20 weeks and receive basic training in firefighting methods, equipment operation and maintenance, physical fitness, fire science concepts, and a variety of other subjects.

Candidates who satisfactorily complete the training and graduate from the academy are given probationary status and assignments as firefighters. Some graduates who hold current certification as paramedics may be assigned as Firefighter/Paramedics. In addition, all candidates must pass a background investigation, fingerprinting, medical examination, and drug testing prior to becoming a firefighter.

### **What are their requirements?**

In order to qualify for entrance into the Recruit Academy, you must:

- Be at least 21 years of age.
- Have a high school diploma or GED equivalent.
- Have a current EMT-1 certificate or higher.
- Have 20 semester units or 30 quarter units from an accredited college or university. Three years as a paid firefighter may be substituted for the above college units.
- Be a citizen of the United States.
- Pass a written examination.

### **Special qualifications:**

- You have not smoked or used any tobacco products during the 12 months prior to testing.
- Possess a valid California Class C driver's license at the time of appointment.
- Ability to obtain a Class B driver's license with appropriate endorsements during the Sacramento Fire Training Academy. Failure to obtain license will be cause for termination.



- Wear respiratory protective equipment at times. When assigned to such work, facial hair must be shaved when it interferes with the safe fitting of such equipment.
- Reside within a 35 air mile radius from the freeway interchange at W-X streets and 29<sup>th</sup> – 30<sup>th</sup> streets within one year following appointment as a firefighter.
- Pass the physical ability test each year as a condition of employment

### **Additionally you must**

Pass a physical ability test which includes the following events:

- Hose drag
- Hose Carry / Stair climb
- Hose Hoist
- Smoke Ejector
- Citizen Rescue
- Dry Hose Load

### **A videotape of the physical ability test is available at the following locations:**

- Any branch of the Sacramento City or County library system.
- American River College Library, 4700 College Oak Drive, Sacramento, CA 95841
- Consumnes River College Library, 8401 Center Parkway, Sacramento, CA 95821

### **For more information you may contact:**

- Sacramento City Personnel Department (916) 264-5726
- The Fire Recruit Hotline: (916) 264-8172
- The City 24-hour jobline: (916) 264-8568

**To download an application** - Go to the JOB OPPORTUNITIES section of their website at <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/fire/jobopportunities.html>

**To find out more information about the Sacramento City Fire Department** - Visit their website at <http://www.cityofsacramento.org/fire/>

## **FIREFIGHTER TESTING TIPS OF THE MONTH:**

Some random tips to successfully become a firefighter:

1. If you are not getting written examination scores in the high 90 percentile, reevaluate your study habits.
2. If you are not getting interviews with the Fire Chief on virtually every test you take, reevaluate your weaknesses and do something to improve your scores.
3. If you have failed a single portion of the hiring process more than once (written test, oral interview, etc.), shame on you for not figuring out what your weaknesses are.
4. If you have not taken a firefighter test yet – what are you waiting for?

**FIREFIGHTER TESTING OPPORTUNITY:**  
**Las Vegas and North Las Vegas, NV**

**\*\*\*F.I.R.E.S. 2006\*\*\***

The cities of [Las Vegas](#) and [North Las Vegas](#) will be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter Trainee** during the period of October 17 through November 17, 2005, at Las Vegas City Hall, Human Resources Department, 400 Stewart Ave, on the corner of North Las Vegas Boulevard and Stewart Avenue.

This recruitment will involve a highly competitive process that includes a written exam scheduled for January 25, 2006, and a pass/fail physical ability test scheduled for mid-March 2006. Early preparation for the written and physical ability exams is a must. The FSI Written Test Preparation Manual Order Form is available under related links below.

**Experience and Training Requirements**

- **Age:** 18 years or older on the date of application.
- **Experience:** Some firefighting experience is desirable.
- **Training:** Equivalent to graduation from high school. College level course work in fire science, fire administration, or a related field is desirable.
- **License, Certificate and Special Requirements:**
  - Possession of an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Basic certificate on the date of job offer. If the applicant does not have his or her EMT certification at the time of offer, applicant can produce it by fax, hand delivery or mail within one week.
  - Possession of an appropriate, valid driver's license on the date of application.
  - Must meet current physical condition requirement on the date of appointment.

The EMT-Basic certification typically consists of 17 to 23 weeks of classroom and clinical training. Classes are on-going throughout the year, but are limited and on a first come, first served basis. Enrollment prerequisites and tuition fees vary. Contact the agencies below for more information.

American Medical Response Gail Furtaw	(702) 671-6977
Community College of Southern Nevada Westy Durant	(702) 651-5807
EMS Training Center of Southern Nevada Jim McAllister	(702) 651-9111
Southwest Ambulance Shannon Shumway	(702) 224-5063

## Monthly Salary

**Firefighter Trainees during academy:** Las Vegas \$3,120, North Las Vegas \$3,343.

**Firefighters working ten 24-hour shifts per month:** Las Vegas \$3,628, North Las Vegas \$3,927.

- **What is F.I.R.E.S.?**

Firefighter Interagency Recruitment Examination and Selection is a screening and testing program sponsored by the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas to recruit, test and select firefighters. The program uses common testing procedures for entry-level firefighters and is administered by the collective efforts of the Human Resources and Fire Departments of these two cities.

- **What is the goal of F.I.R.E.S.?**

To recruit the most qualified applicants while increasing our minority and female representation within the cities of Las Vegas and North Las Vegas Fire Departments.

- **Who may use F.I.R.E.S.?**

Anyone who can perform the essential functions of the Firefighter job description and who possesses a High School Diploma or G.E.D. Valid driver's license and eighteen (18) years or older. EMT certification is required at the time of job offer. If the applicant does not have his or her EMT certification at the time of offer, applicant can produce it by fax, hand delivery or mail within one week. If timeframe cannot be met, the candidate will be removed from consideration at that time, but will remain on the list for future consideration.

- **What are some suggested study resources?**

You can purchase the FSI Test Preparation Manual by using the order form listed below under related links. If you prefer not to purchase the Candidate Test Preparation Manual for Entry-level Firefighters, the 8th edition is available at Las Vegas and North Las Vegas libraries and is the only publication endorsed by both cities. All reading ability questions will be derived from this manual. The reference number is TH9157.C36 2003.

**Other general study resources include:**

ARCO - Firefighter by Fred M. Rafilson and Robert Andriuolo

Math for Civil Service Tests by Jessika Sobanski

Practical Math Success in 20 Minutes a Day by Judith Robinovitz

- **What are the physical requirements?**

The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT). See below under related links for videos providing a general overview and candidate instructions.

### 2005 Community Information Seminars

Seminars are intended to prepare interested applicants. Schedules are subject to change.

Thursday, September 15, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	Rainbow Library 3150 N. Buffalo (at Cheyenne) Las Vegas
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Please continue to visit the [F.I.R.E.S. 2006 Web site](#) or call the F.I.R.E.S. Hotline at (702) 392-2774 for recruitment updates.

For more information about the **Las Vegas Fire-Rescue Department**, visit their website at: <http://www.lasvegasnevada.gov/Government/departments.asp?id=4181>

For more information about the **North Las Vegas Fire Department**, visit their website at <http://www.ci.north-las-vegas.nv.us/Departments/Fire/Fire.cfm>

## **CLOSING COMMENTS**

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

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**Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:** [www.chabotfire.com](http://www.chabotfire.com)  
**Chabot College website:** [www.chabotcollege.edu](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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!