



FIRE & EMS NEWS

May 2004

Volume 2 – Issue 11

Welcome to the latest issue of the Fire & EMS News! My goal is to provide you with information about your Chabot College Fire Technology Program, the local Fire Departments, in addition to other information that might be beneficial to you in your pursuit of better preparing yourself for the career of your dreams!

Some of the highlights of this issue include:

- Chabot Fire Technology Students getting firefighter jobs!
- FREE Firefighter Preparation Seminars at Chabot College!
- Employment Opportunity at Great America – First Aid and Fire Safety Departments
- Employment Opportunity for Paramedics – Stockton Fire Department
- Ambulance Companies that hire EMTs and Paramedics
- Website resources – International Association of Fire Fighters: Fire Department Labor Union Locals
- Chabot College EMT program (and Fire Technology program) t-shirts are now available for purchase at the college bookstore!

CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations to the following Chabot College Fire Technology students (present and former), and/or readers of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News, who have obtained positions as Firefighters:

- **Chris O. Cuellar** has been hired as a *Firefighter* with the [Weslaco \(Texas\) Fire Department](#).
- **Andrew Hunter** has been hired as a *Firefighter* with the [Modesto Fire Department](#).
- **Carlos Leyva** has been hired as a *Firefighter* with the [Fresno Fire Department](#).
- **Nick Salugsugan** has been hired as a *Firefighter / Engineer - Paramedic* with the [Santa Clara County Fire Department](#).
- **Dave Winnacker** has been hired as a *Firefighter* with the [Fresno Fire Department](#).

Congratulations to all of you on getting hired as firefighters! Best of luck to all of you in your careers at your new departments!

FREE FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION SEMINARS!

Become a better *firefighter* candidate!

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

DATES: **Thursday July 1, 2004 and
Thursday July 8, 2004**
(You are invited to attend one night, or both nights - each night will be different).

TOPICS:

July 1

- Do I have what it takes to become a firefighter?
- The phases of the hiring process
- Locating firefighter examinations
- Becoming the best firefighter candidate you can be

July 8

- Resume preparation
- The application versus the resume
- Preparing for the oral interview

TIME: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. each night

LOCATION: Chabot College: Room 600 (In building 600)
25555 Hesperian Boulevard
Hayward, CA 94545

INSTRUCTOR: Steve Prziborowski - Fire Technology Coordinator at Chabot College and a Captain with the Santa Clara County Fire Department.

**REGISTRATION /
MORE INFO:**

To register, email sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu or if you do not have internet access, you can leave a message at (510) 723-6851. Please state which session(s) you plan to attend. If you have to cancel after you have signed up for one or both of the seminars, please let me know (common courtesy) so we can give your seat to someone else that might want it. 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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – GREAT AMERICA

Paramount's [Great America](#) is looking to hire people for their First Aid Department and their Fire Safety Department. They are both 40 hour per week positions and they are looking for someone who has full availability, who is available to work weekends and holidays, and who is EMT certified.

To apply for the positions, go to their Human Resources office at the address below and fill out an application. Their office is open Monday through Sunday, 9 am to 5 pm.

Paramount's Great America
2401 Agnew Road
Santa Clara, CA 95054
(408) 986-5912

Questions? Contact Leah Panelo, Employment Supervisor.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY FOR PARAMEDICS – Stockton Fire Department

The [Stockton Fire Department](#) is accepting applications for **EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES TRANSPORT TECHNICIAN** (*Paramedic only*) on a continuous basis. However, apply early because applications are accepted until a sufficient number are received and can close at any time.

The approximate monthly salary range is \$3739 - \$5650.

This is a non-sworn civilian position. Transport Technicians will be required to work shifts (24 hours on and 48 hours off) as structured in the Fire Department. The position requires working a 56 hour work week. *Veteran's Preference Points will not be awarded for this position.*

THE POSITION:

Under general supervision, responds to medical emergencies and other emergency and non-emergency situations and takes appropriate action; performs various staff support assignments in addition to normal emergency response activities; performs related work as assigned.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- **At the time of application:** must possess a valid Paramedic license (EMT-P) issued in the State of California.
- Applicant must obtain and provide a copy of his/her current California State Department of Motor Vehicles driving record at time of application. License must not be suspended, restricted, or revoked. An applicant whose driving record shows three moving violations within the past twelve months will be rejected.
- Graduation from high school or possession of a GED.
- Must be willing to work shifts on weekends, holidays, and overtime as needed.
- Must possess the strength and stamina sufficient to lift and carry equipment and patients weighing up to 165 pounds with assistance.
- Once hired and as a condition of continued employment, must possess and maintain a valid California Driver's license; a valid San Joaquin County Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic (EMT-P) accreditation; a Professional Rescuer CPR certificate, and a valid San Joaquin County Ambulance certificate. **Failure to abide by State and local certification requirements will result in termination of employment.**

The main factors to be considered in reviewing the applications and in structuring the examination include, but are not limited to:

QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of:

- Accepted procedures for assisting and caring for patients;
- First aid protocol;
- Record keeping practices;
- Paramedic principles and techniques; emergency medical and support equipment; and protocols of San Joaquin County;
- Techniques for patient assessment;
- Techniques for initiating proper medical treatment, airway management, fluid replacement, patient handling, intubation and transporting patients;
- Operation of medical equipment

Skill in:

- Handling stressful situations;
- Thinking clearly and acting quickly;
- Communicating effectively, tactfully, and courteously with co-workers and the public;
- Providing excellent customer service;
- Safely operating vehicles and equipment;
- Lifting and carrying equipment and patients.

THE EXAMINATION:

Oral Appraisal Interview: weighted 40% - measures interpersonal relations, oral communication skills, judgment and analytical ability, and your motivation to be an Emergency Medical Services Transport Technician;

Practical Exercise: weighted 60%, which may include a written component, - measures knowledge of patient care and assessment. *The City reserves the right to utilize alternative testing methods of deemed necessary.*

In order to maintain a passing score, candidates must receive a minimum score of 70% in each component of the examination. Candidates **MUST** pass a background investigation, psychological examination, and medical examination, including a drug screen, administered by the City physician. *In the event of identical ratings, names shall be arranged in order of application date/time, and if the same, arranged alphabetically. All applications must be completed fully and submitted on official City of Stockton application forms. Incomplete application packets will be rejected and cannot be revised after the final filing date.*

To view the job flyer and complete an on-line application, [CLICK HERE](#).

To learn more about the City of Stockton, visit their website – [CLICK HERE](#).

To learn more about the Stockton Fire Department, visit their website – [CLICK HERE](#).

You can also pick up an application and job flyer by visiting:

City of Stockton – Human Resources
22 E. Weber Avenue, Suite 150
Stockton, CA 95202

AMBULANCE COMPANIES THAT HIRE EMTs

Many of you are either already certified as an EMT or are getting close to completing your EMT certification. Either way, if you have the desire to become a firefighter and also go to paramedic school, then it is highly recommended that you find a job as an EMT working for an ambulance company. Many paramedic schools require you to have at least 6 months of paid, full-time experience on an ambulance, before you can even apply to paramedic school!

While I realize this may be frustrating or tough to accomplish for whatever reason, you have to realize why they do this. Many students (myself included when I was testing to become a firefighter) want to jump straight from EMT school to paramedic school, without having any experience working on an ambulance. I realize why you want to do this; you want to get your

paramedic license done as soon as possible because it is going to make you more marketable as a firefighter candidate by allowing you to take more tests.

Below you will find a list of ambulance companies that hire EMTs and Paramedics (among other positions):

[American Ambulance \(Fresno\)](#)
[American Medical Response \(AMR\)](#)
[Bayshore Ambulance \(Foster City\)](#)
[California Medical Transport \(CMT\)](#)
[Calstar \(Medical helicopter\)](#)
[First Responder Ambulance \(Chico\)](#)
[Hughson Ambulance \(near Modesto\)](#)
[King-American Ambulance \(San Francisco\)](#)
[Mediflight \(Medical helicopter\)](#)
[Priority One Medical Transport](#)
[Reach \(Medical helicopter\)](#)
[Riggs Ambulance \(Merced\)](#)
[Stanford Lifelight \(Medical helicopter\)](#)
[Westmed Ambulance \(San Leandro\)](#)

Realize that there may be more other companies out there to apply with. These are just the ones I was aware of. If you know of any other ambulance companies in California that have websites, please feel free to forward that information to me so I can include it on the website!

WEBSITE RESOURCES – THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FIREFIGHTERS (IAFF) – Firefighter Labor Union Locals

A valuable way to educate yourself on a particular fire department and the fire service in general, is to visit the website of a particular fire department's labor union local. Most paid firefighters nationwide are members of the [International Association of Fire Fighters](#).

What is the IAFF?

The [International Association of Fire Fighters](#) has more than 2,700 affiliates, representing fire fighters in more than 3,500 communities in the U.S. and Canada. The 263,000 members of the [IAFF](#) are the nation's full-time professional fire fighters and paramedics, who protect the lives and property of 80 percent of the nation's population.

Who Does the IAFF Represent?

In addition to city and county fire fighters and emergency medical personnel, the [IAFF](#) represents state employees (such as the California Forestry fire fighters), federal workers (such

as fire fighters on military installations), and fire and emergency medical workers employed at certain industrial facilities.

How can I benefit from these websites if I am not employed as a firefighter?

When you are testing for a specific fire department, you are hopefully taking the time to educate yourself on the operations and history of that department. You will be visiting fire stations, talking with firefighters, fire company officers, fire chiefs, etc. You will be visiting fire department websites, city websites, etc. One overlooked research method is visiting the fire department's union local website. The union local website for a specific fire department can provide you with information such as current events, political activities, additional fire department information that may not be found on the fire department website, and information on the elected officials of that fire department's union local.

Virtually every fire department executive board consists of firefighters that hold positions such as Union President, Union Vice-President, Union Secretary, Union Treasurer, and Union Shift Representatives (typically A, B, and C shift). You still may be wondering to yourself: why spend the time learning the names of these people? You may think you should only spend the time knowing the names, ranks, and duties of the chief officers. Well, learning the names, ranks, and duties of the Union Executive Board Members can assist you because it shows you an additional side of the fire department that most candidates probably don't take the time to research or use to their advantage.

If you are visiting fire stations, make an attempt to visit and meet with each of the Union Executive Board Members of that fire department. Those folks are usually involved in some capacity of the firefighter hiring process, and can additionally provide you with valuable information about what is going on in the department and where the department is headed. It is very common to have members of the Union Executive Board be on the oral interview panel.

IAFF Websites of various fire departments across the United States:

[Local 1 - Pittsburgh Firefighters](#)

[Local 2 - Chicago Firefighters](#)

[Local 22 - Philadelphia Firefighters](#)

[Local 29 - Spokane \(WA\) Firefighters](#)

[Local 27 - Seattle Firefighters](#)

[Local 31 - Tacoma Firefighters](#)

[Local 34 - Little Rock Firefighters](#)

[Local 42 - Kansas City \(MO\) Firefighters](#)

[Local 43 - Portland \(OR\) Firefighters](#)

[Local 51 - El Paso Firefighters](#)

[Local 55 - Oakland / Alameda County / Emeryville Firefighters](#)

[Local 58 - Dallas Firefighters](#)

[Local 94 - FDNY Uniformed Firefighters](#)

[Local 176 - Tulsa Firefighters](#)

[Local 230 - San Jose Firefighters](#)

[Local 341 - Houston Firefighters](#)

[Local 372 - Long Beach Firefighters](#)

[Local 456 - Stockton Firefighters](#)
[Local 493 - Phoenix Firefighters](#)
[Local 522 - Sacramento Area Firefighters](#)
[Local 624 - San Antonio Firefighters](#)
[Local 753 - Fresno Firefighters](#)
[Local 754 - Tampa Firefighters](#)
[Local 798 - San Francisco Firefighters](#)
[Local 891 - San Bernardino Firefighters](#)
[Local 975 - Austin Firefighters](#)
[Local 1014 - Los Angeles County Firefighters](#)
[Local 1138 - Torrance Firefighters](#)
[Local 1165 - Santa Clara County Firefighters](#)
[Local 1171 - Santa Clara City Firefighters](#)
[Local 1364 - Ventura County Firefighters](#)
[Local 1401 - Santa Rosa Firefighters](#)
[Local 1592 - Roseville Firefighters](#)
[Local 1699 - Milpitas Firefighters](#)
[Local 2046 - Santa Barbara County Firefighters](#)
[Local 2400 - San Mateo City and County Firefighters](#)
[Local 2881 - California Department of Forestry Firefighters](#)
[Local 2899 - Anaheim Firefighters](#)
[Local 3501 - Vacaville Firefighters](#)
[Local 3631 - Orange County Firefighters](#)

CHABOT EMT & FIRE TECHNOLOGY T-SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE!

Back by popular demand! – Chabot College EMT and Fire Technology program **t-shirts** are now available at the Chabot College Bookstore for \$15.00.



EMT t-shirts: these shirts are similar to the grey (ash) t-shirts I have printed up in the past. They have the Chabot College EMT logo on the left breast (small logo) and the same EMT logo on the back (large logo). The back of the shirt is the same as the picture to the left.



Fire Technology t-shirts: These shirts are similar to the white t-shirts I had printed up a couple of years ago. These shirts are grey (ash) in color and have the Chabot College Fire Technology logo (the one at the top of page one of this newsletter in full color) over the left breast and the words “CHABOT COLLEGE FIRE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM” on the back in block letters, similar to the way fire departments put their name on the back of their t-shirts.

They are located with the other clothing in the bookstore; if you cannot find them, make sure you ask the bookstore staff to assist you! There should be plenty of different sizes to fit all sizes and shapes!

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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Cellular: 408-205-9006

Fax: 510-782-9315

Email: sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu

Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site: www.chabotfire.com

Chabot College web site: 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.