



FIRE & EMS NEWS

May 2003

Volume 1 – Issue 11

Welcome to the latest issue of the Fire & EMS News! I hope each and every one of you is doing well in both your personal and professional lives. For those that are pursuing full-time positions in the fire service, I hope that you are moving closer to making that dream a reality! Some of the highlights of this issue include:

- Congratulations to various Chabot Fire Technology students for getting hired by various Bay Area Fire Departments
- Free Firefighter Oral Interview preparation seminar with Captain Bob!
- Summer and Fall 2003 Chabot College registration has begun!
- Fire Prevention A.A. Degree and Certificate of Achievement program cancellation
- Training Opportunity - Auto Extrication Seminar
- Stockton Fire Department practice physical ability sessions
- Firefighter related testing opportunity – Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety
- Paramedic school entrance examination information – Santa Cruz
- Paramedic school entrance examination information – East Contra Costa County
- Paramedic school application information – Palo Alto
- Firefighter testing opportunity – Modesto Fire Department
- Firefighter testing opportunity – Orange County Fire Authority

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS!

- **James Cobb** (Chabot Fire Technology student) has been hired as a **Firefighter** by the [Alameda County Fire Department](#).
- **Brian Ferreira** (former Chabot Fire Technology student) has been hired as a **Firefighter** by the [Alameda County Fire Department](#).
- **Evan Ford** (Chabot Fire Technology student) has been hired as a **Firefighter** by the [Moraga-Orinda Fire Protection District](#).
- **Stephanie Hinderer** (Chabot College Fire Technology student) has been hired as a **Firefighter** by the [Alameda County Fire Department](#).
- **Andrew Kim** (Chabot Fire Technology student) has been hired as a **Firefighter** by the [Santa Clara County Fire Department](#).
- **Cory Wilson** (former Chabot Fire Technology student) has been hired as a **Firefighter / Paramedic** by the [Newark Fire Department](#).

Way to go everyone! I wish you all the best of luck in your new positions!

May 2003

Chabot College Fire & EMS News

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FREE ORAL BOARD SEMINAR

On Wednesday May 28, from 6:30 pm until 8:30 pm, “Captain Bob” Smith will be providing a FREE Oral Interview seminar. This will occur at Chabot College in room 916. Captain Bob is a retired Captain from the Hayward Fire Department who has been on numerous interview panels and has helped countless candidates obtain their badges. He will provide you with tips on how to better prepare yourself for the oral interviews you will be taking or have already taken and not done as well as you possibly could have on. Remember that the oral interview is probably the MOST important phase of the firefighter hiring process since most fire departments score this portion 100% of your total score.

For more information about Captain Bob, visit his website at <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 and let me know how many people plan to attend. Hurry, seats are limited! If you need directions to Chabot College, click here: <http://www.chabotcollege.edu/student-service/where.html>

Oral 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!

SUMMER 2003 & FALL 2003 REGISTRATION HAS BEGUN!

Registration for the Summer 2003 and Fall 2003 semesters at Chabot College has begun! Registration dates are as follows:

- **Continuing Students** – Starting April 28
- **Early Decision Students** – May 12 through May 16
- **New & Former Students** – Starting May 19

Register early as classes are sure to fill up quick! For on-line registration and information (including schedules), go the main Chabot College website at <http://www.chabotcollege.edu>

FIRE PREVENTION A.A. DEGREE & CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Effective Fall 2003, the **Fire Prevention** A.A. Degree and Certificate of Achievement will no longer be offered at Chabot College. While this was a unique opportunity for someone that wanted to get into fire prevention (as opposed to fire suppression), I was informed that the Inspection courses were no longer going to be offered because of lack of enrollment and other factors related to the State budget crisis. This coupled with the fact that there were only a few individuals presently working towards their A.A. Degree in Fire Prevention, caused us to have to take a hard look at the program and whether it was necessary or not. While I firmly believe there

was a necessity for the program, the current State budget crisis is causing us to rethink how we operate and force us to try and streamline our programs.

Many of you might not have been aware of this, but many of the Inspection classes were consistently being cancelled due to lack of enrollment. This was causing a hardship to students wanting to complete their degrees in a timely manner. So for any of you that were thinking about getting into fire prevention, obtaining a degree or certificate of achievement in Fire Technology is just as valuable. The bottom line is that any degree is better than no degree. It all comes down to how you sell yourself and market yourself during the oral interview and hiring process as a whole. If there are any people that are going to be affected by this decision, please contact me a.s.a.p. so that we can make alternate plans to allow you to continue your degree. Those folks that have already declared this program as their major will be allowed to complete it. We will just have to get creative in how we work around not being able to provide the Inspection courses.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITY - Auto Extrication

The [Monterey Fire Department](#) is hosting their 3rd annual California State Fire Marshal certified class in Auto Extrication. You will receive 3 days of solid hands on training. This is an excellent certificate to add to your resume. This seminar includes:

- California State Fire Marshal F.S.T.E.P. Certification in Auto Extrication
- Truck and Bus extrication component included
- Nationally recognized instructors
- BBQ lunches provided on Saturday and Sunday
- Auto Extrication and Rescue Equipment vendors
- EMT / Paramedic Continuing Education Units
- Student Manual / Workbook

When: May 16, 17, and 18, 2003; from 0730 to 1700 hours

Cost: \$195.00

Lodging and Visitor Info: <http://www.montereyinfo.org> (Monterey County Convention & Visitors Bureau)

Registration: Registrations will be accepted **(by mail or fax only)** starting April 1. Check <http://www.monterey.org/fire/training.html> to check space availability (once on that page, click on "current training opportunities." **Payment must accompany registration - no exceptions!** Visa, Master Card, and Purchase Orders accepted.

For Specific Course Information: Contact Training Services at (831) 646-3416

STOCKTON FIRE DEPARTMENT IS HOSTING FREE PHYSICAL ABILITY PRACTICE & ORIENTATIONS!

In an effort to encourage candidates to be prepared to successfully pass the physical agility portion of its next Firefighter recruitment, the City of Stockton has scheduled a number of **physical agility practice sessions** in advance of the next testing session. The Stockton Fire Department will be testing sometime in the near future; however the date they will pass out applications is still undetermined.

The practice sessions will demonstrate in detail what the physical performance exam entails and how it will be administered as well as provide an opportunity to participate in a hands-on physical agility exam; with the “how-to” techniques being offered by current City of Stockton Firefighters.

Participants will be provided with physical conditioning guides to identify exercises that will benefit those that are interested in a career in the fire service (and not just with Stockton F.D.)

The sessions will also include viewing a video about the physical performance test that explains the components and displays the necessary techniques that are used to accomplish the tasks.

All practice sessions will take place at the City of Stockton Fire Station #2, located at 110 West Sonora Street from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. **Sessions have been scheduled for the following Saturdays:**

May 10, 2003
June 14, 2003
September 13, 2003

October 11, 2003
November 8, 2003

Call (209) 937-8865 to hear a recorded message that will answer additional questions. You can also visit the City of Stockton website at <http://www.ci.stockton.ca.us>

For more information about the Stockton Fire Department, go to their website at <http://www.ci.stockton.ca.us/fire/index.htm> For more information about becoming a Stockton Firefighter, go to <http://www.ci.stockton.ca.us/fire/pages/beafirefighter.htm>

Even if you never get the chance to test for firefighter with the City of Stockton Fire Department, how can you pass up this free opportunity that will show you your strengths and weaknesses (especially if you have not passed a physical ability test or have never taken a physical ability test) and also provide you with valuable information to make you a better candidate with any fire department.

On a side note, reliable sources have told me that the City of Stockton is also going to be testing again soon for their single-role EMT and Paramedic positions. Single-role means that you are assigned to an ambulance, not a fire engine. While this position does not guarantee you a position as a firefighter, it does increase your chances if you are doing an excellent job while you are employed there. Once again, a position like this can either make you or break you, depending on how well you have performed your duties and how well you have gotten along with your co-workers and the customers you are serving. For those of you that are not familiar with the [Stockton Fire Department](#), they are a very busy fire department that runs a lot of EMS calls and actually still fights fire on a regular basis. To the best of my knowledge, they are only one of about 5 fire departments in Northern California that still staff 4 firefighters on a fire engine (the other fire departments that I am aware of that staff a minimum of 4 personnel daily on a fire engine are [Oakland](#), [San Francisco](#), [San Jose](#), [Gilroy](#), and [Sacramento](#)). There might be a few others, but not that many. Most fire departments in Northern California are staffing around 3 personnel on a fire engine. The [Stockton Fire Department](#) is also the only Class 1 Fire Department in Northern California (as rated by the [Insurance Services Office](#)).

FIREFIGHTER RELATED TESTING OPPORTUNITY – Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety

The [Sunnyvale Department of Public Safety \(DPS\)](#) is continuously testing for the position of Public Safety Officer-in-training. I have taken the following information off of their website:

INTRODUCTION

Can't decide between a career in police or fire services? Now you can have both!

Their department enjoys a worldwide reputation for excellence. They offer some of the highest salaries and most comprehensive employee benefits available anywhere. To view their very generous salary and benefit package, click here: http://www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us/public-safety/recruit/salary_benefits.htm Their training programs, communications systems, and field operations utilize the latest technology in equipment and procedures. Above all, their people are deeply committed to providing high quality police and fire protection to all Sunnyvale residents.

They are seeking exceptional candidates who are committed to a high standard of public service, have the flexibility to embrace change, and are sensitive to the needs of a diverse community. They are seeking a Public Safety force that reflects the changing face of Sunnyvale and is committed to serving their entire community.

QUALIFICATIONS

- **Age:** must be at least 21 years of age at time of appointment
- **License:** must possess a valid Class C California Drivers license at time of hire
- **Education:** must have completed 60 semester or 90 quarter units from an accredited college at time of application

- **Citizenship:** must be a U.S. citizen or resident alien with an application for citizenship filed prior to appointment to Public Safety employment and have the ability to obtain U.S.citizenship.
- **Vision:** must have a vision rating not exceeding 20/200 correctable to 20/20 in both eyes; ability to wear soft contact lens if uncorrected vision is poorer than 20/50; vision adequate to identify and distinguish between various visual inputs at long and short ranges and distinguish objects and read warning labels and signs in dark and smoky environment for extended period of time; ability to accurately identify and distinguish colors; and normal color vision. Although you will not be required to submit a vision certificate prior to being made a conditional offer of employment, your vision will be evaluated at the pre-employment medical exam.

TESTING PROCESS

This rigorous selection process is comprised of the following tests:

Written tests – this examination is designed to measure a candidate’s reading, writing, and mathematical skills. It presumes no prior police or fire experience on the part of the candidate.

NOTE: These tests are designed to measure your overall aptitude for this line of work. Sunnyvale does not publish any study guides.

Structured Oral Interview and Interpersonal Skills Assessment (ISA) – this two-phase process is designed to assess the candidate’s decision making abilities, oral communication effectiveness, and interpersonal skills. Only those candidates recommended by the Oral Board will continue to the ISA.

Psychological Personal History Questionnaire Review – After completing the ISA, you will be asked to complete a detailed questionnaire concerning items in your background. This questionnaire is designed to provide them with a preliminary indication of your suitability to perform law enforcement duties.

Physical Capabilities Demonstration – This is a series of several events designed to measure some of the physical abilities that are required to perform the duties of the job. The events are timed. Full instructions and actual demonstrations are provided prior to the administration of the test. The events are as follows:

- **Weight lift** – *Safely lifting a 75 pound barbell above one’s head. This simulates lifting and stabilizing weight in a manner similar to tasks that could occur at a fire scene.*
- **Stair climb** – Running up the training tower stairway carrying a fire hose bundle. This simulates climbing two flights of stairs while carrying a 50 pound fire hose bundle and a 30 pound breathing unit.
- **Hose hoist** – Hoisting a 35 pound fire hose bundle to the third floor window of the training tower. This simulates raising aloft a fire hose or other equipment during a fire emergency.
- **Wall climb** – climbing over a wooden wall. This simulates climbing a 6 foot fence in an emergency situation.

- **Loading hose line** – Stacking six 50 pound bundles of fire hose on the back of a fire truck. This simulates the loading of fire hose after or during a fire or other emergency.
- **Advancing hose bundle** – pulling (or dragging) 2 ½ inch fire hose, weighing approximately 95 pounds over a 75 foot paved course. You will need to have good strength in your legs and torso to pass this test.

Preliminary Psychological Assessment (PSA) – The PSA is a psychological interview which does not entail questions related to one’s physical or mental abilities to do the job. (Those types of questions will be asked during the post-conditional offer psychological exam, described later in this article). In addition, you will be evaluated with regard to your motivation and your “fit” with a job that entails both police and firefighting duties.

Polygraph Evaluation – Information obtained from the polygraph examination will be used solely to obtain necessary background information. No applicant for employment will be disqualified solely upon the results of the polygraph examination.

Background Investigation – A sworn officer trained in background investigation will conduct a detailed probe of your personal history to determine suitability for public safety work.

Final Hiring Interview – You will have a final interview with a high-ranking officer within the Department who will, by this time, have access to your background investigation report and the results of the polygraph interview.

After the final hiring interview, the eligible list will be established. Order of placement on the eligible list will be determined by the candidates’ overall score obtained from each step of this process. A conditional offer of employment will be made to the top candidates on the list. Those who receive a conditional offer of employment will then proceed to the following tests:

Psychological Evaluation – This is used to discern any factors which could prevent you from fulfilling your duties, personality traits which could increase the City’s exposure to liability, and considerations which could increase your likelihood of harming yourself.

Post-Offer Polygraph Examination – Although similar to the pre-offer polygraph examination, this one will delve into medically-related considerations.

Medical Examination – This medical exam is administered to ensure that you can meet the physical challenges of the job. Your vision will also be measured.

Drug Test – This test will identify the recent use of illegal drugs.

No offer of employment will be final unless the candidate satisfactorily completes all of these tests. Appointment to this position is also contingent upon submission of proof of U.S. citizenship or the legal right to work in the U.S.

TESTING DATES AND LOCATIONS

<u>Dates:</u>	<u>Testing Phase:</u>	<u>Location:</u>
May 20 -	Written Test	Sunnyvale DPS Headquarters
May 21 -	Written Psychological Testing	700 All America Way
May 22 -	Oral Board Interview	Sunnyvale, CA
June 17 -	Written Test	Sunnyvale DPS Headquarters
June 18 -	Written Psychological Testing	700 All America Way
June 19 -	Oral Board Interview	Sunnyvale, CA
July 15 -	Written Test	Sunnyvale DPS Headquarters
July 16 -	Written Psychological Testing	700 All America Way
July 17 -	Oral Board Interview	Sunnyvale, CA
August 19 -	Written Test	Sunnyvale DPS Headquarters
August 20 -	Written Psychological Testing	700 All America Way
August 21 -	Oral Board Interview	Sunnyvale, CA
October 14 -	Written Test	Sunnyvale DPS Headquarters
October 15 -	Written Psychological Testing	700 All America Way
October 16 -	Oral Board Interview	Sunnyvale, CA
November 11-	Written Test	Sunnyvale DPS Headquarters
November 12-	Written Psychological Testing	700 All America Way
November 13-	Oral Board Interview	Sunnyvale, CA

THREE WAYS TO OBTAIN APPLICATION MATERIALS

1) Call them!

You may obtain application materials by calling our Human Resources Department at (408) 730-7490 or you may request application materials by leaving a message on our Application Request Line at (408) 737-4970, please specify "Public Safety Officer-in-Training".

2) Download application materials!

To download materials, you will need [Adobe Acrobat Reader®](#).

- Download City of Sunnyvale Employment [Application Public Safety Officer in Training Job Announcement](#) , and [Supplemental Questionnaire](#) for Public Safety Officer-in-Training.

- Download Optional materials for additional Public Safety information.

- Public Safety Officer-in-Training [Information Booklet](#)

NOTE: These optional materials are for information only! You are not required to download this information or submit to the Department of Human Resources.

3) Write or send them an E-mail!

Write to them at:

**City of Sunnyvale
Human Resources Department
456 West Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, California 94086.**

Or email them at: personnel@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PUBLIC SAFETY OFFICER-IN-TRAINING

Visit their website at <http://www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us/public-safety/> and click on the PUBLIC SAFETY RECRUITING LINK that is found under RECRUITING

Once on the above website, you can view information on Salaries and Benefits, Training and Educational opportunities, Fire and Police Operations, Concepts and Practices, FAQ's, and Career Opportunities available. After the Public Safety Officer In-Training completes all of the required probationary training and testing, they will rotate annually between the six (6) staffed fire stations and patrol officer duty.

PARAMEDIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INFORMATION – Emergency Training Services (Santa Cruz)

Emergency Training Services (ETS), located in Santa Cruz, will be accepting applications for their next Paramedic program beginning in August 2003. **Applications will be available in May 2003.** Please call their training center at 800-700-8444 for more information or to be placed on the mailing list. For more information about their program, visit their website at <http://www.etsclassroom.com> – once on that page, click on the link that says “EMERGENCY TRAINING SERVICES – CALIFORNIA CAMPUS.”

Their paramedic program can usually be completed over the course of 9 months to 1 year. It is comprised of 1,300 hours of training divided into three categories: didactic (classroom), clinical internship, and field internship.

Didactic sessions meet on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays for approximately 25 weeks. These are 8-hour daytime sessions. Areas of study will include advanced instruction in topics such as anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology, pharmacology, drug administration, EKG interpretation, airway management, toxicology, pediatrics, chemical dependency, obstetrics, and ALS strategies for all major medical and trauma emergencies.

After the 15th week of instruction, students begin clinical internships that last a minimum of 160 hours. Each student will be assigned a nurse preceptor, who will guide them through the practice of skills and techniques in a hospital setting. A typical clinical internship schedule will include

3, 8-hour shifts per week for 2 months. Some of the hospitals they maintain contracts with include: Stanford Medical Center, Kaiser Santa Clara, and Dominican Hospital in Santa Cruz.

The field internship phase consists of a minimum of 480 hours of active paramedic application. Each student is assigned to a paramedic unit to act as an integral member of the mobile intensive care team. The student, while under the supervision of a paramedic preceptor, will apply principles of paramedic care to patients in the field setting. They maintain contracts with AMR – the largest emergency care provider in the U.S., many fire departments in California, and a few out of state. A typical field internship schedule will include 2 to 3, 24-hour or 8-hour shifts per week for 3 to 6 months.

PREREQUISITES:

All applicants must be at least 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma or equivalent. Candidates must be currently certified as an EMT at the time of application.

Classes recommended for course preparation include: anatomy, physiology, medical terminology, and chemistry.

HOW TO APPLY:

There will be two Paramedic programs per academic year. Application will be available in the spring and fall. Applicants that meet all requirements will be accepted for a screening process. This process may include aptitude testing and an interview. The screening and interview process commences in the summer for entry into the fall program. Screening begins in the winter for entry into the spring program. Complete details will be included in the application packet. If you would like an application packet, please call their office and they will put you on the mailing list. As of December, tuition is \$8,500.00. This fee is subject to change and may be increased for the Fall 2003 semester. Tuition includes all books, uniforms, and internship fees.

This 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.

PARAMEDIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INFORMATION – Los Medanos College / NCTI

N[orthern California Training Institute](#) (NCTI) is holding pre-entrance examinations for their upcoming Paramedic class that is a partnership with Los Medanos College in Pittsburg (next to Antioch). I am unaware of the exact location of the class, but I would assume it would be in the east Contra Costa area (Antioch, Pittsburg, Brentwood). 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 <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 one of the many benefits reserved for NCTI students only.

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. *(This is a key selling point when shopping around for paramedic schools!)*

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 prior experience as an EMT with an ambulance or fire service provider agency.

ADMISSION TESTING

\$50.00 application fee (non-refundable / non-transferable)

COURSE FINANCING

Special Financing and payment arrangements are available for qualified students meeting the conditions of each program. Please contact NCTI directly for further details on these options.

Tuition may be paid by credit card as well.

COURSE CHARGES AND FEES

Course charges and fees will be provided to students prior to the start of the course.

For their **Fall 2003 Paramedic Course** that I am assuming will be held in the **East Contra Costa County area** (**contact NCTI for the most up-to-date information**), the examination dates are:

- Wednesday May 14, 2003 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom
- Wednesday May 21, 2003 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their Livermore Classroom

This 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.

PARAMEDIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAM INFORMATION – Foothill College in Los Altos Hills

Foothill College in Los Altos Hills (San Mateo County) also offers a paramedic program. Classes are actually held in Palo Alto at the Middlefield Road Campus. Students can either choose to get a Certificate of Achievement in **Paramedic** or an A.A. Degree in **Paramedic**.

MINIMUM PREREQUISITES TO GET INTO EITHER PROGRAM

- High School Diploma or GED Certificate
- Current BLS (CPR) certification
- Possess a current EMT 1 certificate
- Possess a minimum of six months full-time equivalent work experience with an EMS provider agency. Applicants must be working at least half-time in an EMS capacity during the didactic phase
- MATH 101 or equivalent college level course within the past 3 years or a score of 25 or higher on the elementary algebra proficiency test. (Contact testing office at 650-949-7230).
- Eligible for ESL 25 or ENGL 110. (Contact testing office at 650-949-7230).
- No felony or drug or alcohol related convictions.

CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT

The paramedic curriculum is a rigorous 12 to 15-month (five to seven quarters) sequence of instruction, with entry in the fall quarter only. This course is designed for the working EMT who wishes to become a paramedic. The first three quarters (Fall, Winter, Spring) are didactic (classroom) instruction, meeting twice a week. The final two quarters (Summer, Fall) are the clinical phase (hospital experience), and the field internship (ambulance time). Students may opt to take the clinical portion while concurrently attending didactic to shorten the overall time spent to complete the program.

The paramedic program is designed to prepare students for employment as paramedics working for ambulance services, fire agencies, fixed & rotary wing operations, & hospital emergency rooms.

The curriculum exceeds state law requirements by providing instruction based upon the United States Department of Transportation Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic National Standard Curriculum, Title 22, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals, Basic Trauma Life Support, Prehospital Trauma Life Support, National Registry of EMTs paramedic examinations, and studies of current nation-wide protocols and expanded practices.

Students who complete the program in a satisfactory manner will be awarded a career certificate and are qualified to apply to the state for paramedic licensure. Licensure is a legal requirement to work as a paramedic in California.

A.S. DEGREE

A two-year A.S. degree is also available upon completion of the Foothill College General Education Requirements listed on the reverse side of this page. We encourage prospective students to look into this option and consider long term career planning. Please call (650) 949-6959 for counseling information.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Approximately 36 students are admitted to the program once each academic year for the class beginning in the fall (September).

Application forms were available beginning September 15, 2002. (The applications for the Fall 2004 program should be available starting in September 2003). To request an application by mail, call the Middlefield Campus at 650/949-6955 or the Biological & Health Sciences Division office at 650/949-7538. You may also pick up an application at the Middlefield Campus Office or at the Foothill campus in Room 5211.

All correspondence, applications, and transcripts should be mailed to:

Foothill College, Paramedic Program,
Attn: Charlie McKellar,
4000 Middlefield Road, Bldg. I,
Palo Alto, CA 94303

APPLICATION DEADLINE

May 31, 2003

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Visit their website at <http://www.foothill.fhda.edu/bio/programs/paramed/index.shtml>

Even if you do not meet the requirements today, you can still plan ahead for the future!

This 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.

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FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Modesto Fire Department

The [Modesto Fire Department](#) is accepting applications for the position of Firefighter / Firefighter Trainee. This is their entry-level firefighter position. The final filing date is May 16, 2003. For more information about the position go to the following link: <http://www.modestogov.com/per/joblist/response.asp> and under “SELECT A POSITION TITLE,” click on the link to Firefighter / Firefighter Trainee to view the basic information about the position. From that page, you can also download the brochure for the position that includes all applicable information about the process, including minimum requirements and tentative testing dates. You can also download an application from the website as well.

The minimum requirements to take this test include:

- Graduation from high school or possession of a GED certificate at the high school equivalency level
- Possession of a current CPR card
- Possession of a current State of California EMT certificate is required at the time of application. A course completion certificate (like the one we give you when you finish Health 81 and 83) is NOT adequate
- Minimum of 21 years of age required by the final filing date
- Possession of an appropriate valid California Driver’s license is required by final filing date
- Possession of a California State Fire Marshal’s Office Firefighter 1 certificate **OR** graduation from a California State Fire Marshal’s accredited Firefighter 1 Academy (like the one at Chabot College) **OR** the completion of 15 semester units of college coursework in Fire Science “major” courses.

The Modesto Fire Department is presently operating out of 10 fire stations with at least one more station planned for the future.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - Orange County Fire Authority

The [Orange County Fire Authority](#) (OCFA) will be accepting applications for the position of Firefighter Trainee (their entry-level firefighter position) until May 15, 2003. For complete information, as well as to download an application, go to their employment page on their website at <http://www.ocfa.org/jobs/home.htm>

The OCFA is a joint powers authority made up of 22 partner cities and unincorporated areas of Orange County, providing fire, emergency medical and rescue, and fire prevention and hazardous materials response services to residents with 61 fire stations throughout Orange County.

Minimum Qualifications include (but are not limited to):

- At least 18 years of age
- Possess a high school diploma or equivalent by May 15, 2003
- Possession of a California Driver's License or the ability to obtain one by the date of the appointment

For additional information visit the website links above. Also, you can call their Firefighter Trainee Recruitment Hotline at (714) 780-8049. Applications can also be picked up in person at the OCFA Human Resources office at 1110 East Chapman Avenue, Suite 110, Orange, California between the hours of 8:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Only mail-in applications will be accepted! They will not accept any hand-delivered applications! **DO NOT ATTACH RESUMES, LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION, OR ANY OTHER NON-OCFA ATTACHMENTS** (i.e., certificates, licenses). The Human Resources office will accept an unlimited number of mail-in applications. After the closing date, a random drawing will be held to select 500 qualified applicants to participate in the recruitment process. 500 qualified applicants, selected by random drawing, will be invited to take the Firefighter Trainee written exam. Those candidates achieving a score of 70% or better will be invited to continue in the process. The written exam scores will comprise 50% of candidates' overall score for placement on the Eligible List. Candidates who achieve passing scores on the written exam will be invited to oral panel interviews. The panel interviews will comprise the other 50% of your overall score for placement on the Eligible List.

NOTE: There has been a rumor circulating that they will allow anyone to complete the test (and not randomly select 500 candidates). Whether that is true is yet to be determined. It could happen, you never know. That is why you have to take every test and not believe everything you read or hear!

What are you waiting for? **VIRTUALLY EACH & EVERY ONE OF YOU THAT IS READING THIS SHOULD QUALIFY!** The OCFA is one of the largest fire departments in the state!

CLOSING COMMENTS

This issue is the largest issue to date. While I want to keep the issues short and sweet (to reduce information overload), I found it hard to actually eliminate items. I sincerely feel that every item in this issue (and every issue) can be of value to you in your pursuit of the badge!

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 & EMS Coordinator - Chabot College

Office: 510-723-6851, Building 1500, Room 1556
Cellular: 408-205-9006
Pager: 408-549-2568
Fax: 510-782-9315
Email: sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu

Chabot College Fire Technology & EMS web site:

<http://chabotde.clpccd.cc.ca.us/users/sprziborowski>

Chabot College web site: <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 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.