



FIRE & EMS NEWS

March 2006

Volume 4 – Issue 9

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

- Congratulations are in order to various individuals for getting firefighter positions!
- Firefighter preparation tip of the month
- Volunteers needed around the Bay Area – EMS classes
- This month's written examination testing tips, courtesy of the Don McNea Fire School!
- Free fire and EMS related email mailing lists to stay up-to-date on the fire service!
- FREE Firefighter Preparation Seminars at Chabot College!
- Paramedic school entrance examination information!
- Firefighter employment opportunities – Marin County, Sacramento and Oxnard!

CONGRATULATIONS ARE IN ORDER TO THE FOLLOWING INDIVIDUALS!

For reaching various career goals and/or milestones:

- **Vaughn Bozigian** has been hired by the [Bullhead City \(Arizona\) Fire Department](#) as a Firefighter.
- **Jesse Clemons** has been hired by the [Los Angeles County Fire Department](#) as a Firefighter.
- **Marcos Flores** has been hired by the [Santa Clara County Fire Department](#) as a Firefighter/Engineer.
- **Jon Ladner** has been hired by the [Los Angeles County Fire Department](#) as a Firefighter.
- **Mark Leeds** has been hired by the [Los Angeles Fire Department](#) as a Firefighter.
- **Spencer Peterson** has been hired by the [Santa Clara County Fire Department](#) as a Firefighter/Engineer.

Note: If you know of anyone that has recently been hired or promoted in the fire service (including yourself), please don't hesitate to let me know so I can congratulate them in a future newsletter!

FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION TIP OF THE MONTH:

What have you done today to get yourself one step closer to the career of your dreams? If you are not doing at least one thing every day to better prepare yourself for success, your chances of success will be significantly reduced. Just some things to do off the top of my head include:

- Create your resume (if you have not yet done so)
- Update your resume (if you have already created it)
- Surf the internet looking for firefighter jobs
- Surf the internet researching fire departments
- Surf the internet researching the fire service
- Volunteer your time in some capacity, to make your community or someone's life better
- Fill out an application for a firefighter position
- Stop by a fire station to meet the crew, have them show you the apparatus and station, and see what advice they can provide you to help you become a firefighter (make sure you bring dessert!) and to make new contacts to increase your network
- Maintain a clean shaven, professional appearance
- Go to the gym to participate in your physical fitness program
- Create a physical fitness program if you do not have one
- Enroll in fire technology classes at your local junior college to work towards your two year degree in fire technology
- Read a fire service textbook (your local library may have copies to check out)
- Read a fire service publication (your local fire station may be able to provide an extra copy)
- Practice your oral interview skills with a tape or video recorder
- Rehearse your prepared answers for the various types of questions you will be asked during the oral interview
- Take practice written examinations to ensure that you can receive a score in the high 90 percentile on your next written examination
- Learn how to cook a new meal
- Learn more about mechanical ability, especially if you do not have a strong background in it
- Keep yourself healthy so you don't have to call sick at your present job (yes, we do look at your present employment to determine whether you were excessively absent or tardy).
- Save some money (you'll need it for paramedic school or traveling to firefighter tests, or for many other reasons).

Nobody said becoming a firefighter was going to be easy. Too many people make excuses as to why they are not getting hired. They blame everyone but themselves. You are the only obstacle keeping yourself from becoming a firefighter. Channel any negative energy into positive energy and start doing something about your weaknesses. Spend some time every day preparing yourself and your odds of success will greatly increase!

FREE FIRE PREPARATION INFORMATION, COURTESY OF THE DON McNEA FIRE SCHOOL!

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

LOCATING FIREFIGHTER EXAMINATIONS

- We suggest you subscribe to your local newspaper – even if it means subscribing to more than one if your city has several major papers. The Sunday edition's help wanted ads is the most important – it will usually include examination test dates and information. In addition, the sports section sometimes carries examination information. Your local library will also carry the current newspapers.
- There are also Internet subscription services that will provide information on examinations given across the country. Your investment in this type of service can be from \$3.00-\$9.00/month. The following websites: www.firecareers.com and www.firehouse.com are excellent sources of information on firefighter examinations.
- Try to keep a current list of cities giving examinations. Once a municipality gives an examination, an eligibility list is established and remains current for 1-2 years. If you know an examination is given annually, make a note on your calendar so that you make sure you don't miss an application deadline.
- Many major municipalities have a recruitment unit. Click on the link below for a list of 150 major fire departments across the country, along with their addresses and phone numbers. You should contact these departments and ask to have your name placed on their recruitment list or interest list (if they have one) to be notified of examination dates. You will usually be notified at least 2-3 weeks before the application process. To view the list of 150 major fire departments across the country, go to: www.fireprep.com/top_150_fire_departments.html
- Some departments have a volunteer program. We strongly suggest that you join this group if it is available in your community. This will give you valuable insight into the department and personnel. Most volunteer programs are part of smaller departments – no major departments have volunteer programs.
- Many times, colleges that offer EMT and paramedic certification programs will post examination announcements on their bulletin boards. If you are enrolled in such a program, make note of this information. If not, visiting colleges and locating these bulletin boards will help you obtain as much information as possible.
- If you have the time and resources, we suggest that you make telephone calls to various departments. Ask them when their last examination was given and when the next examination is anticipated and make note of this information. A municipality may tell you that an examination will be given in September, but it may actually be given in July or August. You need to follow up with the Personnel Department to find out the current information on an examination. Departments with Fire Training Academies may also have examination information available.

- There are also numerous fire magazines that will publish entry-level examinations given across the country. You may subscribe to these magazines or you may find them at your local library.

Since 1950, Don McNea Fire School has prepared over 40,000 fire applicants with their entry level seminars and products. Fireprep.com has over 250 pages of FREE information and careers articles to help you reach your goal of becoming a firefighter. Go to www.fireprep.com and register for their free fireprep e-mail newsletter that features career articles by the countries top entry level authors. You will also be informed at no cost of firefighter examinations be given across the country. While at their website don't forget to review our award winning 'Ultimate Firefighter Exam Package'. This product has help hundreds of fire applicants finish in the top 2% of the exam process. Go to the link below to review the ultimate firefighter exam package. www.fireprep.com/ultimate_firefighter_examinati.html

Don McNea Fire School
dmfireschool@aol.com
1-800-989-FIRE
www.fireprep.com

FREE FIRE RELATED EMAIL LISTS!

To better prepare yourself to become a firefighter, it is important to learn as much as you can about the career of a firefighter as well as continuously find ways to better prepare yourself to become a firefighter. One way to do this is by being on email mailing lists that are offered free of charge by many different resources.

I am assuming that you have heard the phrase "knowledge is power." I firmly believe this is true; especially in regards to preparing yourself to become a firefighter and even after you have obtained that firefighter position of your dreams. Many oral interview panels ask questions that test your knowledge of the fire service. Keeping on top of current events in the fire and EMS world is critical. Obtaining your 2-year degree in Fire Technology only provides you with enough knowledge to make you a safe beginner. It is up to you to stay on top of the fire service, especially with current trends and techniques. To become a master of your craft and become comfortable with the thought that to be successful in whatever you do, you must continue educating yourself. As soon as you stop educating yourself and thinking that you know it all, that is when accidents can occur and we put others and ourselves at risk.

One way to stay on top of the fire service is by subscribing to Fire and EMS related publications. While it is very worthwhile to start building a library of material that can assist you throughout your career, it can get quite expensive (but can be used as a tax write off once you become a firefighter - consult with your tax specialist to be sure). An alternative to subscribing to Fire and EMS related publications is to subscribe to the various **FREE** email newsletters that are available from some of those publications. Many of them provide daily or weekly updates on fire and EMS related topics that can provide you with more knowledge that can hopefully make you a better prepared firefighter candidate. Some of the free email newsletters I have come across include:

"Captain Bob" Smith, a retired Hayward Fire Department Captain, puts out a monthly newsletter titled the "Fire Zine" that provides information to the firefighter candidate on how to do better at oral interviews. You can get onto his mailing list by going to his website: [CLICK HERE](#) and scrolling down to the "Free Fire Zine Email Newsletter" link. Captain Bob's primary focus is on improving your oral interview scores. Besides the free "Fire Zine," his website provides a wealth of information to the firefighter candidate as well as the promotional fire service candidate. [Captain Bob's website](#) is one of the best resources around.

Don McNea Fire School out of Ohio puts out an email newsletter that provides information on various departments nationwide that are accepting applications. They also have a variety of books for sale and information for the firefighter candidate, especially in regards to written tests, psychological examinations, and entry-level and promotional testing in general. The Don McNea Fire School is the only resource I have seen that specifically assists the candidate with the written examination, as well as other related portions of the hiring process. Go to their website at www.fireprep.com for more information.

Firemenjobs.com has a free email newsletter that provides information on hiring, test information, job tips, and training information. To subscribe or obtain more information, go to their website at www.firemenjobs.com

Los Angeles Fire Department – The LAFD has a great email mailing list that provides you with up-to-the minute information about what is occurring with the LAFD; a great way to stay in touch with one of the largest and most respected fire departments in the U.S. Go to www.lafd.org/info.htm for more information.

Daily Dispatch – This is a free daily email that provides you fire and EMS news from across the United States. Many of the news stories I send out on my email list are provided by this service, courtesy of the International Fire Chiefs Association. The nice part about this service is that you can choose which states you want to subscribe to, so that you can stay in touch with the areas of the United States you most care about. Go to www.dailydispatch.com for more information.

California State Firefighters Association - Go to their website at www.csfa.net and then go down to the area that states, "SUBSCRIBE TO THE CSFA NEWSLETTER." CSFA is an organization that represents both volunteer and paid firefighters throughout the state. This is an excellent resource for you as a candidate. Their website also provides extensive news of firefighter related issues, an extensive LINKS section, numerous training opportunities, and information on how to become a CSFA member; something I highly suggest each and every firefighter candidate doing. They provide you with a monthly magazine and with numerous benefits as a member. As a student, you can join as an "Associate member."

Fire Engineering Magazine - Go to www.fire-eng.com and scroll down the home page and on the left side of the page, look for "SUBSCRIPTIONS"; directly underneath that will be "E-NEWSLETTER". Click on that link and you can subscribe to their free email newsletter. For those of you that are not aware of Fire Engineering, they put out a monthly publication that is probably the best in the fire service.

Firehouse Magazine - Go to www.firehouse.com/insider/alerts.html and you can subscribe to their daily newsletter that provides a wealth of nationwide fire and EMS related information and news topics. Their home page at www.firehouse.com is probably the most extensive and complete resource for fire related information.

Journal of Emergency Services (JEMS) - JEMS is the leading EMS related magazine currently in publication. Go to www.jems.com and scroll down to "Subscribe to the new JEMS email newsletter." They will then send you EMS related information, usually about once a week or once every two weeks. While on their website, take a look at what their site has to offer. This is an excellent wealth of information in regards to the EMS world. If you are planning to become an EMT, if you are an EMT that wants to do a better job for you patients, if you have the desire to become a paramedic, or if you are a paramedic that wants to keep on top of current EMT trends and techniques, this is a magazine I highly suggest that you subscribe to. Subscription information can be found on the website above.

Chabot College Fire Technology mailing list – Some of you might be on this mailing list already. If you are, I hope you are finding it to be worthwhile. If not, here are some of the things I will try to make you aware of if you are subscribed to this FREE resource:

- Notification of fire and EMS employment opportunities
- Notification of when the new issue of the Chabot College Fire & EMS News is available
- Notification of various newsworthy items relating to fire and EMS that might have occurred nationwide
- Notification of volunteer opportunities
- Notification of information that is relevant to **YOUR** fire technology and EMS program at Chabot College
- Your name and email address will **NOT** be shared with anyone. I promise to keep it confidential.

If you are interested in subscribing to this valuable resource, or you think you have already subscribed and have not received anything from me in the last month (which means your email address is not cooperating) and you would like to back on the email list, feel free to email me at sprziborowski@aol.com and let me know that you're interested in being on the email mailing list. In the subject heading of your email to me, please write something to the effect of "Chabot Fire mailing list" or something similar that alerts me to what you are asking of me. On the average, I probably send out a few emails a week, so I process not to bombard you with useless information every day. I hope what I send to you will be worthwhile in some capacity.

NOTE: Please do not expect me to compete with fine services such as www.firecareers.com or www.firerecruit.com – that is not my intention. If you're waiting for me to send you the firefighter jobs, you're going to miss out on a lot of opportunities, and you may not get them in a timely manner. Why? Because those companies pride themselves in having the most up-to-date firefighter testing information. I send things out when I find them on the internet or receive them from others that heard about them or discovered them while on the internet. While I may send out a job announcement every other week, they usually have multiple jobs listed daily, from across the country.

What are you waiting for? This is a no-brainer! I am a firm believer in the fact that you should subscribe to at least one fire or EMS related publication to keep yourself up-to-date. This is not meant to replace your subscribing to publications; it is meant to supplement the information that is given in those publications.

NOTE: *All of the above resources are for your information only. I am not endorsing any of the above individuals, services, and/or products. I have my opinions about each and every one of them; however it is up to you to do your own research and find out what will most assist you in becoming a firefighter! Find out for yourself and take the time to look into each of the websites to see if you may benefit from them.*

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 23 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**.



- **May 6, 2006** **Cut off for filing for this test is April 7, 2006**
- **August 19, 2006** **Cut off for filing for this test is July 21, 2006**
- **October 14, 2006** **Cut off for filing for this test is September 15, 2006**

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 29th – 30th 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 www.cityofsacramento.org/fire/jobopportunities.html

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

EMS VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AROUND THE BAY AREA:

The [San Francisco Paramedic Association](http://www.sfpaa.org/) is looking for volunteers for the following upcoming EMS related classes:

**Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support Classes -
Volunteers Needed**

Dates / Locations / Times:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tuesday March 14 from 0730 to 0930 hours - Wednesday March 15 from 1230 to 1630 hours - Thursday April 20 from 0730 to 0930 hours - Friday April 21 from 1230 to 1630 hours <p>NOTE: All of the above classes will be held at the Bay Model Visitor Center in Sausalito (2100 Bridgeway, Sausalito)</p>
You will receive:	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.
Your role:	As a volunteer, you will be moulaged and designated to role-play a victim of a trauma emergency scenario. Please wear loose, old, comfortable clothing, as you may be on the floor for some scenarios.
Contact person(s):	Call the San Francisco Paramedic Association for more information or to sign-up at (415) 543-1161 (tell them Steve at Chabot sent you) or email them at director@sfparamedics.org or visit their website section on volunteer opportunities at www.sfparamedics.org/volunteer.htm

MORE FREE FIREFIGHTER PREPARATION SEMINARS!

Become a better firefighter candidate!

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

DATES: Wednesday March 29, 2006
 Wednesday May 24, 2006

TOPICS: March 29:

Guest Speaker: Jennifer Reed from Northern California Training Institute; (AMR's EMS educational arm) to discuss their paramedic program and opportunities within the EMS field.

Also: Fire service preparation tips and career opportunities will be discussed, with the focus on how to best prepare yourself for the position of firefighter during the testing process and then during the probationary process.

May 24:

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!

SPEAKER: Steve Prziborowski, Fire Technology Coordinator at Chabot College and a 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 1904 (in Building 1900)

**REGISTRATION /
MORE INFO:**

Just show up, no reservation needed. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at sprziborowski@chabotcollege.edu or call me at 408-205-9006.

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

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

***PARAMEDIC SCHOOL ENTRANCE EXAMINATION INFORMATION –
Northern California Training Institute (Pittsburg)***

Northern California Training Institute (NCTI) is holding pre-entrance examinations for their upcoming Paramedic classes in various cities around the State.

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 – ***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
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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 handles 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 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 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:

- 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 Rancho Cucamonga, CA, the examination dates are as follows:

- Wednesday March 29, 2006 – 9:00 am to 12:00 pm at their AMR Rancho Cucamonga location
- Wednesday March 29, 2006 – 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at their AMR Rancho Cucamonga location

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

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.

NOTE: For a list of other paramedic programs around the state, visit our website at www.chabotfire.com and go the LINKS page.

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Oxnard Fire Department

The [City of Oxnard Fire Department](#) is going to be accepting applications for the position of **Firefighter Trainee** as follows:

FILING DEADLINE: 5:00 PM, JUNE 23, 2006 (Accepted this day only)

MONTHLY SALARY: \$3,781 During Academy Training + excellent benefits

THE POSITION:

All qualified applicants must have a valid California Fire Fighter Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certification at filing deadline in order to be considered for this position. To obtain your CPAT certification, go to www.cpatonline.org

As a Firefighter Trainee, you will attend a 12-week fire academy conducted by the Oxnard Fire Department designed to provide an overview of the fire service, training in various procedures and policies, emergency medical services, fire suppression techniques, fire prevention practices, and physical fitness.

Upon successful completion of the fire academy, trainees will advance to a full-time firefighter position and be assigned to 24-hour shift duty. Under direct supervision, the firefighter responds to emergency medical calls, fire alarms, rescues, hazardous materials, and other emergency calls; protects life, environment and property endangered by fire and other hazards; participates in regular fire prevention inspections; assists in maintenance of fire stations and equipment; participates in training exercises, and performs additional tasks as required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

Applicants must be at least 18 years old and have a high school diploma or equivalent.

ABILITY TO Speak Spanish is highly desirable.

LICENSE OR CERTIFICATE: A valid California Class "C" driver's license; Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-1 or EMT-B) and a California Fire Fighter Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certifications are required. For information on where to obtain CPAT certifications, please contact Oxnard College at 805-384-8109 or visit www.oxnardcollege.edu/programs/firetech or the California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee Testing Center toll-free at 877-648-CPAT or visit www.cpatonline.org

MINORITY AND FEMALE CANDIDATES ARE ENCOURAGED TO APPLY

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Applications and copies of EMT and CPAT certifications will be accepted on JUNE 23, 2006 ONLY, at the City of Oxnard Human Resources Department, Activity Room between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Applications may be obtained from the City of Oxnard, Human Resources Department, 300 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030 or via our website at <http://www.ci.oxnard.ca.us>. Facsimiles and postmarks will not be accepted. The application must be filled out completely. Failure to provide required information will result in disqualification from the process. Those candidates whose qualifications most closely meet the needs of the City will be invited to continue in the process.

The written examination will be conducted on July 13, 2006, at the City of Oxnard, Performing Arts and Convention Center, 800 Hobson Way, Oxnard, CA. Proof of identification, preferably a driver's license, is required to take the written test .

Candidates who successfully complete all phases of the selection process will be placed on the eligibility list. These phases include: written test, interview board, Chief's interview, thorough background investigation, polygraph, and a medical/fitness examination (including a pre-employment drug screening).

On May 4, 1999, the Oxnard City Council amended the City's Personnel Rules and Regulations to provide preference points to veterans. If you are a veteran and wish to receive additional points, please attach a DD Form 214 or applicable verification to your application.

AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
City of Oxnard, Human Resources Department
300 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030
(805) 385-7590

For more information about the **Oxnard Fire Department**, visit their website at www.ci.oxnard.ca.us/fire/index.html

For more information about the **City of Oxnard**, visit their website at www.ci.oxnard.ca.us

FIREFIGHTER EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY – Marin County Fire Department

The [Marin County Fire Department](http://www.marincountyfire.org) will be accepting applications for **Seasonal Firefighter** for the 2006 Fire Season until March 27, 2006. Positions available will be as a Firefighter assigned to an engine company, fire lookout, fire crew, dispatch assistant or reserve firefighter. This is a temporary position that can last up to nine months and earns \$9.46-\$11.50 an hour. For more information or an application, please contact Phoenicia Thomas @ 415-507-2631 or Kellie Moore @ 415-507-2731. Or via e-mail at pthomas@co.marin.ca.us or kmoore@co.marin.ca.us

Visit their website at www.marincountyfire.org for more information about the department and the positions.

Marin County Fire Department Seasonal Firefighter Job Description

DEFINITION

Under supervision, and depending on assignment, performs a wide variety of fire fighting duties working as a member of a fire crew; may assist in assigning and dispatching fire and medical personnel and equipment, watch from a lookout tower for fires and keep an Activity Log; and perform related duties as required.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This job classification describes non-permanent assignments in the Fire Department. Individuals hired into this class are extra hire seasonal employees who provide seasonal assistance to regular employees of the Fire Department in fire fighting. After completion of general training, entry-level individuals are assigned routine fire fighting and maintenance tasks, lookout duties, or command center duties, which are performed under close supervision of the department personnel, with experienced individuals operating under general supervision. Individuals perform job duties in uniform and may be assigned work during weekends, holidays and may require irregular hours. With previous training and experience, this class may perform independent assignments. Incumbents are assigned to one of three areas: fire suppression, emergency command or lookout.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES (Illustrative Only)

Incumbents with no previous training or experience receive training as a member of a fire crew in wildland fire suppression methods and techniques and perform the following duties:

Fire Suppression Assignment

- Assists in semi-skilled construction and maintenance at buildings, grounds and equipment including minor repair and painting work.
- Assists with landscaping tasks around Fire Department buildings such as mowing grass, trimming trees and shrubbery, and watering landscape areas.
- Cleans and repairs fire hose and related equipment, sharpens fire fighting tools.
- Performs general fire station housekeeping and kitchen duties as required.
- Cuts, chops and removes brush and weeds and clears trails.
- Assists in fighting fires as a member of a fire crew, using tools and equipment such as a shovel, ax, McLeod, Pulaski and back pump; uses tools to construct fire line.

Incumbents with previous training perform as members of a fire crew in wildland fire suppression methods and techniques in either fire suppression as described above, or in emergency command assignments, as follows:

Emergency Command Assignment

- Assists in answering emergency calls for help.
- Assigns and dispatches fire and medical equipment and personnel.
- Maintains resource status and communicates with emergency personnel by radio.
- Answers routine and emergency telephone calls and provides general information to the public and news media.
- Assists in maintaining weather equipment, data and indices in accordance with National Weather Service standards.
- Supports the Fire Emergency Resource Coordinator in record keeping, logging activities and personnel calculations.
- Helps to maintain weather equipment and keep the communications center in a clean and neat condition.

Lookout Assignment

- Searches for smoke during the daylight hours by making visual observations.
- Locates fire positions by mechanical means; i.e. Osborne Fire Finder.
- Reports fires and their location to the Emergency Command Center by use of radio or telephone.
- Keeps a record of fire discovery times and locations.
- Makes weather observations and computes indexes regularly or as requested, and keeps weather observation records.
- Provides visibility reports on request.
- May be required to work after hours during lightning activity to report and record strikes.
- Cares for the lookout tower, equipment and adjacent grounds by performing daily housekeeping.

EMPLOYMENT STANDARDS

High school graduation OR equivalent (GED); in accordance with State legal requirements, must be at least 18 years of age.

Fire Suppression/Command Center Assignment:

Ability to:

- Follow basic safety policies and procedures.
- Respond quickly to oral commands or signals in emergency situations.
- React quickly, calmly and efficiently in emergency situations.
- Accurately complete simple report forms.

- Safely drive and operate light motorized vehicles.
- Read and interpret road and topographical maps.
- Communicate effectively in English.
- Work and live harmoniously with coworkers.
- Learn to operate a public safety communications system and assist in dispatching emergency equipment and personnel.
- Learn to operate computer terminal equipment.
- Perform a variety of light and heavy fire fighting and unskilled construction and maintenance tasks for extended periods and under unfavorable weather conditions.

Lookout Assignment:

Knowledge of:

- Use of an Osborn Fire Finder
- Marin County geography and landmarks;

Ability to:

- Learn to operate computer terminal equipment.
- Recognize smoke from fixed sources and differentiate fire smokes within observable distances from the lookout tower.
- Speak in clear well modulated voice;
- Read maps and interpret mapped information;
- Communicate the location of fires by radio and telephone.
- Maintain lookout tower and adjacent grounds in an orderly condition.
- Make arithmetical calculations.
- Prepare and maintain accurate and concise records and reports.

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS

Fire Suppression/Command Center Assignment:

- Physically able to distinguish objects and read warning labels and signs in dark and smoky environments.
- Hear radio transmissions, commands and cries for assistance.
- Speak in clear, well modulated and readily understood voice.
- Repeatedly push heavy objects (up to 60 pounds) away from own body.
- Pull heavy objects (up to 150 pounds) toward own body.
- Operate heavy hand-held tools and machinery with arms extended for periods up to 15 minutes.
- Carry heavy objects (up to 100 pounds) to demonstrate skill to assist in carrying bodies for extensive distances.
- Carry heavy objects (up to 60 pounds) upstairs, on ladders and up hills.
- Make complex body movements involving balance and coordination while moving through restricted space.
- Detect smoke and fire through smelling.

Lookout Assignment:

- Visual acuity correctable to 20/20.
- Voice quality suitable for clear radio or telephone communication.
- Ability to climb steep slopes and stairs.

Other Characteristics:

- Willing to work odd hours, overtime, weekends and holidays.
- Work at any station in the County on short notice.
- Perform routine and repetitive work.
- Attend meetings and classes both on and off duty.

- Work under adverse and hazardous conditions.
- Wear a uniform.
- Maintain a clean and neat appearance.

NOTE: All applicants for the Fire Suppression/Command Center assignments must pass the County Firefighter pre-placement physical prior to initial hire and must re-qualify on a regular basis.

LICENSE

Fire Suppression positions require possession of a valid class C driver's license and satisfactory driving record as obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles, or proof of an equivalent means of travel, if reasonable accommodation is requested.

WORK SCHEDULE:

For fire suppression there are two types of schedules. One is assigned to a specific stations and shift, working four days a week, ten hours each day. The other is a reserve position called upon to fill gaps in scheduling assignments to maintain minimum staffing standards for operational readiness and complete special projects.

Lookouts work five days a week, eight hours a day, and will be assigned to one of two lookout posts. Emergency Command Center Assistants will have a schedule that will insure proper coverage for support in Command Center.

All schedules and assignments are subject to change to insure operational readiness and proper staffing levels. This will most often occur during emergency assignments within or outside of Marin County boundaries.

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!

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WORKERS*****

The Fine Print:

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