

Olive Drive Fire Training Facility

Information Booklet For Firefighter I Applicants



August 2020

Olive Drive Fire Training Facility

So You Want To Be A FIREFIGHTER.....

Good, perhaps we can familiarize you with the pre-academy enrollment procedures. This may provide you some help in qualifying for the position of FIREFIGHTER.

Prior to making an investment in an individual interested in becoming a Firefighter, we must try to obtain the most qualified group of individuals for training. To do this, each applicant must satisfactorily complete all phases of the pre-academy enrollment procedures.

Applicants must have completed or currently enrolled in the required EMT or EMR course prior to applying for the Firefighter 1 Academy. Also, applicants must possess a current CPAT certification card dated between November 10, 2019 – November 10, 2020 (you have until the end of the Oral Interviews to complete the CPAT).

The academy will run approximately eighteen weeks (***EVERY Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday***) starting ***Monday, January 4th*** and ending ***Wednesday, May 14th*** from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm on the weekdays and 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on the weekends. The academy will follow the State Fire Marshal's Firefighter I lesson plans. You will be responsible for the following fees:

Firefighter Academy College Unit Fees (16.5 units + \$1.00 student fee)	\$759.00
Health Fees	\$13.00
Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills, 3 rd Edition (Jones & Bartlett)	\$115.00
Administrative Fees	\$100.00
Maintenance Fees	\$100.00
CSTI – Haz-Mat First Responder & Decon Certificate	\$20.00
SFM – Confined Space Awareness	\$20.00
SFM – Fire Control 3B	\$20.00
SFM – On-line Firefighter I Exam	\$50.00
Gloves	\$84.00
<u>Uniform</u>	
**Pants (Nomex)	\$89.00
**Work Shirt (Dickie Work World w/creases Style #1575SV ~ Gray)	\$30.00
*T-Shirt (2 minimum)	\$15.00
*Hat	\$15.00
**Belt	\$16.00
*Black Work Boots (8" minimum, lace-up, non-skid)	\$95.00
(*These are approximate costs)	
(**Merchandise found at Code 3)	

Due to the large number of applicants applying for the Firefighter I Academy, the Committee may opt to use the lottery system in selecting the applicants. The Committee will be drawing **50** numbers to be eligible for the Oral Interview.

Those selected will be contacted by telephone to arrange an Oral Interview date. Those individuals who have the top scores will be selected to attend the Firefighter 1 Academy. The **tentative** dates are:

November 3rd, 4th, 5th, & 10th

STEP ONE - THE APPLICATION FOR FIREFIGHTER I ACADEMY

Individuals must be 18 years of age, possess either a High School Diploma or GED and EMR or EMT (or currently enrolled in an EMR or EMT class) as of the date the applications are due. CPAT Certification must be completed between November 10, 2019 – November 10, 2020. Firefighter I Academy Application must be completed (***printed clearly in ink or typed***), signed by the applicant. ***The following must be submitted with the application or it will not be accepted:***

- Resume – 1 to 2 page
- Letter of Recommendation – **3** letters (***LETTERS NOT SIGNED &/OR HAVE A CURRENT DATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED***)
- College Transcription (unofficial) showing a **GPA above 2.00** (if attended college)
- Copy of EMR or EMT Certificate
- Copy of CPAT Card (if current)

Application along with the above list of documents must be submitted to **Janet Mason** at jmason@bakersfieldfire.us or mailed to: **Janet Mason, Olive Drive Fire Training Facility, 5642 Victor Street, Bakersfield, CA 93308** between **August 24th and September 18th**. Due to COVID there will be only 20 Firefighter I candidate positions for the 2021 Firefighter I Academy.

All candidates must submit a telephone number that a message can be left if you are unavailable. If we are unable to contact you or leave a message, your application will be rejected.

STEP TWO - ORAL INTERVIEW APPRAISAL

The oral interview will be administered by the Bakersfield Fire Department, Kern County Fire Department, and Bakersfield College at the Olive Drive Fire Training Facility. Its purpose is to provide an exchange of information between the applicant and the interview panel members. This interview is designed to evaluate education and work experience and to measure the personal attributes expected of firefighter personnel. It may evaluate the following characteristics:

- Ability to act under stress;
- Ability to accept authority;
- Ability to get along with fellow firefighters;
- Ability to deal with the public;
- Motivation to be a firefighter.

The panel of interviewers will attempt to put you at ease in discussing your qualifications as potential cadets. Because you are in competition with other qualified people, here are a few suggestions that may be helpful:

- A. Punctuality and appearance are important. Neat grooming and attire will be a good first impression of you to the panel. Provide the image of self-confidence by thinking you are the best person for the job.
- B. Be courteous to the interviewers - speak clearly and loudly enough to be heard by all members of the board. When responding to a question, look directly at the questioner. Avoid a harsh or hasty answer - if necessary take time to think out your answer before responding. In a positive way, stress the value your abilities can contribute to the fire service.
- C. Avoid distracting mannerisms which might draw the interviewer's attention away from your statements. Maintain good habits, posture, and poise during the entire interview process.

STEP THREE - THE SELECTION LIST

Applicants will receive a score from the raters of the Oral Interview panel. Those scores will be averaged & the applicant will be placed on an eligibility list depending on your score. The Committee will decide the number of students that will be attending the Firefighter 1 Academy and those applicants will be notified by a letter with the required academy information.

STEP FOUR - MEDICAL EXAMINATION

The last step in your evaluation process prior to appointment as a Firefighter I Cadet is a complete medical examination. It is given by a physician of your choice and at your expense. However, we have made arrangements with a medical center to conduct an inexpensive physical. Each applicant must be in good general physical condition, free from disease or defects that would interfere with the satisfactory performance of the duties of this position. Weight must be in proportion to height.

A written letter from your physician stating you meet the medical requirements will be submitted to **Janet Mason** the first night of the Academy.

STEP FIVE - FIREFIGHTER I ACADEMY COMPLETION CERTIFICATE

Upon successful completion of the Firefighter I Academy a certification of completion for a California State Firefighter I Academy will be issued.

(The Firefighter I Academy Certification is a different certification than the SFM Firefighter I Certificate. To receive a SFM Firefighter I Certificate you must complete a Firefighter I Academy and 12 months volunteer service.)

Good Luck!!!