



Technical Standards for Firefighter Training (FIP)

Our program technical standards have been developed to help students understand nonacademic standards, skills, and performance requirements expected of a student in order to complete this particular curriculum.

If an accommodation is necessary to participate in the program, it is imperative to identify a reasonable accommodations to those students who qualify under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Reasonableness is determined by the Disability Services Office (DSO) and the program on a case-by-case basis utilizing the program technical standards. The accommodation needs to be in place prior to the start of the program, or it may delay your ability to start the program. It is the student's responsibility to contact the DSO and request accommodations.

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
Motor Skills	Firefighting is physically demanding work. Firefighters must be strong enough to carry heavy gear or remove victims and agile enough to maneuver in an enclosed space. A firefighter needs the physical skills to meet the job demands.	Climbing ladders, pulling hose, wearing firefighter gear and using specific tools and equipment to perform the job.
Vision	Firefighting is a job based on all senses. Vision is critical to the job.	Being able to see clearly in smoke obscured environment. Being able to read notes and signage in low light environments.
Hearing	Firefighting is a job based on all senses. Hearing is critical to the job.	Listening for someone to call out during search and rescue in an Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH) environment. Listening for sounds that give clues

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
		to what may happen if immediate actions are not followed (i.e. a leak from a pressurized vessel)
Smelling	Firefighting is a job based on all senses. Smelling is critical to the job.	Being able to distinguish the Smell of different materials that may be burning. Including solids, liquids and gases.
Technological	<p>Firefighting, like most jobs has been subject to technology advances and new technology making the job safer and more effective.</p> <p>The Fire Protection Program has an ONLINE component. Computer literacy is critical for success.</p>	<p>Using Thermal Imaging cameras, drones, and advanced gas detection equipment. Special equipment used to detect specific hazardous materials and life threatening by products that can cause immediate injury or death.</p> <p>Microsoft Office will be used to write reports and memorandums.</p> <p>The internet will be used for research.</p> <p>GPS will be used to find locations.</p>
Communication	Firefighting is primary a communication driven job requiring highly effective oral and written communication skills that involve specific instructions that in most cases be life threatening	Giving instruction on how to perform life saving measures and/or instructions to mitigate an incident that could become progressively worse if instructions are not clear and concise.
Critical Thinking/ Problem Solving	In firefighting critical thinking skills have five basic components:	Critical thinking and problem solving in a complex rescue

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
	<p>Reasoning, analyzing, evaluating, decision making, and problem solving.</p> <p>Reasoning is the process of forming conclusions, judgements, or inferences from facts or premises. A firefighter is expected to think in a logical manner. The concept of reasoning seems to be linked to the concept of proof and rationalization.</p>	<p>situation that may involve the use of sophisticated tools and equipment. A good example would be removing a victim from a collapsed structure and providing life saving measures for the individual.</p>
Interpersonal Skills	<p>Interpersonal communication is important for the quality of working relationships in any fire service organization. Those in management positions who are sensitive and responsive in their communications with employees encourage the development of trusting, loyal relationships</p>	<p>Working on a rotating shift where you are working and living with your colleagues for a 24 hour period is real life application on interpersonal communication.</p> <p>Dealing with the public and educating them on specific codes and regulations is another example.</p>
Environmental Tolerance	<p>Firefighting is physically demanding work. Firefighter must be strong enough to carry heavy gear or remove victims and agile enough to maneuver in an enclosed space, all weather environments, physically demanding situations and rapidly changing environmental conditions</p>	<p>Working in any environmental condition. Heat, cold, wet, dry, oxygen deficient and immediately dangerous to life and health environment (IDLH)</p>

Skills	Description	Specific Examples
Safety/Health	National standards for firefighting specifies that firefighters meet the minimum requirements for an occupational safety and health program for fire departments or organizations that provide rescue, fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials mitigation, special operations, and other emergency services.	The Authority having Jurisdiction, (AHJ) should establish reasonable and safe work practices for structural firefighting.
Flexibility and Adaption to Change	In Emergency and Disaster situations, the situation changes rapidly and requires strong decisive actions; the fire Officer must be able to make solid decisions in a time compressed environment without all of the required information.	Fire Officers, who respond to emergencies must be prepared to handle whatever incident type they encounter.

This document is intended to serve as a guide regarding the physical, emotional, intellectual and psychosocial expectations placed on a student. This document cannot include every conceivable action, task, ability or behavior that may be expected of a student. Meeting these technical standards does not guarantee employment in this field upon graduation. Ability to meet the program's technical standards does not guarantee a student's eligibility for any licensure, certification exam, or successful completion of the degree program.