

FIRE SCIENCE

Technical Certificate



Program and

Career Description:

The Fire Science Certificate at Columbia State is designed to prepare current and future firefighters for careers and advancement in the firefighting profession. Coursework will be delivered in a blend of on-ground, hybrid, and online formats.

The program is designed for those who have little or no experience with the fire service industry in preparation for entry-level positions. The certificate may also allow experienced firefighters to expand learning with credit for knowledge and skills gained through training and certifications.

How long is the program?

The Fire Sciences certificate can be earned in as few as two semesters on a full-time basis or paced part-time for individual students.

What does the program provide?

Outcome based classroom learning combined with practical experiences which prepare students for state credentialing, gainful in-field employment, career satisfaction, and advancement potential.

How is the job market?

The Bureau of Labor Statistics estimates that there will be an increase of 17,400 Firefighter jobs from 2014 to 2024, which is a 5% growth rate.

Career	Entry-Level Pay	Median Pay	Experienced Pay
Fire Fighter	\$22,910	\$30,810	\$65,050

Career and salary information taken from *PayScale.com*, *JOBS4TN.GOV*, and Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor on the internet at www.bls.gov. Check out the [Occupational Outlook Handbook](#) on this website for additional information about similar occupations, education requirements and abilities, and job outlook for these careers. Salaries are not guaranteed.

www.columbiastate.edu/FireScience

Transfer Options

Courses may be combined with selected courses from another degree/certificate to develop a personal academic plan for the General Technology AAS. Students with a General Technology AAS degree have multiple options for university transfer. Transfer credit is awarded at the discretion of the receiving institution. Students are advised to inquire directly with advisors at the university of choice regarding expectations for transfer.



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Technical Certificate (Designed for the student who does not intend to transfer into a baccalaureate degree program.)

What Kind of Work Will You Do?

The Fire Science program provides fundamental knowledge that applies to a variety of jobs within the fire service. Depending on your career choice duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Maintain fire equipment
- Control and extinguish fire
- Inspect facilities for fire safety purposes
- Conduct fire safety education programs
- Instruct and/or advise others on the use of equipment
- Prepare reports and maintain records

What Skills and Abilities Will You Need?

Depending upon the chosen area within the fire industry must be able to:

- Lift a reasonable amount of weight
- Visually assess a situation
- Respond to auditory signals
- Communicate verbally and in writing
- Analyze problems and determine solutions
- Work independently and in cooperation with others

Program Entry Requirements

- Complete an application for admission
- Satisfy the rotation requirements
- Attend any required information/registration sessions

Requirements for Graduation include:

- Earn 25% of total program credits in residence at Columbia State.
- Earn a GPA of at least 2.0 in program courses.
- Earn a cumulative GPA of 2.0 or higher.

If you have completed TN eCampus courses, run a degree audit from the student tab in myChargerNet to determine how these courses apply to this program.

Program begins Spring 2019; therefore Gainful Employment information is not available at this time.

Required Courses

The following courses are required:

___ FIRE 1310	Principles of Emergency Services	3
___ FIRE 1320	Principles of Fire and Emergency Services Safety and Survival	3
___ FIRE 1330	Fire Prevention	3
___ FIRE 2310	Fire Protection Systems	3
___ FIRE 2320	Building Construction for Fire Protection	3
___ FIRE 2330	Fire Behavior and Combustion	3

Semester Credit Hours 18

Plus four (4) courses totaling **12 semester credit hours** from the list below, depending upon course availability:

___ FIRE 1315	Rescue Awareness	3
___ FIRE 1325	Fire Investigation I	3
___ FIRE 2315	Introduction to Homeland and Disaster Management	3
___ FIRE 2325	Fire Protection Hydraulics and Water Supply	3
___ FIRE 2335	Strategy and Tactics	3
___ FIRE 2340	Leadership Development	3
___ FIRE 2350	Principles of Fire and Emergency Services Management	3
___ FIRE 2355	Hazardous Materials	3
___ FIRE 2360	Occupational Safety and Health for Emergency Services	3
___ FIRE 2365	Hazardous Materials II	3
___ FIRE 2370	Public Fire and Life Safety Education	3
___ FIRE 2375	Hazardous Materials Chemistry	3
___ FIRE 2380	Legal Aspects of Emergency Services	3
___ FIRE 2385	Fire Investigation II	3
___ FIRE 2390	Emergency Services Capstone Project	3
___ FIRE 2399	Special Topics in Fire Sciences	3
	or	
FIRE 2299	Special Topics in Fire Sciences	2
	or	
FIRE 2199	Special Topics in Fire Sciences	1

TOTAL CREDIT HOURS 30

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