



# College of the Mainland



College of the Mainland  
Public Service Careers – Fire Academy  
1200 Amburn Road  
Texas City, Texas 77591

Phone: 409-938-1211 ext. 285 or 224  
888-258-8859 ext. 285 or 224  
Fax: 409-938-3146

## *“Training tomorrow’s firefighting professionals”*

Welcome to College of the Mainland Fire Technology program! As a certified training facility through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) we provide Basic Fire Suppression courses designed to prepare students seeking a career as a professional firefighter.

College of the Mainland Fire Academy offers a low-cost, fast-track course of training (640 hours) designed to prepare the cadet for the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Basic Structural Firefighter Certificate. To be certified by the Commission an individual must complete an approved firefighter course and hold, as a minimum, a certificate as an Emergency Care Attendant. Upon completion of the Fire Academy, cadets are encouraged to take the credit Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course that is offered through our EMS department. Graduates of the Fire Academy and EMT earn 30 credit hours towards an Associates Degree in Fire Technology.

The Fire Academy will expose cadets to basic firefighting training that will include firefighting principles and theory lectures followed by hands on skills training. Cadets will experience the latest in firefighting techniques and equipment. Our instructors are amongst the finest in the field of firefighter education. The instructor staff is composed of full-time paid firefighters from various departments in Harris and Galveston counties. Many of our instructors are graduates of the College of the Mainland Fire Academy.

College of the Mainland Fire Technology offers both day and night Fire Academy courses. If you are interested in becoming a firefighting professional or would like more information concerning the Fire Academy please contact us.

**Academy Dates and Registration****Academy Dates and Times**

<u>Day Academy</u>	<u>Night Academy</u>
4 Months	8 Months
Mon - Fri	Mon - Thu
0800 hrs - 1700 hrs	1800 hrs - 2200 hrs
	Alternating Sat
	0800 hrs – 1700 hrs

**Next Available Academy:****Day Academy**

January 12, 2010 – May 14, 2010

**Night Academy**

September 2010



## Tuition, Equipment and Related Expenses

### Estimate of Costs (Prices are subject to change)

#### Fire Academy Tuition

In district \$ 1536.00	Out of district \$ 1571.00
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#### Summary of approximate additional costs

<u>Description</u>	<u>Amt</u>
Text Books	\$70.00
Uniform Shirt / PT wear	\$100.00
Bunker Gear	*See below
State Testing Fee	Incl. in Tuition

Bunker gear is **not** sold through COM Fire Academy. Rental gear is provided by independent suppliers by rental or purchase. Some suppliers locally:

Rescate – 281-481-5101

**STUDENTS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR BUNKER GEAR.** Please call the Fire Academy at ext. 378 for more information. Bunker gear provided by a sponsoring department must be accompanied by an official letter stating that it is fully compliant to the current NFPA standards.

#### **Bunker Gear Required Items**

Helmet  
Coat  
Pants  
Boots  
Gloves  
Work Gloves  
Sock Hood  
Clear safety glasses  
Gear Bag

#### **Minimum Uniform Items**

Academy Shirt Package (Purchased during the 1<sup>st</sup> week)  
Black military style boots (Side zipper preferred / steel toe **not** required)  
Dark blue Dickey style pants without large bellows/cargo side pockets  
Black leather belt  
Running shoes



## Frequently Asked Questions

### **How rigorous is the physical conditioning and the skills required in the academy?**

It is a good idea to be preparing for the physical challenges of the fire academy. Push ups, sit ups, running and climbing stairs are just a few samples of activities you can expect. Many of our skills are performed while wearing bunker gear and an air pack. This can be very demanding on you physically. Strength training and cardio training will be beneficial to you prior to signing up for the academy. (As always, check with your doctor prior to engaging in any workout program.)

### **What do I need to have on orientation day?**

Nothing. If all your application paperwork is complete you will only need to show up on time. Orientation will be an overview of the course, requirements and expectations. All questions regarding the academy will be discussed during orientation.

### **Am I guaranteed a job upon completion of the Academy?**

The firefighter certification will allow you to seek employment as a firefighter. Upon completion of the program it is your responsibility to seek out departments and proceed through the application process of the department. Our fire academy takes pride in many of our cadets being hired by the local and statewide departments. We will provide you with the “tools of success” in your efforts to gain employment. The rest is up to you.

### **Do I need to be an EMT to be in the academy?**

You are not required to have Emergency Medical Technician certification to enroll in the fire academy however completion of the EMT course will be a requirement to obtain your firefighter certification from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. COM offers the EMT course every semester and will count towards your A.A.S. degree.

### **Does the fire academy count towards a degree?**

Yes. Upon completion of the fire academy and completion of 6 credit hours of any other discipline here at COM you can petition the college for 24 credit hours for the fire academy. Typically a cadet will earn 6 credit hours by taking our EMT course and petition for the credit. At this point the student will have 30 credit hours toward the A.A.S. Fire Science degree.

### **I'm currently a volunteer or paid firefighter; can I use my own gear?**

Absolutely, as long as it is NFPA compliant and you provide the academy a letter from your Fire Chief. This letter should state that the Fire Chief is allowing you to use the gear and understands the gear will be subject to harsh conditions that may render the gear unserviceable.



## Frequently Asked Questions (Continued)

### **Will I need to have a Criminal Background check conducted?**

The fire academy does not require a background check however, the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) will do a criminal history check on all applications for initial certification. Additionally, the Emergency Medical Technician course will require a criminal background check prior to enrollment. For questions regarding past criminal offenses and how they may affect your certification please refer to the TCFP website (<http://www.tcfp.state.tx.us/>) for additional information.

### **As cadet in the fire academy, will I be allowed to use the gym on campus?**

Yes, as a cadet you can access all the programs and facilities available to students on campus. During the first week we will process the necessary information required to obtain a student identification card. The student status will be valid as long as you stay currently enrolled at College of the Mainland.

### **Is Financial Aid available?**

Financial Aid is available for students enrolling in credit and non-credit courses through College of the Mainland. We also have a childcare grant for students enrolled full-time in credit vocational courses. College of the Mainland participates in the Federal Pell Grant Program, the Federal College Work-Study Program, and the Texas Public Education Grant. To apply for financial aid, you must have a GED, High School Diploma, or pass the Accuplacer test.

To apply for financial aid, complete the FAFSA, the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). This form can be obtained at College of the Mainland at the information desk, or in the financial aid office, Administration Building, Room 159. Non-credit students complete the FAFSA form and turn it in to the financial aid office; credit students must submit the form to the Federal processors either by mail or on the Internet.

We work with the Gulf Coast Center, Texas Rehabilitation Commission, and other sources to help students attain funding for college. The College of the Mainland Foundation offers a number of scholarships to credit students. They are located in the Administration Building, Room 159. If you have any questions about financial aid programs at College of the Mainland, please call our office at (409) 938-1211 or (888) 258-8859, ext. 274.



## Application Process and Documentation Requirements

All students applying for the Fire Academy are required to complete and submit an application packet **prior** to registering for the Academy. It is ***your responsibility*** to make sure that all paperwork is submitted on time to the proper offices. If you do not complete your required paperwork you will not be permitted to register.

### 1. Fire Academy Application

**You must submit your application and all required documentation to the Administrative Assistants (located in the Public Service Careers (PSC) building) prior to receiving a registration card for the academy.** By submitting your application you are acknowledging that you understand and agree to comply with all of the requirements stated within this application packet.

### 2. Public Service Careers Student Health Status Information Sheet

This must be completed by a physician no later than the first day of the academy. This sheet must be submitted to Administrative Assistants.

### 3. Copy of Testing Results

You must submit a copy of your Accu-Placer scores or a college transcript showing TASP requirements met or ACT, SAT, and/or TAAS scores that exempt you from having to take the TASP test. You must submit a copy of these scores to the Administrative Assistants at the same time you return your application. You need only to take the reading portion and score at a 10.5 reading level. If you need to take the Accu-Placer, please contact College of the Mainland's Testing Center at ext. 379 to arrange a time and date.

### 4. Registration and Fee Payment Documentation

Once you have completed all required documentation you will receive your registration card from the Administrative Assistants to then register at the Admissions office located in the administration building. You then will pay for the academy at the Cashier's window also located in the administration building. Return a copy of your fee payment receipt showing all courses being offered for the fire academy have been registered and paid for in full to the PSC Administrative Assistants. The receipt showing payment should be submitted no later than 1 week prior to the start of the academy. If you have not paid for the academy by that time you may be dropped from the classes.

### 5. Financial Aid Opportunities

If financial assistance is needed, contact the Financial Aid office at ext. 274 for any questions.



# College of the Mainland

Fire Academy Application for:  Fall Day  Fall Night  Spring

## Personal Data:

(Please print clearly or type)

### Name

First	Last	M
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### Social Security Number

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### Address

Street/Apt. #
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City	ST	Zip Code
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Home Phone: ( )	Cell Phone: ( )
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### Driver's License

#	State
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### Education History:

#### High School

Graduated  GED

Name	Yr Graduated
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#### College

Degree Earned

Name	Yr Graduated	Degree
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### Technical Training

Name	Yr Graduated	Certification
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### Military Service

Branch	Service Dates	Specialty	Discharge Type
If other than Honorable, please explain			



# College of the Mainland

## Employment History:

1. Employer/Location		Dates of Employment
Duties		Salary
Why did you leave?	Manager's Name and Phone	
2. Employer/Location		Dates of Employment
Duties		Salary
Why did you leave?	Manager's Name and Phone	

## Additional Information:

Emergency Contact Name	Relation	Cell Phone	Home Phone
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Allergies
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<p><b>Do you have any issues that may impact your ability to be physically or academically successful in the fire academy activities?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain)</p>
<p><b>Are you covered by personal medical insurance?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p>Initial _____</p> <p>I understand that it is my responsibility to have adequate insurance to cover any medical treatment that I may encounter during the course of this program.</p>
<p><b>Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic violation?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please list charges and dispositions)</p>
<p><b>Have you ever applied to or have you ever been a student in any Fire Program or are you associated with any volunteer department?</b></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No    <input type="checkbox"/> Yes (If yes, please explain)</p>

APPLICANT'S STATEMENT: I certify that the above answers are true and complete, to the best of my knowledge. If I am accepted for appointment to this fire academy, I agree to abide by the policies and rules of the program.

Applicant's Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_ Applicant's Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
 Date \_\_\_\_\_



# College of the Mainland

Physical Exam for:  EMS

FIRE

POLICE

College of the Mainland Fire/EMS/Police programs require a physical examination by a licensed physician , nurse practitioner, or physician assistant before a student is allowed to participate in any training activity.

## Student's Name

Last	M/I	First	Sex	DOB : (DD/MM/YYYY) / /
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## ALL BLANKS MUST BE COMPLETED

**Legend:** N= normal X= abnormal NE = not examined

Weight		Height		Pulse	Resp	Blood Pressure S _____ D _____	
General Body Build		Skin	Abnormal Masses	Eyes	Ears	Nose	Throat
Teeth	Neck	Lungs	Cardiac	Chest	Liver	Spleen	Spine

## Joint Function

Neck	Shoulders	Elbows	Wrists	Hands	Hips/Back	Knees	Ankles	Feet
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## Description of abnormal findings:

## Medical History: (Check those that apply)

### Diseases:

- |   |  |                                       |  |
|---|--|---------------------------------------|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Asthma         | <input type="checkbox"/> Heart Disease | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis | <input type="checkbox"/> Measles             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diabetes       | <input type="checkbox"/> Seizures      | <input type="checkbox"/> Emphysema    | <input type="checkbox"/> Hypoglycemic        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hepatitis      | <input type="checkbox"/> Rheumatism    | <input type="checkbox"/> Small Pox    | <input type="checkbox"/> Tuberculosis        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Diphtheria     | <input type="checkbox"/> Influenza     | <input type="checkbox"/> Pneumonia    | <input type="checkbox"/> Infantile Paralysis |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Osteoarthritis | <input type="checkbox"/> Mumps         | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____  | (Please specify)                             |

(If checked above please describe below)

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### Surgery:

- Shoulder    Arm    Back    Knee    Ankle  
 Other (Specify) \_\_\_\_\_

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### List Current Medications

1.	2.	3.
4.	5.	6.

### Allergies (Meds / Food)

1.
2.
3.
4.

### Tests: EMS Only

(Please attach proof of results. Must be no more than 1 year old. If results are positive, a chest x-ray is required)

TB Skin Test	Date read	Initials	TB Chest X-ray	Date read	Initials
<input type="checkbox"/> Pos <input type="checkbox"/> Neg			<input type="checkbox"/> Pos <input type="checkbox"/> Neg		

(\*Attach proof of finding)

### Immunizations (Give most recent date)

Polio	Tetanus	Diphtheria	Hep A	Hep B	Other
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I certify that I have examined this individual and he/she is suitable physically and emotionally for Fire/EMS/Police training activities. These activities include strenuous physical activity such as running, crawling, bending, lifting up to 100 lbs, pulling, climbing (up to 100'), working in enclosed or limited visibility areas, and being subjected to smoke and oxygen deficient areas for a limited time.

Yes       No (If no, please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Date of examination	Printed/typed name of physician
Physicians address	Signature of physician

**Return completed application and other required documentation to the  
Public Service Careers administration section  
or mail to:**

**College of the Mainland  
Public Service Careers – Fire Academy  
1200 Amburn Road  
Texas City, Texas 77591**

**For additional information contact us  
by phone at 409-938-1211 ext 285 or 224**



Note to Physicians: While not an exclusive list, the following examples are meant to illustrate some of the extreme physical demands and working conditions inherent in the role of a firefighter. During training, firefighter cadets will be subjected to similar physical demands and environmental conditions.

### Physical Demands

The physical demands of a firefighter are characterized by strength, endurance, coordination, agility and dexterity. Examples include the following:

1. Pick up and advance charged fire hoses.
2. Force entry with axe/battering ram.
3. Climb stairs with equipment weighing approximately 50 lbs.
4. Vent roofs, breach walls, overhaul burned buildings with power/hand tools.
5. Lift and climb/descend ladders (with victims up to 200 lbs.).
6. Operate power tools and extrication equipment.
7. Stoop, crawl, crouch, and kneel in confined spaces.
8. Reach, twist, balance, grapple, bend and lift under emergency conditions.
9. Run, dodge, jump and maneuver with equipment.
10. All of the above may be performed wearing heavy and restrictive protective clothing/gear.

### Working Conditions

A firefighter must perform physically demanding work under adverse working conditions.

1. Work in extreme temperatures; day and night; in rain, snow and ice.
2. Exposure to smoke, gases, dust and poor ventilation.
3. Work in closely confined spaces.
4. Intense exposure to water and/or steam.
5. Exposure to a wide range of highly emotional and traumatic events.
6. Exposure to noise and vibration from tools, equipment, machinery, etc.
7. Work at height (e.g., on ladders, roof tops, etc).
8. Work within restrictions of personal safety equipment (e.g., breathing apparatus, steel-tip boots, hearing and eye protection, firefighting turn-out clothing, and hazardous materials gear).

Gear	
12 Week Bunker Gear Rental (Coat , Pant, Suspenders,Boots, Gear Bag, Helment)	\$500.00
Purchase Hood	\$25.00
Purchase Gloves	\$55.00
Purchase Bunker Boots	\$85.00
Discount for Gear Ensemble Rental (Hood, Gloves, Boots)	-\$90.00
Subtotal	\$575.00
Tax	\$47.44
Deposit	\$150.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$772.44</b>

Additional Items	
Essentials 5 th ed. With study guide	\$120.00
Essestials of Fire Fighting I and II Study Software-Knightlite	\$30.00
Red Cap Duty pants	\$20.00
Safety glasses	\$8.00
Leather work gloves	\$8.00
FD Hook belt (buckleless) (Size 46 and over additional \$2.00 upcharge)	\$16.00
Large duffle bag/Gear bag	\$25.00
Gym bag (for personal items)	\$15.00
Boots-Deuce Water Proof	\$79.99
Boots-Thorogood-Stealth	\$89.99