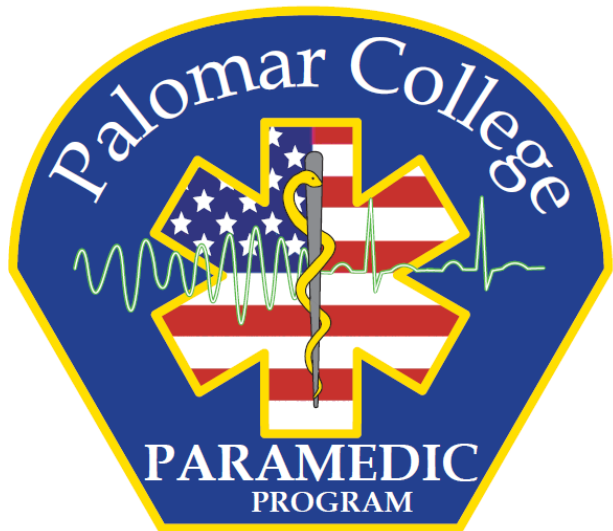


PALOMAR COLLEGE

Suggested Education Map

In the preparation to become a

Firefighter Paramedic



Updated

May 2022

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

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THE FIRE SERVICE

The fire service can be a gratifying career where an individual will be given many chances to make a real difference in someone's life. This career is open to individuals from all backgrounds, beliefs, orientations, and sexual identification. Additionally, most Fire Departments strive to have their employees represent the communities they serve, which is a consideration when hiring new employees.

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WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO BECOME A FIREFIGHTER?

The answer is somewhat complex as different agencies have different priorities with additional needs. All types of fire agencies (district, wildland, municipal, private brigade, etc.) are filled with professionals who are good at what they do. Regardless of the variations, there is a fair amount of crossover in skill sets. The key is finding the right "fit." Whichever path you follow, it is required that you obtain an Emergency Medical Certificate (EMT). While not always required, Paramedic Certification is generally preferred and will open the most doors.

General items that will help you get hired include:

- EMT (National Registry, minimum requirement)
- Paramedic certification (National Registry, State Certified, County Accredited)
- Fire Science classes (through selected community colleges)
- Experience (obtained from reserve and volunteer programs) Firefighter 1 Academy

Fire service training programs provide both education and experience and are not one of the easiest. You will be inundated with information that must be learned to keep you and your co-workers safe while performing near the peak of your abilities. However, once you have completed an entry-level program, you will have increased confidence in your skills and co-workers, which will give you a sense of pride in belonging to the Fire service.

The best candidate for hire has a balanced combination of education and experience. Education introduces a topic or skill, and experience makes the education real, applicable, and a permanent part of your mental "toolbox." In addition, firefighters are expected to continue their education throughout their careers to stay current with new trends in training, tactics, and strategy.

Hiring involves more than simply passing the required written and manipulative exams. A candidate must also include displaying character traits such as a positive work ethic, pleasant work demeanor, professional conduct and appearance, a lack of a sense of entitlement, and similar attributes that help gain and keep the public's confidence and trust.

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC CAREER EDUCATION

Palomar College Fire Technology is proud to provide an easy-to-understand approach to becoming a Firefighter or a Firefighter Paramedic. Our goal? To have each of our students start a fulfilling career in this exciting area of Public Safety.

Why follow the Palomar College Program when other options seem faster?

- **Having both an Accredited Academy and a Paramedic License allows a student to apply anywhere and enhances the ability to get hired in the Fire Service.**
- **The Palomar College Fire Technology and Emergency Medical Education programs have an excellent reputation.**
- Competition for jobs by applicants with minimal experience creates a significant challenge. Applicant pools in large cities can reach approximately 3000-10,000 applicants, reducing the chances of obtaining a job (they may hire 120 from that pool).
- Of the twenty-three Fire Departments in San Diego County, only about 6-10 will accept firefighting new hires with an EMT-B certificate. These agencies often prefer the completion of an Accredited Fire Academy.
- Those agencies with minimum entry requirements prefer a Paramedic License and a Fire Academy Completion Certificate as minimal attributes.
- According to Fire Training Officers, It is not uncommon for approximately 30% of new hires to wash out. This occurrence can be attributed to sub-standard training programs or poor paramedic skills. Our training programs will prepare you for being a Firefighter Paramedic and help you successfully maintain employment!

There are many job openings right now, and the competition will be intense. Our program is designed to make our students ideal candidates for employment.

Firefighter training can be confusing because a prospective student can run into several types of career preparation. Let's break it down into basic terms.

FIRE AND EMERGENCY SERVICES HIGHER EDUCATION (FESCHE).

This is a Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)-based national model for professional education for firefighters. It starts at the primary level and proceeds to Fire Chief. This is the basis for college degrees in Fire Technology and related subjects. You can find more information at: https://www.usfa.fema.gov/training/prodev/model_courses.html

CALIFORNIA STATE FIRE MARSHAL – STATE FIRE TRAINING

These courses involve professional certification and specialty courses. They have state certifications from Firefighter 1 to Fire Chief Officer and many specialty courses such as Rope Rescue Operations. Some of these certificates are obtained by attending the Palomar Fire Academy, where you will receive training for Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2, and Wildland Firefighter II, to name a few. These certificates will provide the best chance at employment in

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

the Fire Service. More information can be found at: <https://osfm.fire.ca.gov/divisions/state-fire-training/>

NATIONAL WILDFIRE COORDINATING GROUP

This organization provides model education for Wildland Firefighters. While mainly geared toward Federal agencies such as National Forests, Bureau of Land Management, Fish and Wildlife, and the National Park Service, all Firefighters in California are required to receive Wildland Firefighter Training. During the Palomar Fire Academy, you will receive several certificates in this area. For more information, please look up: <https://www.nwcg.gov/>.

INTERNATIONAL FIRE SERVICE ACCREDITATION CONGRESS (IFSAC)

The Certificate Assembly is one of two assemblies in the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress providing specialized accreditation in the fire service profession.

The Certificate Assembly provides accreditation to entities that certify the competency of and issue certificates to individuals who pass examinations based on the National Fire Protection Association fire service professional qualifications and other standards approved by the Assembly.

Certification by an accredited entity confirms levels of job competency and a department's competency as a whole. Individuals can derive satisfaction from completing a certification program that has been evaluated and deemed worthy by an objective and independent body. Additionally, the reciprocity made possible through IFSAC accreditation of certifying entities may allow for the transfer of certifications and increased mobility for fire service personnel. Accreditation of an entity leads to increased professionalism and thus better service to the organization's jurisdiction and communities. Networking among certifying entities within IFSAC consistently provides avenues for improving and refining certification programs. Here is the link to IFSAC: <https://ifsac.org/>

PROBOARD

The Pro Board® accredits public sector organizations (generally governmental or educational) internationally that certify emergency services responders against the National Professional Qualifications System Standards requirements. The National Fire Protection Association promulgates those Standards. We do not accredit training systems, programs, or curricula. Our focus is directed at the testing process used by an eligible agency. It is also outside of our mission to accredit for-profit companies or concerns. For more information, select this link: <https://theproboard.org/>

FIRE TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM AT PALOMAR COLLEGE

The Fire Technology Program at Palomar College is based on the FESCHE model described earlier in this document. This model consists of the core courses, electives, and general education requirements. In addition, this program has other benefits, which include:

- The focus of the program is becoming competitive and getting hired
- May obtain up to three Certificates of Achievement while following the program.
- After completing the general education requirements, a student could apply for up to two Associate's Degrees, three if Paramedic Training is also completed.
- Students may continue to attend classes in any desired order without following the guideline.

In what courses should a student enroll? The core required classes for Fire Technology include:

CORE COURSES

- Fire 100 Fire Protection Organization
- Fire 101 Firefighter Safety
- Fire 118 Fire Prevention Technology
- Fire 120 Building Construction for the Fire Service
- Fire 130 Fire Protection Equipment and Systems
- Fire 165 Fundamentals of Fire Protection Chemistry
- Fire 142 Fire Ethics
- Fire 160 Wildland Fire Control (Elective)

These core FESCHE courses apply to an Associate's Degree in Fire Technology and are an excellent start to the program.

ELECTIVE COURSES

Elective courses are also required to fulfill degree requirements. For example, if you take the Fire Technology core classes, you can take the Emergency Management classes as your electives. The Fire Academy, worth 20 units, also fulfills the elective requirements.

- Fire 115 Hazardous Materials 1
- Fire 131 Introduction to Emergency Management
- Fire 132 Disaster Response and Recovery
- Fire 133 Disaster Mitigation

or

- The Fire Academy 20 unit

OUTCOMES

- Completing the Fire Technology core courses allows you to submit for a Certificate of Completion.

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

- The Fire Academy is 20 units, so students receive a Certificate of Completion at the end of the academy.
- If a student completes all Emergency Management classes, a Certificate of Achievement is also earned.

After completing the items above and finishing the General Education requirements, you can receive an Associates Degree in Fire Technology and Emergency Management.

Attend and complete paramedic training, and you can obtain a third A/S degree!

Bottom line, you can choose your pathway, the electives, and the Degrees you want to complete.

Many different approaches can be taken, so here offer some scenarios to consider:

Scenario 1

Follow the pathway as laid out. It takes longer to complete by taking fire Tech courses and GE simultaneously. Apply to the Fire Academy to cover the elective requirements. In the end, you can obtain a two Certificates of Completion and an A/S degree,

Scenario 2

Take the EMT courses and then only Fire Tech classes. Finished in about two semesters and sets you up for entry into the Fire Academy. Shorter time frame, but you will need to take the GE classes for an A/S degree for about another three semesters.

Scenario 3

Follow the pathway as laid out and take the Emergency Management classes. It takes longer to complete by taking fire Tech courses, Emergency Management, and GE simultaneously. Then apply to the Fire Academy. In the end, you can obtain three Certificates of Completion and two A/S degrees.

Scenario 4

Take the classes on a part-time schedule and pick and choose which courses to take until completion.

There are many options and routes that can be taken, but you should consider entering the Fire Academy as that is the single best method of obtaining a job in the Fire Service.

THE FIRE ACADEMY

This program follows the State Fire Training model and leads to California State Firefighter 1, Firefighter 2 (after completing the job experience), IFSAC Firefighter 1, and PROBOARD Firefighter 1.

To be successful in the Fire Academy, you must have a solid educational background (Fire Tech and other courses), a high level of physical fitness, and empathy and understanding of the people you serve. The only requirement to apply to the fire academy is National Registry EMT 1 with a California registry number.

We receive approximately 130 applications for each 40-person Fire Academy, so the competition is intense. The more Fire Technology courses you have taken, the more experience you have, the better your selection chances. Once selected, the Fire Academy is an entire semester program, 7 am to 5 pm, five days a week for 16 weeks.

We highly suggest taking Fire 51, the Fire Academy Prep Course, just before applying for the Fire Academy. It will help you with preparation for testing and the application process. For more information on the Fire Academy, follow the link:

<https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/fire/fire-technology/>.

You will also find information on the entry testing process, the interview parameters, and other helpful documents on the Fire Academy Website.

Other activities that enhance your ability to obtain placement in the Fire Academy:

- Consider joining a Fire agency as a Reserve, Volunteer, or Explorer Firefighter to start gaining experience. Please see Attachment A for a list of agencies and offerings.
 - Explorer programs focus on those who are 15 to 21 years of age and provide excellent training to prepare for the Fire Service. There may also be college credit for work experience in the field.
 - Reserve, Volunteer, or Explorer Firefighter experience provides:
 - Mentors to assist with complex topics.
 - Real-life experience, making the college education more realistic.
 - Placing the students' names out in the workplace enhances the chances of obtaining a full-time job if a student performs well.

In our Fire Academy, we partner with CAL-FIRE for the wildland component. This allows academy graduates to be immediately eligible for hire by CAL-FIRE without having a Paramedic License for those that choose that option.

What are Fire Agencies and Training programs looking for in a candidate? Here are some considerations.

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education

Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

PROFESSIONAL BEHAVIOR

The fire service is a paramilitary career that requires teamwork, discipline, and the ability to make decisions under pressure.

As a fire academy student, you are expected to obey orders, exhibit exceptional personal hygiene, conform to rules and regulations, respect the chain of command, work well with your peers, have integrity, and occasionally perform repetitious, menial tasks with excellence. At the same time, you should demonstrate the ability to think on your feet, use sound, independent judgment, be aggressive toward mitigating incidents, and display common sense concerning safety for yourself and others. You will take on a tremendous commitment that requires your constant attention as a student. You must understand your responsibilities to work to achieve the highest level of performance possible.

The conduct of all fire service personnel shall be above reproach during all aspects of training and throughout their careers. All members are responsible for regulating their behavior in a positive, respectful manner. Cooperation and teamwork shall be emphasized to provide the community with the highest level of customer service. This applies to your actions on and off duty during your entire fire service career. Compliance with grooming standards is another measure of a firefighter's professional attitude.

PERSONAL BEHAVIOR AND CONDUCT

The fire service comprises men and women of various ages with different life experiences, educational backgrounds, work experiences, and physical abilities. No matter your background or your previous level of training, you are now in a position to learn. As a fire service student, it is essential to remember that, while you may have been a decision-maker in your former career, you are now in a position to follow orders and instructions from other people. If you were formally a leader, remember that a good leader is also a good follower. Appropriate attitude and understanding of your position as a new firefighter are essential.

As fire service members, we expect our personnel to treat others with dignity and respect. Courtesy shall be accorded to all officers, co-workers, and citizens. Chief Officers, Captains, and staff are to be addressed by rank and last name or rank only if the last name is unknown. Civilians are to be addressed professionally.

In the fire academy, discipline and accountability are vital parts of training. Due to the hazardous nature of the profession, lives may depend on the ability to respond immediately. Therefore, all students shall respond to supervisors' orders in the fire academy. Disrespect, insubordination or any conduct unbecoming a fire service member will make getting hired very difficult.

SAFETY

The firefighter's job is one of the most hazardous of any occupation. Student firefighters are trained to function safely and proficiently while being consistent with the fire service's

Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

aggressive firefighting nature. Carelessness in any work routine, drill, or simulated emergency can result in serious injury or death. Therefore, safety violations will not be tolerated. Repeated failure to comply with safety policies, practices, and procedures or negligent acts will result in difficulty in getting hired.

Although outlined in safety manuals, a particular program or a specific procedure does not solely represent safe practices. Safety is integrated into our organizational culture. You must be assertive and advocate for safe practices. If you believe something is wrong or you are uncomfortable in a situation, be prepared to speak up. Overconfidence, resignation, and impulsive behaviors can cause task failure or harm.

TEAMWORK

Safety means working together as a team. Teamwork creates synergy where a company of firefighters working together can accomplish the tasks needed to mitigate an emergency safely. Safe fire ground operations demand company integrity and teamwork at all times.

While training in the fire academy, you will be evaluated as an individual and your ability to operate effectively within a team. You must develop the ability to monitor the progress of your assigned task within the context of the overall objectives of a particular mission. Although many firefighting tasks are completed by an individual (i.e., operating the chainsaw), they are usually done within a team assignment (i.e., ventilation group). The work of one team may affect the outcome of another team. For example, the interior fire attack team may need to delay their operation based on the expediency of vertical ventilation. Teamwork and cooperation determine the success or failure of any operation. As a means to develop this skill, fire students should work together at all times.

ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE

Communication is a crucial element of an effective team member and a widespread employment criterion. This can take many forms, including verbal and non-verbal means. Good communication is best represented as a loop in which the sender transfers information, the receiver acknowledges receipt, and the sender assures that the proper transfer has occurred. Be prepared to process complex situations and relay information as a clear, concise package. As the receiver, be an active listener. Your understanding is often represented by your ability to paraphrase or add to the initial communication. The sender completes the process by confirming that the exchange is accurate or corrects any misunderstandings. Remember to listen and think before you speak.

Each member also has an obligation to the team to stay both mentally and physically prepared for maximum job performance. Mentally, the success of any operation is predicated on each member's understanding of the assigned task. Physically, the company is only as fast as the slowest member, and one unprepared person can slow down the production of an entire fire company.

DISTRACTIONS

As a firefighter, you are a problem solver. Much of the work is done in out-of-control situations in the fire service. Therefore, firefighters must learn to control the things they can, both professionally and personally. Make sure you have handled your personal dilemmas and distractions, as it is hard to be functional at work when you have a personal crisis hanging over your head.

If you are experiencing difficulties, consider approaching an officer for assistance or guidance before the difficulty becomes more serious. In many cases, the officers can assist you. If they cannot, there are tools available to help you. Addressing a potential problem early is always the best approach. If you provide details about an underlying issue as an excuse for poor performance after the fact, it gives the appearance of avoiding responsibility, which is not acceptable.

ADAPTABILITY / FLEXIBILITY

Emergency operations are dynamic. Although the initial plan of action must be produced quickly, you will also be evaluated for your ongoing situational awareness and adaptability. Standard operating procedures serve as an operational foundation; however, you may need to alter them based on changing conditions. Observe the situation, orient yourself within the environment, consider your decision as to the best option for an action plan and then act. These actions will be evaluated by their impact. You may find the need to alter tactics or procedures. This process continues until the problem is fixed. Each event is a learning experience, no matter how simple or mundane. Afterward, take the time to conduct an honest assessment of your actions and learn from what has transpired.

Cutting a ventilation hole on a roof with a chainsaw is a simple example. There are many variations in roofing materials and construction. Using one technique or cutting speed on all roofs will not work. It would be best if you learned what an effective cut feels, sounds, and looks like. You must learn to adjust your cutting methods for each type of roof. You may be able to do a cut quickly in one situation but are obligated to do it slower and more deliberately in another. The outcome is the same for both, but the techniques are altered based on the situation.

RESPONSE TO INSTRUCTION

Once in the fire academy, understand that you are in this training program to learn. Ask questions. There is a lot to learn, and asking questions is one of the



Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

best tools for learning. Volunteer to try new things. Take the initiative when you see something that needs to be done. As a student, it is understood that mistakes will be made while you are learning new skills. This is part of the learning process. If you make a mistake, admit it, take responsibility for it, correct it and move on to the next challenge.

LEADERSHIP

You will be expected to take a leadership role during the training program. Even as a student, you should be able to demonstrate skills in coordinating resources and personnel. All firefighters are expected to be able to use logical and sound judgment to make decisions based on available information.

VARIANCES IN EXPERIENCE AND TRAINING

As you proceed through any training program, you will be exposed to different methods of accomplishing tasks or doing skills. These variations become "tools in your mental toolbox." There isn't necessarily one way to do things in the fire service. Learn each of the variations you are exposed to, as it will make you a more robust, better-skilled firefighter.

ATTITUDE

It all comes down to a proper Attitude. A proper attitude is EVERYTHING. Agencies look for individuals with a good attitude toward learning and a great work ethic.

GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

What If I can't afford to do this?

We want to ensure anyone can pursue their dream of becoming a Firefighter/Paramedic. Therefore, Palomar College has many financial assistance and grant programs available to help students afford the cost of an education. More information can be found at <https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/fa/>, or you can attend a Financial Aid workshop which can be very helpful in looking at the possibilities.

Some of the grants and scholarships include:

FLOYD MALIN MEMORIAL FIRE ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Award: Varies

Criteria:

- Must be enrolled in the Palomar College Fire Academy Program in the semester awarded
- Must have qualified for the California College Promise Grant (CCPG) at the time of awarding
- Preference is given to a student who is engaged with a volunteer fire department
- Must present a one-page essay demonstrating needs and future ambitions.

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WILLIAM HITT FIRE ACADEMY SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Award: Varies

Criteria:

- Must be enrolled in the Palomar College Fire Academy Program at the time of awarding
- Must have qualified for the California College Promise Grant (CCPG) at the time of awarding
- Preference is given to a student who is engaged with a volunteer fire department
- Must present a one-page essay demonstrating needs and future ambitions.

FORWARD 50

Award: Varies

Criteria:

- Must be enrolled in the Palomar College Fire Academy Program in the semester awarded
- Cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 (in Fire classes only)
- Based on an interview with a previous academy panel and Fire Technology cadre.
- Must present a one-page essay demonstrating needs and future ambitions.

LEOTA PETERS WHITEMAN TRUST SCHOLARSHIP FUND

AT THE RANCHO SANTA FE FOUNDATION

Award: Varies

Criteria:

- Must be a participant of the Palomar College Veterans Resource Center
- Must be enrolled in the Palomar College Fire Academy Program in the semester awarded
- Must present a one-page essay demonstrating needs and future ambitions.

VISTA ELKS LODGE #1968 FIRECHIEF MICHAEL OLSON

Award: Varies

Criteria:

- Must be enrolled in the Palomar College Fire Academy Program in the semester awarded
- Cumulative GPA of at least 4.0
- Preference is given to those further along in the Fire Academy Program
- Must present a one-page essay demonstrating needs and future ambitions.

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

THE SUGGESTED PATHWAY MAP FOR FIRE TECHNOLOGY

Our program is a suggested approach and not mandatory. However, it clarifies a logical, step-by-step process to enhance a student's success. It combines Fire and EMS training while obtaining experience working as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Reserve, Volunteer, or Explorer Firefighter.

Below you will find the suggested map for students wishing to become a Firefighter/Paramedic.

A good approach would be to follow these steps:

- **Ensure you are a registered student at Palomar College**
- A student should attempt to take the blocks as laid out as they are placed in a logical order in preparation for the two major components: the Fire Academy and Paramedic Training.
- Set an Appointment with the Counseling office to ensure you are taking the appropriate classes.
- Some items can be moved around within a semester using the fast track system utilized by Palomar College.

	Block	Number	Class Title	Units
1 Semester	Block 1	EME 105**	EMT Prep	3
		Fire 100	Fire Protection Org	3
		Fire 101	FF Safety	3
		English Composition		3
		Math		3
				15

* Those with Military experience that includes Combat Life Saver, TCCC, or Corpsman may bypass this course.

	Block	Number	Class Title	Units
1 Semester	Block 2	EME 106	EMT-B full semester	6
		EME 106L	EMT-B Lab full semester	1.5
		Fire 165	Fundamentals of Fire Protection Fire Chemistry	3
		Fire 120	Building Construction	3
				16.5

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

	Block	Number	Class Title	Units
1 Semester	Block 3	Fire 51	Fire Academy Preparation	2
		Fire 118	Fire Prevention Technology	3
		Fire 160	Wildland Fire Control	3
		Health and Fitness HE-100 (if not attending fire academy)		3
		History Area D		3
				14

	Block	Number	Class Title	Units
1 Semester	Block 4	Fire 130	Fire Protection Equipment and Systems	3
		Fire 142	Fire Ethics	3
		Humanities Area D		3
		American History and Institutions		3
		American Ideals Area D		3
				15

After completing seven basic Fire Technology classes, a student is eligible for a Certificate of Achievement in Fire Technology.

FIRE TECHNOLOGY ELECTIVES

You have your choice on completing the required electives for the Fire Technology Degree. You can attend the Fire Academy or take the Emergency Management classes below. If you want an additional certificate or AS Degree, you can take both!

1 Semester	Block	Number	Class Title	Units
		Fire 151	Fire Academy: Full Semester 5 days a week	20

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education

Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

Optional block. After completing Fire Technology Certificate, take courses in block five and receive a Certificate of Achievement in Emergency Management

	Block	Number	Class Title	Units	
1 Semester		Fire 115	Hazardous Materials 1	3	
		Fire 131	Emergency Preparedness	3	
		Fire 132	Fundamentals of Emergency Management	3	
		Fire 133	Disaster Mitigation	3	
		Natural Sciences Area B			3
					15

PARAMEDIC TRAINING

An EMT-P provides advanced emergency treatment to patients in the pre-hospital setting. Saving lives is the most rewarding aspect of a paramedic career. The well-trained paramedic can also reduce the length of a patient's hospital stay by preventing the danger of more serious injury that could occur through incorrect treatment in the stages before hospitalization. Paramedics are in high demand in both private and fire department settings. For more information, please refer to: <https://www.palomar.edu/eme/paramedicacademy/>

- Paramedic Training requires 2000 hours of full-time paid BLS experience to qualify. The BEST approach is working for a fire department-based EMT transport service or a private ambulance company. Advantages include:
 - You will gain knowledge in patient transport, working with hospitals, and charting.
 - EMT experience in a Fire Department based program provides experience in fire station life and expectations, training, and exposure to the career of a Firefighter.
 - A strong EMT often performs well in Paramedic Training. In addition, having good EMT skills allows Paramedic Students the ability to focus more on the advanced skills they will be learning.

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

1 Semester	Block 6	Bio 145	Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology	3
		Bio 145L	Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology LAB	1
		EME 175	Paramedic Prep	2
		EME 175L	paramedic prep Lab	1
		2 General Education Classes – See General Education near the end of the document		
				7

2 Semesters	Block 7	Paramedic Training		
	EME 206	Introduction to Paramedic Training	5.5	
	EME 206 L	lab	1.5	
	EME207	Paramedic Medical Training	10	
	EME 207 L	lab	2	
	EME 208	Paramedic Trauma Training	4.5	
	EME 208 L	lab	1	
	EME 209	Paramedic OB/Peds Training	2.5	
	EME 209L	lab	1	
	EME 210	Clinical Internship	4	
	EME 211	Clinical Integration I (Taken concurrently with EME (207-208L)	1.5	
	EME 212	Clinical Integration II (Taken concurrently with EME (209-210)	1.5	
	EME 215	Field Internship	9	
				44

- After completing blocks six and seven, a student is eligible for a Certificate of Achievement in Paramedicine, if GE is completed this could be an additional A/S degree.

GENERAL EDUCATION

While getting hired in the Fire Service is the primary goal of this program, obtaining an Associate's Degree is an essential next step. There are many paths a student may travel when receiving an education which is often based on individual preferences.

Degrees are essential as there is an increasing trend requiring an A/S Degree to promote to Fire Captain and a Bachelor's Degree for promotion to Chief Officer Rank.

We strongly encourage students to finish the general education requirements to obtain one or more Associates Degrees.

One item to strongly consider: when you select general education courses, ensure they meet a CSU general education requirement at a minimum. While many courses transfer to a CSU, some fall short and only appear as elective courses. Selecting courses that meet CSU requirements will set you up for moving into a Bachelor's degree program and may minimize the number of classes that need to be repeated to meet the higher-level requirement. Please refer to the CSU GE advising guide or speak with a transfer specialist in the counseling department.

We highly recommend that you contact the [Transfer Center](#), as they are experts at navigating all of the General Education requirements utilized by higher learning institutions.

One more reason for obtaining degrees: Many agencies offer a percentage over base pay for each level of Degree acquired. A degree often equates to a higher annual salary and a higher hourly rate when overtime is worked. A small investment in obtaining an Associate's Degree will rapidly pay off, so don't delay the completion of the program!

Once completed, a student has acquired the attributes that provide the most job opportunities in Fire/EMS and can meet any fire department's minimum requirements for hiring.

For more information on the Fire Technology and Emergency Medical programs At Palomar, please visit our websites located here:

For Fire Technology and Emergency Management: <https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/fire/>

For Emergency Medical: <https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/eme/>

Additionally, a student can speak with a counselor in an online chat or set an appointment with the counseling office at <https://www2.palomar.edu/pages/counseling/>.

The Fire Technology Instructors can also be a great resource. They have years of experience in the Fire Service and may provide a wider variety of insight into this exciting field.

PARTNER AGENCIES WITH EMT TRANSPORT, RESERVE, VOLUNTEER, OR EXPLORER PROGRAMS

Partner Fire Agencies	Website	Phone	Reserve	Volunteer	Explorer	EMT Xport
CAL-FIRE	https://www.sandiegocounty.gov/content/sdc/sdcfa/volunteer-program/become-a-volunteer.html	858-974-5999	X			
Carlsbad	http://www.carlsbadca.gov/services/depts/fire/programs/explorers.asp	760-931-2141			X	X
Del Mar	https://www.delmar.ca.us/134/Fire-Department	858-755-9313				
Escondido	https://fire.escondido.org/explorers.aspx	760-839-5400			X	X
Encinitas	http://www.ci.encinitas.ca.us/Government/Departments/Public-Safety/Fire-Operations-Suppression-EMS	760-633-2800				
North County FPD	https://www.ncfireprotectiondistrict.org	760-723-2005		X	X	X
Oceanside	http://www.ci.oceanside.ca.us/gov/fire/specialops/explorerprogram.asp	760-435-4100			X	X
Pala	http://www.palatribe.com/public-safety/pala-fire-department/	760-742-1632	X			
Pauma	http://www.paumatribes.com/government/tribal-services/	760-742-1488				
Poway	https://poway.org/194/About-the-Fire-Department	858-668-4460				
Rancho Santa Fe FPD	https://www.rsf-fire.org/	760-744-2186		X		
Rincon	https://www.rinconfire.net/	760-297-2300				
San Marcos	http://www.san-marcos.net/departments/public-safety/fire-department	760-744-1050 EX 3410				X

Palomar College Fire Technology, Emergency Medical Education Firefighter Paramedic Education Map

Solana Beach Fire	http://www.ci.solana-beach.ca.us/index.asp?SEC=61BB125B-D48D-452B-BAC4-DA1A85ED4AF0	858-720-2410				
Valley Center FPD	http://www.vcfpd.org/	760-751-7600	X		X	
Vista	http://www.cityofvista.com/residents/fire-department-1266	760-643-2801				