



Fire Academy Information Packet

Moreno Valley College • Ben Clark Training Center

Moreno Valley College conducts a full-time (16 week) Basic Firefighter Academy during the spring and fall semester of each year.

Upon completion, students earn 21.5 college units and receive a total of 20 certifications from the California State Fire Marshal's Office, California State Fire Training Institute, the National Wildland Coordinating Group, Cal FIRE and FEMA.

Important Dates

I. Applications

Application Periods

- Fall academy applications accepted from May 1 - 31.
- Spring academy applications accepted from November 1 - 30.

How to Submit an Application:

- Only online applications will be accepted and considered. No exceptions.
- Complete your application online at www.mvc.edu/fire.

Application Review and Notification of Academy Acceptance

- Fall Academy notifications will be made during the first week of June.
- Spring Academy notifications will be made during the third week of December.

2. Academy Courses and Dates

FIT S3A Intro to Fire Academy & Physical Conditioning (Mondays, 8 am – 5 pm)

- Fall Academy: Mondays, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 June 23, 2025 through July 28, 2025 (Summer Semester)
- Spring Academy: First 3 Thursdays and Fridays of the winter session.

Basic Fire Fighter Academy Sessions

- Fall Academy: Late August through mid-December.
- Spring Academy: Mid-February through mid-June.

Graduation

- Held at 1:00 P.M. the Friday of week 16.

Basic Fire Academy Application Instructions

Applications must be completed online. Handwritten applications will not be accepted. All required supporting documentation must be uploaded at the time of application completion through the application located at www.mvc.edu/fire-academy.

You may still apply if you have prerequisites in progress, however:

- All prerequisites must be completed prior to the end of FIT-S3A.
- Applicants with completed prerequisites will be given priority.

Basic Firefighter Academy Prerequisites

All prerequisites must be completed by the end of FIT-S3A.

1. Fire Protection Organization (FIT 1) or equivalent.

Proof of successfully completing “Fire Protection Organization” (FIT 1) or an equivalent course can be done by submitting unofficial transcripts. Classes taken out-of-state or with an ROP will need to be reviewed by our Department Chair to determine if it meets equivalency. If this is the case, a copy of the course syllabus will need to be submitted.

2. EMT Certification

A current, valid copy of a California State EMT or NREMT card must be provided. For information on how to obtain your California EMT certification, visit www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT. Your EMT card must remain valid through the entire academy to be admitted into the state testing process.

3. Physical Abilities Test

Students must pass a CPAT or BIDDLE which must be valid within 12 months prior to the start of the Fire Academy. Test information can be found at the following links:

- a. CPAT:
 - i. <http://www.fctonline.org>
- b. BIDDLE:
 - i. <https://www.riohondo.edu/public-safety/firetech/fac/testing/>
 - ii. <https://www.mtsac.edu/kinesiology/pat/>
 - iii. <http://www.sac.edu/AcademicProgs/HST/FireTech/Pages/Physical-Ability-Test.aspx>

4. Physical/Medical Exams

MVC requires all cadets participating in Intro to Fire Academy & Physical Conditioning for Fire Academy (FIT-S3A) and the Basic Firefighter Academy (FIT-S3) to complete a physical/medical exam prior to starting FIT S3A. This exam must be complete and submitted with the initial academy application. Applicants may obtain their physical at Moreno Valley College Health Services (www.mvc.edu/hs) for a fee. Medical clearance documentation must be submitted with your application to be eligible for enrollment in FIT-S3.

5. FIT-S3A Intro to Fire Academy & Physical Conditioning for Fire Academy

This physical conditioning and orientation program prepares students for the physical and

emotional demands of the Basic Firefighter Academy by including muscular strength development, cardio respiratory endurance training, body composition assessments, physical agility, and flexibility training. Additionally, students will be introduced to the paramilitary format and behavioral norms associated of the Basic Firefighter Academy. Text, NSCA's Essentials of Tactical Strength and Conditioning, ISBN #9781450457309

FIT-S3A is not an open class. Only candidates that are accepted to attend the Basic Firefighter Academy will be enrolled by the college into this course.

a. Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) Guidelines

- i. While enrolled in FIT-S3A, students will be required to participate in physical conditioning (PC) activities and must pass a Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA) consisting of push-ups, crunches, and a 1.5 mile run.
- ii. Students must achieve a minimum composite score of 75 points to successfully complete FIT S3A and be enrolled in FIT S3 Basic Fire Academy
- iii. Students will have one minute to complete as many correct repetitions as possible for push-ups and crunches. Points will vary according to age and gender.
- iv. Students will receive a score on a 0 – 100 point scale based on the following maximum component scores:
 - 50 points for aerobic fitness assessment (1.5 mile run)
 - 25 points for push-ups
 - 25 points for crunches

b. Physical Fitness Assessment (PFA)

i. Crunches

- Hands behind their heads, fingers interlocked
- Feet flat on the ground – no wider than hips
- Touch both elbows to their respective leg at the top of each repetition
- Both shoulder blades must touch ground
- Rest in “up” position for up to 5 seconds (don’t touch legs with arms)

ii. Push-ups

- Hands should be shoulder width apart or narrower
- Keep body straight throughout exercise (except during rest periods)
- Arms must bend to minimum of 90 degrees at the bottom of each repetition. Arms fully extended at the top.
- Rest in “up” position

iii. 1.5 mile run (timed)

c. Fitness Recommendations for Potential Applicants:

- i. **Crunches & Push-ups:** Take the self-test score and multiply it by three. This number will be the total number of repetitions that should be performed every other day. Perform as many repetitions as physically able, resting for one minute between each set. Continue this process until the total goal as determined above is met.
- ii. **Aerobic Running:** The minimum recommendation is to 20 minutes per day, three days per week for three weeks. After three weeks, increase your time to 30 minutes per day. It is strongly recommended that the MVC Fire Academy Training Plan is started as early as possible prior to arrival into the S3A and Basic Firefighter

Academy.

Financial Aid

All applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid as early as possible at www.fafsa.gov with Moreno Valley College's code 041735. For further information or assistance, contact [MVC Student Financial Services](#) at (951) 571-6139 or StudentFinancialServices@mvc.edu, or contact [Riverside County Workforce Development](#).

Applicant Selection Process

The Basic Fire Academy is open to a total of 50 students who meet the program prerequisites outline in this packet. Those 50 applicants will be selected to participate on the FIT-S3A Pre-Academy. The top 40 candidates will advance to the Basic Fire Academy (FIT-S3).

Potential candidates will be selected based on the criteria (ranking):

1. **Rank 1:** Applicants with completed applications, have completed and uploaded all prerequisites, and are sponsored or nominated by a participating Riverside County Training Officers Association (RCTOA) Fire Agency.
2. **Rank 2:** Non-Sponsored applicants with complete applications who have met all required prerequisites.
3. **Rank 3:** Non Sponsored applicants who have completed two of the three prerequisites with the third prerequisite in progress.
4. **Rank 4:** Non-Sponsored applicants with one of three prerequisites complete and the remaining two in progress.

Sponsorships & Nominations

1. Sponsorship: If a Department is sponsoring a cadet, they should provide the cadet with NFPA compliant safety gear/equipment and accept responsibility for replacement or repair of such gear/equipment as necessary. Any financial support given to a cadet is at the agency's discretion.
2. Nomination: Department's recommending an applicant may provide equipment or financial support for the cadet at the agency's discretion.
3. The Sponsoring or nominating Department's *Training Chief, Training Captain or designee*, must submit a letter of sponsorship or nomination on department letterhead to MVC Fire Technology, Attn: Fire Academy Coordinator. A copy must be included in the application packet.

Participating Fire Agencies from the Riverside County Training Officers' Association (RCTOA)

Department	Allocation	Department	Allocation
Cathedral City F.D.	Two spots	Corona F.D.	Two spots
Hemet F.D.	Two spots	Idyllwild F.D.	Two spots
Morongo F.D.	Two spots	Murrieta F.D.	Two spots
Palm Springs F.D.	Two spots	Pechanga F.D.	Two spots
Riverside City F.D.	Two spots	Cal Fire/Riv. Co	Four spots

Sponsored applicants must have all academy requirements completed at time of application. Please contact the above agencies individually for further information.

Basic Firefighter Academy Fees and Estimated Costs

All costs are estimates and subject to change.

General Materials

Item	Estimated Cost
21.0 Units at \$46.00 per unit Required	\$966.00
Certificates & Testing Required	\$1,005.00
Health Fees Required	\$20.00
Student Activities Fees Required	\$30.00
PPE Rental Required	\$525.00
SCBA Mask Required	\$352.00
Leather Shield Required	\$65.00
Textbook: Required <i>Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills & Hazmat Response, Fifth Edition, with WB, ISBN# 97812842283051 Workbook ISBN #9781284297201, and Wildland FF Principles and Practice, revised Second Edition. Published by Jones & Bartlett Learning, ISBN#9781284280869</i>	\$200.96

Physical Fitness Equipment & Miscellaneous Uniforms

Item ** All Fitness equipment is required, quantities will vary. **	Estimated Cost
Water Bottle, 1 gallon	\$9.99 ea.
Navy Shorts w/logo	\$17.99 ea.
Tee Shirt S/S with logo & name	\$13.50 ea.
Tee Shirt L/S with logo & name	\$16.25 ea.
P.T. Sweatshirt with logo & name	\$22.75 ea.
P.T. Sweat pant with logo	\$16.75 ea.

Fire Academy Uniforms

Item **All Uniform Items are required, quantities will vary. **	Estimated Cost
Tac squad Navy Blue Poly/Cotton Pant	\$20.99/pr.
Tac squad Navy Blue Utility Pants	\$49.99/pr.
Tac Squad Navy Blue L/S Poly/Cotton Shirt	\$21.99 ea.
1-3/4" Basket Weave Belt	\$15.99 ea.
MVC Fire Academy Shoulder Patch (1 per shirt)	\$2.99 ea.
MVC School of Public Safety Patch (1 per shirt)	\$3.99 ea.
ROTHCO Cofram Dress Shoe	\$34.99
Tac Squad Black Jacket (requires patches)	\$41.99
Black Clip on Tie	\$5.99 ea.
Silver Tie Bar	\$4.49 ea.
Name Emb. ½" First Initial, Last name	\$3.00 ea.
Black Station Boots	\$225.00
Phenix First Due NFPA compliant Structure Helmet (multiple options)	\$379.95

Academy dates, times, and fees are subject to change.

NFPA Wildland Firefighting Safety Gear	No Cost
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Estimated cost: \$4900.00