

“Chat and Chew” on Careers

FIREFIGHTER

Firefighters help protect the community and public from dangers associated with fires and varied other emergency situations. Not only do firefighters put out fires, they are usually the first responders to traffic accidents, chemical spills and other emergencies. They treat injuries and will often perform various job duties associated with providing medical assistance.

Many firefighters are employed in various settings, including rural areas with forests and wetlands, chemical plants and other industrial sites. Many firefighters work odd hours, which may include 10-14 hour shifts, as well as, 24-hour shifts. Although one of their main functions is to put out fires, another important function of firefighters is to prevent fires.

Firefighters also spend a great deal of their time with the up-keep of firefighting equipment, drill practice and updating their training skills with new technology.



Being a firefighter is a very physically demanding job, which requires being a team player and having good “people skills.” The minimum requirements to be a firefighter include being a high school graduate and at least twenty-one years of age. However, more opportunities exist for those who have a vast amount of educational training. For those individuals desiring advancement options in this technologically enhanced career, a two-year degree in Fire Science Technology is highly recommended.



Visit the Career Center to learn more!

Tony Rand Student Center, Rm 113, 678-8205

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