



How to Become A Firefighter

Meet the Minimum Qualifications

You must be a minimum age of 21 at the time of application and have a: high school diploma or equivalent, the Biddle certificate (physical ability test) and Class C driver license.

Take Fire Technology college courses

Taking Fire Technology courses can significantly assist you in the hiring process by helping you prepare for the entry level testing process. The classes provide essential skills and techniques for current and future promotional opportunities. Fire Technology classes also cover areas such as, fire behavior, fire protection equipment and systems, building construction, wildland brush fire control techniques, structural firefighting, and the incident command structure.

Become an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

All Santa Monica Firefighters are required to become EMT's. Getting an EMT certificate is the first step towards becoming a Paramedic and is an essential part of the day to day activities of every Firefighter. Getting your EMT certificate will help you learn and apply the medical knowledge that will be helpful during your career with the Santa Monica Fire Department. You can also take CPR classes through your local Red Cross or The American Heart Association.

Maintain a clean record

The Santa Monica Fire Department wants to hire candidates that will best represent and uphold the honor and integrity of the department, be role models to the community, and be trustworthy public servants. A felony-free criminal background, good driving record, and clean personal background are required.

Become involved in your community

The Santa Monica Fire Department and its members are here to serve the City of Santa Monica. You can begin by volunteering in your local community.

Visit a Santa Monica Fire Station

Visit with Firefighters, Paramedics, and Emergency Responders to gain insight into what life as a firefighter is really like. Ask questions, take a tour, see a fire engine up close, and learn how the fire department family functions on a daily basis.