

Aims
Community College
Fire Academy
Information Packet



Welcome

Thank you for considering the Aims Community College Fire Academy. The Fire Academy is a 15 credit program run over one semester. The Fire Academy consists of three classes:

- FST 100 – Fire Academy I
- FST 170 – Fire Clinical (Live Fire Training)
- FST 107 – Hazardous Materials Operations

The Fire Academy is offered in a day format during the fall semester (August – December) and spring semester (January – April). The Fire Academy is not offered during the summer semester (May – July).

Meeting Times	Monday/Wednesday/Fridays 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM
Location	Greeley Campus Some off-campus training at fire training facilities
Credits: FST 100 = 9 credits FST 170 = 3 credits FST 107 = 3 credits	15 Total Cost Sheet Attached
Prerequisites	Current Healthcare Provider or Professional Level CPR Card FST 160 or a CPAT card that was issued within 12 months of the first day of class.
Elective Classes FSW 100 = 1 credit FSW 101 – 2 credits	Students are encouraged to complete the Wildland training as part of the fire academy, but are not required.

The Fire Academy is taught by a diverse group of firefighters from the northern Colorado area making the Aims Fire Academy one of the most respected College Fire Academies in the State. The fire academy includes 48 hours of live fire training and meets all the requirements for students to sit for the Colorado Division of Fire Safety State Firefighter I and Hazardous Materials Operations written and practical exams. Registration for the fire academy is on a first come – first served basis until the academy is filled with 30 students.

How to Get Started

1. Meet with a Fire Science Advisor to discuss the fire service and the requirements needed to apply for a volunteer or career firefighter position. A Fire Science advisor can also discuss the certificate and degree opportunities available through the college that can assist with you with accomplishing your goal of becoming a career or volunteer firefighter.
2. Apply to Aims Community College. www.aims.edu
3. Complete the Accuplacer Assessment Test.
Do I have to take the Accuplacer placement test?
According to the Statewide Remedial Education Policy, all degree/certificate seeking students must assess in mathematics, English and reading. If you have completed one of the following, no additional assessment is required:
 - Scored a 19 or higher on the ACT Mathematics section, an 18 or higher on the ACT English and a 17 or higher on the ACT Reading section.
 - Scored 430 or higher on the SAT Verbal for Reading, a 440 or higher on the SAT Verbal for English and a 460 or higher on the SAT Mathematics
 - Scored 85 or higher on the Accuplacer Elementary Algebra test, a 95 or higher on the Accuplacer Sentence Skills test and an 80 or higher on the Reading Comprehension Test.
 - Successfully completed (C or higher/Satisfactory completion) a college-level mathematics and college level writing course
4. Register for the required classes and complete the items on the checklist at the end of this packet before the first day of class.

Contact Information

Randy Souther

Director, Fire Science Technology

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Important Reminders

1. Registration for the academy will be on a first come – first served basis. All students must be registered by the first day of class. All students must pay their bill in full by the payment deadline or sign up for the E-Cashier plan or they will be dropped from classes. For further information, go to: <http://www.aims.edu/student/cashier/index.php>
2. Turnout gear must be rented from TurnoutRental.com unless you have access to your own turnout gear. All turnout gear must be NFPA compliant. **Please place orders at least three weeks prior to the start of the academy to ensure equipment will arrive on time.** Order the 3-5 month package and follow the online directions. Make sure that you print the measuring instructions and follow the guidelines. Use the Aims school code **AIMS** to receive a 20% discount of the rental price and deposit.
3. Due to the high replacement value of the Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) that will be checked out to the students, all students that are issued Aims SCBA's will be required to make a \$200 deposit at the cashier's office prior to taking a SCBA from the Fire Science Building. The deposit will be refunded to the students at the end of the academy when their gear is returned in reasonable condition. **The deposit is to be made by the first day of class.**
4. **Students must bring a copy of a current American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR card or Red Cross equivalent card to the first day of class.** Please contact the CPR Coordinator regarding dates & times of CPR classes – 970-339-6685. For a list of approved CPR cards go to: <http://www.cdph.state.co.us/em/CertificationEducation/Education/ApprovedCPR.pdf>
5. **Students need to plan to stay later than the scheduled times on several occasions to assist with cleanup and work detail. Also, please plan to bring your lunch when the academy is scheduled for a full day.**
6. Fire Academy students will need to purchase t-shirts and uniforms from the Aims bookstore prior to the first day of class (see attached list). **Please do not show up to the academy without the required items!**
7. Participation is required in performing skills that involve strenuous physical activity in order to successfully complete the academy. All applicants enrolling in the fire academy are encouraged to start a physical fitness routine involving aerobic and anaerobic exercises in preparation for the academy. Reference the CPAT Test Preparation Guide posted on the Aims Fire Academy website for details on how to prepare.
8. Students requesting accommodations must contact the Disability Access Center before the first day of class. For further information call 970-339-6388 or email at disability@aims.edu.
9. Attendance is required for all class sessions of the Academy unless extenuating circumstances arise and/or prior approval is arranged through the Academy Coordinator. **Please do not be late for the first day of class.**

10. Current NFPA requirements do not allow a beard or facial hair at any point where the face-piece of a Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) is designed to seal with the face. Individuals will be required to shave any facial hair that interferes with the seal prior to fit testing.
11. Academy Student Dress Uniform Specifications
The following items can be purchased at the Aims Book Store:
 - Shirt: Short sleeve navy blue station shirt with the Aims Fire Academy patch sewn on the left sleeve to a common dimension. NFPA 1975 compliant – 100% cotton. (Available at the Aims Community College Bookstore)
 - Pants: Matching navy blue with the shirt. NFPA compliant – 100% cotton. (Available at the Aims Community College Bookstore)
 - Boots: Black in color with black sole. Boots are to be at least a 4” quarter boot in the heel/ankle portion. Steel toe is recommended but not required. Absolutely no tennis shoes or low cut dress shoes.
 - Belt: Black in color with silver buckle. Buckle shall not measure over 2” in height and 3” in length.
 - Hats: At no time are hats allowed in the academy
 - T-shirts: Academy T-shirts are required for the physical fitness portions of the academy and may also be worn under the structural firefighting gear. (Available at the Aims Community College Bookstore)
12. The academy has high academic standards. Students not meeting the standards set forth in the syllabus will be withdrawn from the class. In order to be successful in the Fire Academy, the average student will need to spend 6-10 hours outside of the scheduled classroom hours practicing skills and preparing for the written exams.
13. Refunds (except for the equipment deposit) will not be issued to students that withdraw from the academy for failing to meet the academic requirements if the withdrawal is after the add/drop date (15% of the total class time).
14. The Fire Academy is structured under a paramilitary format. Students will be expected to stand at attention at the beginning of class, address instructors and fellow students by rank or title, and will be required to complete additional assignments if academy rules are not followed. Additional assignments may include activities such as extra physical fitness workouts, written reports, or research papers.
15. Students will be required to take tests, quizzes, and complete and submit assignments in an online format. While a home computer and internet access is desirable, students can meet this requirement by coming to one of the computer labs on campus.

Fire Academy
Approximate Costs

Tuition Cost current as of: Spring 2012

Item	In-District Cost*	Out-of-District Cost**	Out-of-State Cost***	WICHE****
Tuition for 15 credits	\$2,076	\$3,390	\$9,167	\$4,935
Equipment Rental and Deposit	\$606 With Aims Discount	\$606 With Aims Discount	\$606 With Aims Discount	\$606 With Aims Discount
Equipment Deposit to Aims	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00	\$200.00
Division of Fire Safety Written Exam Fees (Requires a separate check or money order the first week of class made payable to the Colorado Division of Fire Safety)	\$30.00 for HazMat \$30.00 for Firefighter I (Unless you are already HazMat Certified through the Division of Fire Safety, both tests are required to become Firefighter I certified)	\$30.00 for HazMat \$30.00 for Firefighter I (Unless you are already HazMat Certified through the Division of Fire Safety, both tests are required to become Firefighter I certified)	\$30.00 for HazMat \$30.00 for Firefighter I (Unless you are already HazMat Certified through the Division of Fire Safety, both tests are required to become Firefighter I certified)	\$30.00 for HazMat \$30.00 for Firefighter I (Unless you are already HazMat Certified through the Division of Fire Safety, both tests are required to become Firefighter I certified)
Bookstore Items (Approximate Costs)				
Safety Glasses	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00	\$12.00
Ear Plugs	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00	\$1.00
Academy T-shirt for physical fitness Minimum of (1)	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$14.00	\$14.00
Academy Uniform Station Shirt (1)	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99	\$54.99
Academy Uniform Pants (1)	FIRE - \$54.99 EMS - \$34.99	FIRE - \$54.99 EMS - \$34.99	FIRE - \$54.99 EMS - \$34.99	FIRE - \$54.99 EMS - \$34.99
Textbooks	\$71.00	\$71.00	\$71.00	\$71.00
Approximate Totals	\$3,150	\$4,464	\$10,241	\$6,009
Tuition for FST 160 or Cost for CPAT Test	\$375 or \$125	\$488 or \$125	\$1447 or \$125	\$647 or \$125

*In-District classification for tuition purposes is for students who have been Colorado residents for a minimum of one year and who live in the Aims tax district.

**Out-of-District classification for tuition purposes is for students who have been Colorado residents for a minimum of one year and who live outside the Aims tax district.

***Out-of-State classification for tuition purposes is for students who have not been Colorado residents for a minimum of one year.

****WICHE – Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education – Individuals living in Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, North & South Dakota, Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming may qualify for WICHE tuition rates. Contact the registrar’s office for details (970-339-6404)

Fire Academy Checklist

- Register for the Academy before the first day of class. Registration information enclosed.
- CPR Certification before the first day of class.** Bring a copy of the certification to the first day of class. (Professional Level) Contact the CPR Coordinator at 970-339-6685 for class information.
- Assessment Tests or the equivalent must be completed before the first day of class. Please make arrangements with the assessment center at 970-339-6448.
- Order turnout gear at least three weeks prior to the first day of class at: www.turnoutrental.com**
- A \$200 equipment deposit is due (Above & beyond tuition fees) at the cashier's window in the College Center Building before the first day of class. Bring a copy of the receipt to the first day of class.
- Two Separate Checks or money orders for \$30.00 each made out to Colorado Division of Fire Safety
- Purchase uniforms indicated on the attached list before the first day of class. The uniforms are available at the Aims Bookstore – Call 970-339-6296 or 970-339-6576 for information on when the equipment will be available to purchase.
- Appropriate dress for the first day of class includes:
 - Academy uniform navy blue station shirt
 - Academy uniform navy blue pants
 - Black boots