

## FIRE ACADEMY APPLICATION INFORMATION & PROCEDURES

Thank you for your interest in the Rio Hondo College Fire Academy. The academy meets the State Board of Fire Services requirements as a California Firefighter I Accredited Academy. Participation in the academy involves arduous physical activity. Topics covered include organization of the public and private fire service, characteristics and behavior of fire, fire protection systems and water supply, fire hazards and firefighter safety, extinguishing agents and related extinguishing equipment, incident command system, building construction and assemblies, basic fire fighting tactics and strategy, fire prevention, hazardous materials, emergency care, and wild land firefighting.

Students will earn California State Fire Marshall certifications in Vehicle Extrication, Fire Control I & II, Hazardous Materials First Responder Operational, Confine Space Awareness, Rescue Systems I, Firefighter Safety & Survival, Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics; NWCG S-110, S-130, S-190 certifications; and FEMA certifications for ICS-100, ICS-200 and ICS-700.

The information contained in this document is intended to provide you with the necessary information in order to understand the application process for the Rio Hondo College Firefighter I, Basic Academy. The Basic Fire Academy is offered every fall and spring semester.

**Applications:** Fire Academy applications are available at [Riohondofire.com](http://Riohondofire.com). Please ensure that your application is complete including all the necessary forms and supporting documents. Applications are due by the date indicated. Incomplete or late packets will not be considered. This includes sponsored applicants. You will be notified whether or not you have been accepted into the next fire academy. If you do not hear from the college by the dates indicated, please contact Chief Tracy Rickman at 562.941.4082 extension 21 or [TRickman@riohondo.edu](mailto:TRickman@riohondo.edu)

**Student ID:** All applicants must have an RHC student identification number. If you are new or returning to the college, please apply at [riohondo.edu](http://riohondo.edu)

**Course Prerequisites:** All applicants must have:

- Current EMT-1 Certification or Complete EMT-1 course with at least a "B"
- Fire Technology Core Courses with a grade "C" or better
  - FTEC101 Fire Protection Organization
  - FTEC102 Fire & Emergency Services Safety & Survival
  - FTEC103 Fire Behavior and Combustion
  - FTEC104 Fire Prevention Technology
  - FTEC105 Building Construction for Fire Protection
  - FTEC106 Fire Protection Equipment and systems
- Minimum levels of basic skills courses with a "C" or better. These courses may be taken at other colleges. An associates degree or higher will exempt you from these requirements.
  - Math 30 Pre-algebra
  - English 35 Intermediate Composition (prerequisite to English 101 or 1A)
  - Reading 23 Reading College Textbooks

**Verification of Courses:** All fire academy applicants must have their course work and prerequisites verified by Diana Valladares, Public Safety Counselor, during the dates and times listed on the application.

**Transcripts:** Please bring unofficial transcripts with your application when meeting with the counselor. However, official transcripts from the colleges you have attended are also required. Transcripts must be sent to:

Rio Hondo College Admissions & Records  
3600 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601

Rio Hondo College will not accept official transcripts from students, even if you mail them in a sealed envelope. Transcripts must be sent from college to college. You do not need to request Rio Hondo College transcripts.

**Insurance Verification Form:** This form must be submitted regardless if you have insurance or not. If you have medical insurance, please include a photocopy of your insurance card on a separate sheet of paper, enlarged to 150% and copy on lower half of the page.

**Selection Process:** Only 50 applicants will be accepted to the academy. In-service students (those that are sponsored by an agency) will receive priority over pre-service students. Pre-service students are prioritized according to the number of units completed in Fire Technology related courses with a "C" or better.

**Sponsorship:** Seeking sponsorship from a fire department or agency is optional. However, candidates with a signed sponsorship form are securing their candidacy into the academy. The chief, and only the chief, can sign the sponsorship form. Other fire department personnel are not allowed to sign in lieu of the chief.

**Tuition and Fees:** The total cost of the academy is approximately \$5000. Half of the amount is for uniforms, books, materials, equipment and gear and the remaining amount covers tuition, registration fees, materials fees and certification fees. Please note that Non-California residents are subject to higher enrollment fees.

**Financial Aid:** In order to qualify for the fee waiver (BOGW) or a grant, you must submit the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), available at [www.fafsa.edu.gov](http://www.fafsa.edu.gov). The school code for Rio Hondo College is 001269. To apply for the Dream Act go to: [www.csac.ca.gov/dream\\_act.Financial Aid](http://www.csac.ca.gov/dream_act.Financial Aid)

**Medical Physical Exams:** Physical examinations are required for the fire academy. It is important that you start this process soon so that the results are ready by the application due date. The physical examination form has been provided for your convenience. Please take this form to your personal doctor or health care provider.

**Textbooks & Supplies:** These items are available at the RHC bookstore on the main campus.

- IFSTA Essentials most current edition (\$96 new, \$72 used)
- DOT Emergency Response Guidebook (\$7)
- Box of Fire Academy Books (\$48)
- At least 1 RHC Fire Academy T-Shirt
- At least 1 RHC Fire Academy Black Shorts
- Twelve (12) No. 882-E Scantrons
- Two 3 inch 3-Ring Binders
- Notebook Index Dividers
- Notebook Paper
- Pens & Pencils

**Uniforms:** The following is a list of uniforms, physical fitness gear, safety gear and equipment needed for the Rio Hondo Basic Fire Academy. The cost depends on how many and where these items are purchased.

- Tact Squad #7012N Navy Pant (65% Polyester/35% Cotton)
- Tact Squad #8013N Navy, Short Sleeve Shirt (100% Polyester)
- Topps Navy Jacket (Note: no other jacket or sweater may be worn) with jacket liner
- Topps Jacket Liner
- White crew neck, heavy weight undershirt (last name on front & back in 2" black, block letters on upper third of shirt)
- Gray long sleeve sweat shirt (last name on front & back in 2" black, block letters on upper third of shirt) and gray Fire Academy sweat pants
- Black socks for uniform and white socks for PT
- Plain (non-weave) black uniform belt (1½" wide or greater) with a squared silver buckle
- Black, plain-toe, high-top (6" or greater) boot with safety toe & sole; Boot must be capable of taking a high shine
- Jogging Shoes - white, black or blue only – no bright colors.

**Safety Gear & Equipment**

- Navy Blue Swimsuit
- Combination or Key Locker Lock
- Leather Firefighting Gloves with Gauntlet
- Leather Utility Work Gloves
- Nomex or P.B.I. Firefighting Hood
- Firefighter Flashlight or Firefighter Helmet Light
- Safety Glasses
- Reusable Ear Plugs
- Academy Patches
- Duffel Bag

**Turnouts:** The turnouts must be NFPA Compliance and the same color (Yellow)

Item	Style Number	Color
Jacket	#35MJ732	Yellow
Pants	#35MP732	Yellow
Helmet	911	Yellow
Helmet Shield	Class # on shield	Black W/red lettering
Goggles		Black
Boots	DF65	Black

**Uniform Vendors:** Rio Hondo Community College does not recommend or suggest that you purchase your uniforms and/or equipment from any particular company. It is recommended that you shop for the best price. The three uniform companies listed below are familiar with the academy uniform needs and carry most of the clothing, gear and equipment that you will need to purchase.

<b>Firefighters' Safety Center</b>	14565 Valley View Avenue, Suite W Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670 (562) 921-8686	
<b>Galls Uniforms</b>	2550 Long Beach Boulevard Long Beach, CA 90806 (562) 424-0220	1249 West Katella Avenue Orange, CA 92867 (714) 633-3880
1865 Iowa Avenue #110 Riverside, CA 92507 (909) 781-6366	2543 West Sixth Street Los Angeles, CA 90057 (213) 351-9632	6365 South Arizona Circle Los Angeles, CA 90045 (310) 338-6800
<b>TurnoutRental.com</b>	Contact Information: 866.887.6688 info@turnoutrental.com	



**Rio Hondo College  
Public Safety Fire Training Center**  
11400 Greenstone Avenue  
Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670  
562.941.4082

Fire Academy Coordinator - Tracy Rickman, ext. 21  
TRickman@riohondo.edu  
Public Safety Counselor - Diana Valladares, ext. 28  
DValladares@riohondo.edu  
Sr. Drill Master - Jeff Baumunk, ext. 25  
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