



FIRE SCIENCE PROGRAM CONFERENCE

DEGREE AND DIPLOMA OPTIONS

- **Fire Science | Associates of Applied Science Degree**
 - This is a two-year, five semester program curated for individuals who have little to no experience as a firefighter and are looking to obtain a position on a paid fire department upon completion of this program.
- **Fire Science Certificate**
 - This is a two-semester (18 credit hour) certificate with a focus on technical courses in firefighting. This certificate is best suited for current firefighters looking for a credential in this field.

To view the plan of study for each credential above, go to:

www.kirkwood.edu/firefighter

IS FIREFIGHTING THE RIGHT CAREER FOR ME?

Commitment to Excellence

- Do I have the compassion and drive to always perform at my best?
- Do I possess a strong work ethic and take real pride in what I do?

Work Skills

- Do I have good communication and people skills?
- Am I flexible and able to adapt to changing, stressful situations?
- Am I a problem solver?
- Am I good with my hands and tools?

Courage and Dedication

- Am I dedicated to helping others, even if it means placing myself in physical danger?
- Am I willing to put my life on the line if the situation requires it?

IS FIREFIGHTING THE RIGHT CAREER FOR ME?

Physical Fitness

- Am I physically fit?
- Do I have the strength and stamina needed to effectively carry out my duties?
- Am I willing to put in the time and effort required to maintain my physical fitness through the years ahead?

Integrity

- Am I honest and trustworthy?
- Can I be relied upon to be accountable to my peers and to uphold the trust placed in me by my community and its citizens?



PROGRAM FACULTY AND NETWORKING

This program is taught by firefighters with experience and knowledge from being active in local fire departments. They are passionate about the firefighting industry and are excited to share their knowledge and experience with you!

Professional networking and ride-a-longs:

- We strongly encourage you to go on as many ride-a-longs as possible. Simply contact a career department and inform them you are a Kirkwood Fire Science student and would like to go on a ride-along. Students will conduct themselves in a professional manner while on ride-a-longs.





WHAT TO EXPECT

CLASSES

REQUIREMENTS

OPPORTUNITIES

Kirkwood
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WHAT TO EXPECT: YEAR 1

Fall Semester

FIR 127 Fire Behavior & Combustion	3 cr.
FIR 124 Building Construction	3 cr.
FIR 213 Principles of Emergency Services (online only)	3 cr.
Writing Requirement	3 cr.
Communications Requirement	3 cr.

Spring Semester

FIR 150 Fire Detection and Suppression Systems	3 cr.
FIR 130 Fundamentals of Fire Prevention	3 cr.
FIR 400 Emergency Safety and Survival	3 cr.
FIR 110 History and Philosophy of the Fire Service (online only)	2 cr.
FIR-183 Hazardous Materials Management	3 cr.

Students should plan to start the program in the fall. Students can be a full-time or part-time student, however the course sequencing is scheduled to best accommodate a full-time fall start student.

FIR-183 students must pass HAZMAT Materials Operation and Awareness Certification in order to move on to Firefighter I in the following Fall term.

WHAT TO EXPECT: SUMMER

Summer Semester

EMS 255 Emergency Medical Technician I	4 cr.
EMS 350 Emergency Medical Technician II	3.5 cr.
EMS 365 Emergency Medical Technician III Clinical	1 cr.

NREMT Psychomotor and Cognitive Exam:

- Graduation from this program requires students to pass the NREMT exam and become a licensed EMT.
- To sit for this exam, your grade in the EMS courses above must be a 70% or higher.
- For more information about the NREMT exam click [here](#)

To take EMS courses, students must:

- **Complete a background check.**
- **Hold current CPR and BLS for Healthcare Providers certifications.**
- **Be up to date on the following vaccinations:**
 - **Hepatitis B;**
 - **Tuberculosis (TB);**
 - **Tetanus, diphtheria; and pertussis (TDAP);**
 - **Measles, mumps, rubella (MMR);**
 - **Chicken pox (varicella);**
 - **Seasonal flu.**

WHAT TO EXPECT: YEAR 2

Fall Semester

FIR 199 Firefighter I	8 cr.
FIR 146 Firefighting Tactics and Strategy	3 cr.
MAT 772 Applied Math	3 cr.

Firefighter I is an intense course. Students will have the opportunity to practice skills with live fire under the supervision of highly trained firefighters.

Prerequisites include FIR-124, FIR-127, and FIR-183.

Upon completion of this course, student will test for the FFI certification through the Fire Service Training Bureau. The cost of the test is covered as part of your course fees. You must pass the FFI certification exam to graduate from this program.

Spring Semester

FIR 201 Firefighter II	3 cr.
FIR 250 Pumper Driver Operator	3 cr.
Humanities Requirement	3 cr.
Social Sciences Requirement	3 cr.

Upon completion of FIR 201 Firefighter II, students will be able to take the FF2 certification exam through the Iowa Fire Service Training Bureau (IFSTB) (Must pass HazMat Awareness, HazMat Ops and FF1 certification exam to take the FFII exam).

EARNING CERTIFICATIONS: HAZMAT OPS & AWARENESS, FF1, FF2, FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER OPERATOR/PUMPER

To test for Hazardous Materials Operations, Hazardous Materials Awareness, Firefighter I, and Firefighter II:

- Candidates **MUST** have documentation of current, acceptable CPR certification.
- Any candidate with a beard or facial hair in the area of the SCBA face piece seal (including full-face beards, mutton-chops, goatees, etc.) will **NOT** be allowed to participate in the practical skills examination. No exceptions to this policy will be granted.
- Candidates have twelve months to complete the certification process. If the twelve-month time limit expires and the candidate has not successfully completed all the requirements for this certification process, the candidate will have to restart the process.

FEES, UNIFORMS, AND EQUIPMENT

- Students will be assessed fees in the following courses to cover the cost of certification testing:
 - FIR-183 Hazardous Materials Management
 - FIR-199 Firefighter I
 - FIR-201 Firefighter 2
 - FIR-250 Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Pumper

[Program Cost Information](#)

Testing Fees

FEES, UNIFORMS, AND EQUIPMENT

- **Students will be assessed fees in the following courses to cover the cost of personal protective equipment:**
 - **FIR-199 Firefighter I**
 - **FIR-201 Firefighter 2**

[Program Cost Information](#)



PPE Fees

FEES, EQUIPMENT, AND UNIFORMS

- Students have the option to wear the Fire Science polo or t-shirt to every fire science course and ride-a-longs.
- If you are currently working or volunteering for a department, you can wear your department's shirt instead.
- Fire Science polo and t-shirts are available for purchase in the Kirkwood Bookstore.

Uniform Policy

FIREFIGHTER I AND FIREFIGHTER II: ALTERNATIVE CREDIT

If you have already earned the FFI and FFII credentials, you can apply to receive credit for FIR-199 Firefighter I and FIR-201 Firefighter II through the Alternative Credit Policy.

Alternative Credit Policy:

- Fill out the Alternative Credit Application [here](#)
- Submit the application to your academic advisor with required documentation
- Pay \$25 alternative credit application fee per course and 50% tuition for each course

PARAMEDIC ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE (A.A.S.)

Students in the Fire Science Technology program may also be interested in pursuing the Paramedic AAS degree.

Visit [Paramedic | Kirkwood Community College | Cedar Rapids, Iowa](#) for more information.

If you would like to pursue both the Fire Science and Paramedic degrees, talk to your academic advisor to develop a specialized academic plan.

CONSIDERING A 4-YEAR DEGREE?

UPON COMPLETION OF THE AAS DEGREE STUDENTS CAN TRANSFER TO:

- **WESTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY**
 - B.S. Fire Protection Service-On Campus
- **COLUMBIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**
 - B.S. Fire Administration- Online





NEXT STEPS

ARE YOU READY TO GET STARTED?

Kirkwood
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

STEPS TO BECOMING A STUDENT:

Step 1: Apply for Admission to Kirkwood

If you have not already, complete the formal application on www.Kirkwood.edu/apply

Step 2: Program Conference and Survey (you are doing this now)

Fill out the program conference survey on this page. This will tell us about you and that you are interested in this program.

*The Fire Science program has a capacity limit. You will be notified of your place on the acceptance list.

Step 3: Placement Exams

Submit placement information to the One Stop Office. We accept:

- ACT OR
- SAT and ALEKS math placement exam OR
- High School Transcript and ALEKS math placement exam

***The ALEKS math placement exam is free to Kirkwood students and can be accessed through your MyHub profile**

STEPS TO BECOMING A STUDENT:

Step 4: Attend a New Student Orientation

Orientation sessions for new students are held in the weeks before the start of a new term. Come to campus, register for classes, get your I.D., and have a look around. Pick a day and time that works for you. Go to: www.Kirkwood.edu/orientation

Step 5: Apply for Financial Aid

Submit your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) on www.studentaid.gov. Kirkwood's FAFSA school code is 004076. Contact the One Stop office (319-398-7600) for resources to help you file your FAFSA.

Step 6: Apply for Scholarships

Kirkwood has many scholarships available based on need, academics, and your major. Every year scholarships go un-awarded because of lack of applicants. To apply go to: www.Kirkwood.edu/scholarships.

THANK YOU

To complete your program conference requirement, please fill out the program conference survey on [Kirkwood Community College - Social Sciences](#) to confirm you viewed the program conference.

We look forward to seeing you in the upcoming semester!

Need more information, please contact social.sciences@kirkwood.edu

