

42nd Heartland Fire Academy

STATE ACCREDITED FF1 ACADEMY

In Partnership with Southwestern Community College

APPLICATION ANNOUNCEMENT

Spring 2027 FF1 Academy

February 1, 2027

Dear Fire Academy Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the 42nd Heartland Fire Academy. We hope this academy will help you in preparation for a career in the Fire Service. The Heartland Fire Academy consists of Southwestern Community College courses (FS-281F, FS-281G & FS32) and various certification courses that are accredited by the California State Fire Marshal. Upon successful completion of the Heartland Fire Academy and the additional required SFT courses, students will receive a State Fire Training Firefighter 1 Certificate, and earn twenty (20) Southwestern Community College Fire Technology units.

The Heartland Fire Academy includes lecture-based classroom sessions on topics such as *firefighter safety, equipment operation, fire extinguishers, forcible entry tools and techniques, lifting and hoisting equipment, fire hose, hose nozzles and fittings, hose evolutions, ladders, breathing apparatus, fire control, fire prevention, and more*. Manipulative classes give recruits the opportunity to practice skills taught in the classroom.

ACADEMY INFORMATION

- **Academy 42 is a 540-hour course; start date will be Monday, February 1, 2027 at 7:00 a.m.**
- **This course meets Monday to Friday, 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.**
- Class locations will be the Heartland Fire Training Facility and other off-site locations.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- 18 years of age at time of academy start date and high school graduate or equivalent (GED).
- EMT-B or Public Safety-First Aid (completed before academy application submission).

PREREQUISITE CERTIFICATIONS

- WMD/Terrorism Awareness for first responders (available online at teex.org).
- ICS IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800 (available online at teex.org).
- CPAT completion no older than 12 months at time of acceptance to academy.

ACADEMY FEES

Fire Academy cost includes: College Tuition for FS-281F (16 units), FS-281G (1 unit), and FS-32 (3 units). The \$46 per unit fee reflects California in-state tuition. Financial aid and scholarships available; please inquire if interested.

Course	Title	Units	Tuition Fee
FS 281F	Heartland Firefighter 1 Academy	16 Units	\$736.00
FS 281G	Firefighter I Skills Review and Certification	1 Unit	\$46.00
FS 32	Academy Fitness and Nutrition	3 Units	\$138.00

Heartland Fire Training Authority Fees:

textbooks, manuals, handouts, field guides and printed materials	\$1,540.00
State Fire Training certificates, materials and fees and academy PT gear	\$1,290.00
Southwestern College tuition fees (as outlined above)	\$920.00
TOTAL FEES	\$3,750.00

Included Certifications

- California State Firefighter 1 Certification
- Fire Control 3
- Firefighter Survival SFT Certificate
- Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue Technician
- Confined Space Rescue Awareness Certificate
- S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior
- S-130 Wildland Firefighter Training
- HAZMAT FRO/FRA – CSTI Pro Board Certificate

Additional costs associated with the fire academy

(Recruits are responsible for all of the costs below, paid directly to vendors.)

SCBA, FIT test, Structural PPE, Wildland PPE	Approximately \$1,300.00
Medical respiratory exam (required prior to academy orientation)	\$200.00
Class B Uniform and Boots	\$350.00

Each recruit will be required to have the appropriate uniforms and personal protective equipment prior to the start of the Academy. Once accepted to the Academy, each recruit will receive detailed information on the specifications and type of uniforms and safety gear. These costs will be paid by the student directly to the vendor.

SELECTION PROCESS

- Submit Application by November 30, 2026 deadline: If your application is approved, your application will be reviewed and you will be notified if you are selected for an interview with academy personnel.
- Interview: Open Enrollee candidates may be required to participate in an oral Interview Board. Interviews will take place in-person and/or via Zoom.
- Medical Examination: If accepted, information will be provided to each candidate.
- Mask Fit Test: All mask fit tests will be completed during academy orientation.
- Physical Abilities Test: Candidates must have a valid CPAT card dated no older than 12 months before the academy start date. See www.cffjac.org/go/jac/cpat/ for more information.

IMPORTANT DATES

Date	Milestone
November 25, 2026	Applications Close
December 8, 9, 10, 2026	Academy Interviews
December 11, 2026	Acceptance notifications sent via email
December 18, 2026	Initial deposit due (payment plans available)
January 11, 2027	Academy Orientation
At time of application submission	Prerequisites due
February 1, 2027	First Day of Academy – 0700 hrs

CONDUCT

The Academy is conducted in a paramilitary format and every effort will be made for the success of all candidates. Candidates are expected to adhere to all rules of conduct, which include appropriate appearance and grooming standards.

PHYSICAL TRAINING

Physical Training is an important component of the Academy. All candidates must have a valid CPAT for entry to the Academy and be able to perform the following standards on the first day of the Academy:

- 1.5-mile run at a 9 minute 30 second pace
- 5-story stair climb with 50 lbs on one shoulder
- 25 pushups in one minute
- 30 sit-ups in one minute
- 3 pull-ups
- 3 chin-ups
- 50-yard farmer carry with 45 lbs in each hand

MONTHLY PAYMENT PLAN SCHEDULE

- **December 18, 2026 – First payment of \$750.00 due**
- **January 18, 2027 – Second payment of \$750.00 due**
- **February 18, 2027 – Third payment of \$750.00 due**
- **March 18, 2027 – Fourth payment of \$750.00 due**
- **April 18, 2027 – Final payment of \$750.00 due**