

# Texarkana College Fire Academy

## Information and Application Packet (Hybrid Academy)



2500 N. Robison Road  
Texarkana, TX 75599  
[www.texarkanacollege.edu/fire-academy/](http://www.texarkanacollege.edu/fire-academy/)

### **To Register or for More Information Contact:**

Gini Schulle, Administrative Assistant  
(903) 823-3393  
[gini.schulle@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:gini.schulle@texarkanacollege.edu)

**Be sure to read all instructions provided with this packet!  
Doing so will prevent problems with your registration.**

### **Academy Staff**

Harry H. Simms, Program Coordinator  
[harry.simms@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:harry.simms@texarkanacollege.edu)

Alan W. Sikes, Lead Instructor  
[alan.sikes@texarkanacollege.edu](mailto:alan.sikes@texarkanacollege.edu)

# **Texarkana College Hybrid Fire Academy**

## **Class Preparation Checklist**

This checklist is provided for student use to help you insure that you do not skip any required steps in preparing for the Hybrid Fire Academy. It is not necessary to turn this list in.

### **Application & Registration**

- ☐ Complete application, sign, and turn in to Gini Schulle
- ☐ Complete Liability Waiver, have notarized, and turn in to Gini Schulle
- ☐ Pay tuition & complete registration with Gini Schulle

### **Medical Requirements**

- ☐ Complete the top part of the *Firefighter Medical Examination Certification* form and sign
- ☐ See your personal physician for an examination. Ensure that the physician sees the *Firefighter Essential Job Tasks*
- ☐ Have the physician complete the Medical Certification portion of the form
- ☐ Return to Gini Schulle
- ☐ Have a urine drug screen done at a medical lab or physician office of your choice
- ☐ Have results reported to Gini Schulle in the Fire Academy office.

### **Uniforms**

- ☐ Carefully review the uniform instructions and purchase required uniform elements  
See included uniform information sheet

### **Personal Protective Clothing (PPE)**

- ☐ Rent or obtain PPE
- ☐ If department issued PPE, have fire chief complete PPE certification form  
See attached PPE information sheet and rental flyer for more information.

### **Report to Orientation**

- ☐ Report to Orientation Session, 8:00 AM, August 26, 2017  
Texarkana College, Media Center Building, Classroom # 131

## **Texarkana College Hybrid Fire Academy Estimated Cost**

	<b>In District</b>	<b>Out of District</b>
Tuition	1,900.00	2,100.00
Books and Online Access Fee	Included in Tuition	
Protective Clothing*	270.00	270.00
Drug Screen	60.00	60.00
Uniforms	75.00	75.00
State Test**	85.00	85.00
Total	\$2,390.00	\$2,590.00

\* Protective Clothing cost shown is based on rental. Trainees who are members of a fire department may not require this expense if compliant PPE is issued by department.

\*\* Testing fee for state certification exam. Paid near end of course.

Textbook and access to on-line resources is included in course tuition.

Costs other than tuition are estimated and paid by student direct to supplier.

Cost of physical exam not shown. Costs vary with your choice of physician.

Sales tax on books, uniforms, etc., is not shown.

Payment plans are available. Contact Gini Schulle for more information.

### **Academy Dates**

August 26, 2017 to April 27, 2018

You may submit an application for any academy at any time. Payment cannot be made until approximately one month before the start date, unless using payment plan method.

# Texarkana College Hybrid Fire Academy

## Information and Instructions

### General Information

The Texarkana College Fire Academy is a partnership between Texarkana College and the Texarkana, Texas, Fire Department. Texarkana College is a publicly supported, two-year, comprehensive community college that offers educational opportunities in traditional academic studies, occupational/technical programs, and workforce development and community services. Texarkana Fire Department is a career fire department serving the citizens of Texarkana, Texas. The department operates five fire stations and has approximately 80 personnel.

This academy includes both on-line study of material and on-site performance of skills, thus the term “Hybrid” Academy. The on-line material is broken into modules, based on the study time and skills time needed to successfully complete the module. In each module, the student will read and study each chapter, view the on-line interactive lecture, complete other activities as assigned in each section, and take a test. ***Each module will have to be completed in a specific time period. This is not a self-paced program!*** The student will then attend a weekend skills session. In this session, the skills associated with the module (or modules) will be taught and tested. This process will be repeated for each module. Upon the completion of all modules, over approximately an eight-month period (including holidays), the student will have completed the basic fire academy.

The academy is an authorized training facility for structural firefighting under Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) guidelines and trainees who successfully complete the academy will be eligible for the certification exam given by the TCFP. In addition to the firefighter training provided in this academy, emergency medical training is also required by the TCFP before a firefighter certification is issued. (See section on Emergency Medical Training below and on application) Emergency medical training is also available through Texarkana College. Upon completion of the academy, successful passing of the state practical and written exam, and completion of emergency medical training, trainees can certify as structure firefighters. In addition, successful trainees are eligible to receive International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) seals for Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Hazardous Materials Awareness, and Hazardous Materials Operations. These seals are accepted by many states in the US and provinces in Canada as evidence of firefighter training.

### Requirements for Eligibility

- Minimum age – 18 years
- Maximum age – None set by Texarkana College, but applicants should be aware that many fire departments have maximum hiring ages.
- Minimum education – High School Diploma or GED
- Drug screen – no evidence of illegal drug use
- Medical examination – physician examination and certification required. Physician must certify that applicant is physically capable of meeting the physical demands of the academy.
- Must be able to work independently to study and comprehend material on-line.
- Must be able to attend weekend skills sessions.

## Schedule

There is one academy per year, beginning in September and ending in April. Up to 12 students can be accepted into each academy. The following dates are anticipated for the 2017-18 academy.

- Academy #H3    August 26, 2017                      April 27, 2018

## Skills Sessions

Skills sessions will be held eight (8) times at varying intervals. Each skills weekend will include a Friday evening session from 6:00 to 10:00 PM and all day sessions (8:00 AM to 5:00 PM) on Saturday and Sunday. In some cases, it may be necessary to stay later than 5:00 PM to finish. Attendance at all skills sessions is mandatory. There is no time in this schedule for make-up work.

In the event that a student is forced to miss a skills session due to unavoidable circumstances, make-up may be available. Any make-up skills sessions will be at additional cost to the student for instructor time.

## Financial Aid

The fire academy is a contact hour program, not credit hour, and is not eligible for most financial aid.

Payment plans are available. Contact Gini Schulle for more information.

## Facilities

Classroom facilities are provided on the campus of Texarkana College. Field training will take place at the Texarkana Fire Department Training Field in Texarkana. This training facility is equipped with a four story training tower, two story addition with two burn rooms, various training props, and space to perform multiple other evolutions. These facilities will contribute to a first class training experience.

## Instructors

The instructors for the academy will be drawn primarily from TTFD personnel. All instructors will be experienced firefighters with Texas Commission on Fire Protection firefighter certification as well as Instructor certification.

## Textbook

The textbook bundle for this program includes these three books:

*Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills*, Third Edition (Premier Package)

*Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations*, Second Edition (Premier Package)

*Evidence-Based Practices for Strategic and Tactical Firefighting*

This textbook bundle is included in your course registration and will be issued at the orientation session.

## **Application Instructions**

### Personal Information

Supply the information indicated. All information is required. Incomplete applications will be rejected.

Indicate the academy in which you are wishing to enroll by entering the start date of that academy on the space provided. Applications are taken at any time.

### Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) PIN #

All class rosters, testing requests, course completion certificates, etc. are keyed to your personal TCFP PIN #. If you do not have a number (and you probably don't), go to the TCFP FIDO web site at:

[http://www.tcfp.texas.gov/home/FIDO\\_gateway.asp](http://www.tcfp.texas.gov/home/FIDO_gateway.asp)

Click on "Create PIN/Account". Follow the instructions. A valid email address is required to receive your PIN from the Commission. If you do not have a valid Social Security Number (United States) or SIN (Canada), you cannot obtain a PIN through the FIDO system.

**The TCFP PIN # is required. You cannot enroll without this number  
DO NOT SKIP THIS STEP!**

### Emergency Contact

Enter information for the person you want to be contacted in the event of an accident or occurrence during the fire academy.

### Educational Level

Mark the highest educational level you have attained. Minimum requirement is a high school diploma or GED.

### Fire Service Affiliation

If you are affiliated with a paid or volunteer fire department (or both), mark the appropriate box(es) and write in the department name. If you have no fire service affiliation, mark "None".

### Emergency Medical Certification

If you have no emergency medical certification and have never held one, mark "None".

If you hold, have held, or are training for an emergency medical certification, mark the appropriate certification level and status as indicated.

### Sponsoring Fire Department

If a fire department is sponsoring you in this academy, complete the department information. If this does not apply, mark "Not Applicable". Sponsored means that you are an employee of the department and it is paying all expenses of the academy.

### Criminal History

Review the criminal history information on the application and the "Criminal Conviction Guidelines" in the packet. Initial and date this section after you have read and understood.

### Emergency Medical Training

Read the information provided on emergency medical training. Upon successful completion of the academy, you will be allowed to complete practical and written testing for firefighter certification. However, the Texas Commission on Fire Protection will not issue firefighter certification until you have completed the emergency medical training requirements. Initial and date this section after you have read and understood.

### Drug Screen

Review the information provided. Initial and date that you have read and understood this section.

### Certification

Sign and date this section. By signing, you are certifying that the information you have provided on the application is true and correct. Intentionally supplying incorrect information or withholding pertinent information will constitute grounds for dismissal from the academy.

### Submission

Submit the application and liability waiver to Continuing Education. Contact information is at the end of this form.

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### **Waiver of Liability Form**

Complete the form as indicated. This form must be notarized. Do not sign until you are at the Notary Public. Sign the form before the Notary and they will complete the certification section. Submit this form with your application for admission.

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### **Firefighter Trainee Medical Examination Certification**

Complete the top portion of the form. See the physician of your choice and have your physician complete the "Physician Certification" portion of the form. Be sure the "Firefighter Essential Job Tasks" are included with the form when you provide it to the physician. This form must be dated no more than 90 days prior to the start of your academy.

You can register without submitting the drug screen and medical examination. However, these must be received no later than the first day of class.



# Texarkana College Fire Academy Application



## Personal Information

Name: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ MI  
Last First

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City State Zip

Phone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth \_\_\_\_\_ Academy Start Date Requested \_\_\_\_\_

TCFP Pin #: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

## Emergency Contact

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Relationship Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

## Highest Educational Level Attained

- ☐ GED ☐ High School Diploma ☐ Some College  
☐ Associates Degree ☐ Bachelor Degree ☐ Graduate Degree

## Fire Service Affiliation (Mark all that apply)

- ☐ None  
☐ Paid Firefighter – Department \_\_\_\_\_  
☐ Volunteer Firefighter – Department \_\_\_\_\_

## Sponsoring Fire Department

☐ Not Applicable

\_\_\_\_\_  
Department Name ☐ Paid ☐ Volunteer ☐ Combination

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address City State Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fire Chief Phone

## Demographics

The following information is required by the Coordinating Board of the Texas College and University System:

- Gender: ☐ Male ☐ Female Age: Are you 60 years old or older? ☐ Yes ☐ No  
Race: ☐ Black ☐ White ☐ Asian ☐ American Indian ☐ Hispanic ☐ Other



### **Criminal History**

Texas law requires that a criminal history check be conducted prior to being granted a firefighter certification by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection. An information sheet titled "Criminal Conviction Guidelines", excerpted from the applicable portion of the *Texas Administrative Code*, is included in this packet for your reference.

Texarkana College does not conduct background checks on applicants for the Fire Academy. If you have been convicted of a felony or Class A or B misdemeanor, you should consider having your individual status evaluated prior to enrollment in this program. Texarkana College is not responsible if your application for firefighter certification is rejected by the Commission for any reason. By initialing below, you certify that you are aware of the background requirements for firefighter certification and have considered their applicability to your individual situation.

I certify that I have read the paragraphs above. I understand that Texarkana College is not responsible for determining my eligibility for firefighter certification.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initial

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Emergency Medical Training**

In addition to the firefighter training provided in this academy, the Texas Commission on Fire Protection requires emergency medical training prior to certifying individuals as firefighters. The Commission recognizes the following emergency medical training:

- Texas Department of State Health Services Emergency Medical Service Personnel certification training;
- American Red Cross Emergency Response course, including the optional lessons and enrichment sections;
- American Safety and Health Institute First Responder course;
- National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians certification; or
- Medical training deemed equivalent by the Commission

The fire academy does not include this training. If you have not had emergency medical training, you must obtain it. **YOU CANNOT BE CERTIFIED AS A FIREFIGHTER BY THE COMMISSION WITHOUT THIS TRAINING.**

I understand that, in addition to this academy, emergency medical training is required before firefighter certification can be obtained from the Texas Commission on Fire Protection.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initial

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Meningitis Vaccine**

Consistent with Texas law, a meningitis vaccination is required for many students entering this program. Review the information on meningitis vaccination at:

<https://www.texarkanacollege.edu/prospective-students/meningitis-vaccine-requirement/>

I certify that I have reviewed the meningitis vaccination information. I understand that it is my responsibility to obtain this vaccine, if required, and submit the required paperwork to Texarkana College within the time frame indicated.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initial

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Drug Screen**

Prior to admission to the academy, applicants will be subject to a urine drug screen. Detection of illegal drug use will be cause for rejection of your application. Evidence of illegal drug use during the academy will be grounds for dismissal from the academy.

I understand that a drug screen is required prior to admission to the academy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Initial

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### **Certification**

I certify that the above information is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I certify that I am the person described above. I understand that any intentional misrepresentation on this application constitutes grounds for dismissal from the academy.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Criminal Conviction Guidelines for Firefighter Certification by Texas Commission on Fire Protection**

Excerpted from Texas Administrative Code

Title 37, Part 13, Chapter 403, Rule §403.7 Criminal Convictions Guidelines

(a) The following crimes are considered to relate directly to the ability, capacity, and fitness required to perform the duties and discharge the responsibilities of persons certified by the commission:

(1) offenses under the Government Code, Chapter 419, relating to the Texas Commission on Fire Protection;

(2) offenses under the Texas Transportation Code Title 6 Roadways, which are punishable by fines greater than \$200, or imprisonment, or both fine and imprisonment;

(3) offenses under the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 481, concerning controlled substances;

(4) offenses under the Health and Safety Code, Chapter 483, concerning dangerous drugs;

(5) offenses under the following titles of the Texas Penal Code:

(A) Title 5--offenses against the person;

(B) Title 6--offenses against the family;

(C) Title 7--offenses against property;

(D) Title 8--offenses against public administration;

(E) Title 9--offenses against public order and decency;

(F) Title 10--offenses against public health, safety and morals;

(G) Title 11--offenses involving organized crime; and

(H) Title 4--inchoate offenses Chapter 15 preparatory offenses to any of the offenses in this section;

(6) the offenses listed in this subsection are not inclusive, in that the commission may consider other particular crimes in special cases in order to promote the intent of the statutes administered by the commission.

(b) In all cases the commission shall consider:

(1) the nature and seriousness of the crime;

(2) the relationship of the crime to the purposes for requiring the certificate issued by the commission;

(3) the extent to which the certificate might offer an opportunity to engage in further criminal activity of the same type as that in which the person previously had been involved;

(4) the relationship of the crime to the ability, capacity, or fitness required to perform the duties and discharge the responsibilities of the certificate holder;

(5) the level and nature of supervision of the person by others; and

(6) the level and nature of access to public, commercial, and residential properties, including access after regular business hours and access to areas not open to the general public.

### **Title 37, Part 13, Chapter 403, Rule §403.9 Mitigating Factors**

(a) In addition to the factors that must be considered under §403.7 of this title (relating to Criminal Convictions Guidelines), in determining the present fitness of a person who has been convicted of a crime, the commission shall consider the following evidence:

- (1) the extent and nature of the person's past criminal activity;
- (2) the age of the person at the time of the commission of the crime;
- (3) the amount of time that has elapsed since the person's last criminal activity;
- (4) the conduct and work activity of the person prior to and following the criminal activity;
- (5) evidence of the person's rehabilitation or rehabilitative effort while incarcerated or following release; and
- (6) other evidence of the person's present fitness, including letters of recommendation from:
  - (A) prosecution, law enforcement, and correctional officers who prosecuted, arrested, or had custodial responsibility for the person;
  - (B) the sheriff or chief of police in the community where the person resides; and
  - (C) any other persons in contact with the convicted person.

(b) It shall be the responsibility of the applicant to the extent possible to secure and provide to the commission as required the recommendations of prosecution, law enforcement, and correctional authorities as required by statute and these rules upon request by the commission staff. The applicant shall upon request also furnish:

- (1) a copy of the indictment, information or complaint;
- (2) a copy of the judgement(s) or order(s) of the court adjudicating guilt, granting probation, community supervision, deferred adjudication, or discharge from probation or community supervision;
- (3) a record of steady employment in the form of a letter from current or former employers;
- (4) a record that the applicant has supported his or her dependents in the form of a letter from a person in the applicant's community with personal knowledge of the circumstances;
- (5) evidence that the applicant has paid all outstanding court costs, supervision fees, fines, and restitution as may have been ordered in all criminal cases in which he or she has been convicted, in the form of copies of official records, documents, or a letter from the person's probation or parole officer where applicable concerning his or her current status; and
- (6) a copy of the police or offense report(s).

Any prospective student who has been convicted of any felony offense or a Class A or Class B misdemeanor should consider having an early review by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection prior to enrolling in the fire academy. The Commission can deny certification based on criminal history. While an early review is not required, it may be beneficial if you are unsure of your status in regard to certification. The form to request early review is available from the Commission web site at:

<http://www.tcfp.texas.gov/forms/TCFP-012.pdf>

**Texarkana College Fire Academy**  
**Waiver of Liability**  
(Applicant)

I, \_\_\_\_\_, as a trainee wishing to enroll in  
Print Full Name

Texarkana College Fire Academy, and in consideration of the privilege of enrolling in said academy, agree to the following:

- I recognize that firefighter training involves certain inherent dangers of liability, accident, and injury.
- I agree to assume all the risks and liability attendant to such activity and further stipulate that Texarkana College and the City of Texarkana, Texas are held harmless and released from any and all liability, claims, suits, demands, or causes of action which may arise from the attendance of the prescribed training program.
- I stipulate that I am attending this academy voluntarily and not under any compulsion from Texarkana College.
- I agree that I will maintain medical injury insurance or that I will pay for my own medical expenses, should I incur such expenses.
- I agree that the execution of this release shall not constitute a waiver by Texarkana College of the defense of governmental immunity, where applicable, or any other defense recognized by the courts of this state.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**Certification:**

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the County of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_,  
County State

On this day personally appeared \_\_\_\_\_ acting in his/her capacity as a trainee of Texarkana College Fire Academy known to me to be the person whose name is subscribed to the forgoing instrument and acknowledged to me that he is authorized and does execute for the purposes and consideration therein expressed.

Given under my hand and seal of office, at \_\_\_\_\_,  
City

\_\_\_\_\_, County, \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_  
County State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

My Commission Expires: \_\_\_\_\_

Seal:



## Texarkana College Fire Academy

2500 North Robison Road

Texarkana, TX 75599

(903) 823-3404

### Firefighter Medical Examination Certification

\_\_\_\_\_  
Candidate Full Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Birth (mm/dd/yyyy)

\_\_\_\_\_  
TCFP PIN #

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

In consideration of being considered for acceptance into the Texarkana College Fire Academy, I authorize my physician to release this medical evaluation to the Texarkana College Fire Academy. I understand that this certification is not public information and that the academy will protect this privacy of this information.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

### Physician Certification

I certify that I have examined the fire academy trainee candidate listed above, including medical history, physical examination, and any tests deemed necessary (lab work, x-rays, EKG, etc.). I have also reviewed the list of firefighter essential job tasks included with this form.

It is my medical opinion that, as of the date of the examination, this candidate (mark one box)

☐ can safely perform the job tasks listed.

☐ cannot safely perform the job tasks listed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physician Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
Physician Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## **Firefighter Essential Job Tasks**

Excerpted from NFPA 1582

*Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments*

A firefighter trainee shall be medically and physically able to:

1. While wearing personal protective equipment (PPE) and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), perform firefighting tasks (operate and pull hose lines, crawl extensively, lift and carry heavy objects, use power and hand tools), perform rescue operations, and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions, including working in extremely hot or cold environments for prolonged time periods.
2. Wear an SCBA, which includes a demand valve type positive pressure facepiece, requiring the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.
3. Be exposed to smoke, heated gases, and possibly other contaminants in spite of wearing SCBA.
4. Climb four (4) flights of stairs while wearing PPE and SCBA weighing at least 50 pounds, while also carrying tools or equipment weighing up to 40 pounds additional.
5. Wear a fire protective ensemble, including SCBA, that is encapsulating and insulated, which may result in fluid loss and can elevate core body temperature.
6. While wearing PPE and SCBA, search for, locate, and drag victims of various weights up to 200 pounds or more despite hazardous conditions and low visibility.
7. While wearing PPE and SCBA, advanced water filled hose lines up to 2 ½" in diameter from fire apparatus to building (150 feet or more), which can involve negotiating flights of stairs, ladders, and other obstacles.
8. While wearing PPE and SCBA, climb ladders, operate from heights, walk, or crawl, in the dark along narrow or uneven surfaces.
9. Perform critical, time sensitive complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments, including hot, dark, and/or tightly enclosed spaces.
10. Communicate (give and comprehend verbal orders) while wearing PPE and SCBA under conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and wet conditions.
11. Function as an integral member of a team, where sudden incapacitation of a team member may put other team members at significant risk.

## Uniform Requirements

The on-line fire academy is different from the day classes in that you will not be on-campus on a daily basis. Dress uniforms are required only for graduation. For skills weekends, the required uniform is a fire academy t-shirt, fire academy cap, and either navy blue uniform pants as described in the dress uniform section or blue jeans in good condition. No shorts allowed. Belt must meet the requirements in the dress uniform section. Shoes do not have to meet the dress uniform requirements, but sandals, flip-flops, etc., are not allowed.

Cadets completing the on-line academy will participate in a graduation ceremony with the cadets from the spring 2017 class. These cadets will be in uniform. It will be best for the Hybrid cadets to be in uniform, therefore one dress uniform is required for graduation only.

### T-shirts and Caps

T-shirts and caps will be available in the Texarkana College Bookstore. Only these caps and t-shirts are allowed to be worn during Fire Academy activities. Each student must purchase at least one t-shirt. Three t-shirts are recommended so you will have a clean one for each day of a skills weekend. Caps are optional but recommended. If cadets wish to wear a cap while involved in outdoor activities, only the official academy cap is allowed.

### Dress Uniforms (Graduation)

Shirt	Sentinel Short Sleeve Security Shirt in Medium Blue – Item SP66-MB Long Sleeve shirt is acceptable if you prefer, but is not required. – Item SP56-MB
Pants	Red Kap Permanent Press Industrial Work Pants in Navy Blue – Item PT10-NV or Dickies 874 Traditional Work Pants in Dark Navy – Item 874-DN or Any equivalent Navy Blue (some manufacturers Dark Navy) work pant with standard pockets and cut (no tactical pants, EMS trousers).
Belt	Plain black leather uniform belt, 1 3/8" to 1 1/2" in width. Plain buckle. No specific manufacturer item number required.
Shoes	Black leather, plain rounded toe, shoes or boots that can be polished. Shoes must be dress/uniform types shoes or boots. Athletic shoes or cowboy boots are not acceptable.
Patches	Fire Academy patch on left sleeve, centered, one inch below shoulder seam. American flag patch on right sleeve, centered, one inch below shoulder seam. (Cadets of other nationalities may substitute their own national flag, if available.)
Name Tag	Metal name tag with first initial and last name, worn 1/4 to 1/2 inch above right pocket flap.

## Sources

Uniform shirts and patches are available from the Texarkana College Bookstore. Contact the bookstore at (903) 823-3020 or go in during normal business hours. You must have the patches sewn on the shirts. See the instructions above and the diagram on the next page for proper patch locations.

Pants meeting the requirements are available from the Texarkana College Bookstore (some sizes) and from various local and online sources. If you already have a pair of navy blue dress slacks, you can wear those.

You can purchase the required belt and shoes from any supplier of your choice. Shoes and belt do not have to be new. If you already have shoes and a belt that meet the requirements and are in good condition, you may use what you have.

Name tag is available from Lonestar Trophy and Athletics, 106 Industrial, Nash, TX 75569. (903) 334-8881. Each cadet must order their own name tag to ensure correct spelling. Standard name tag is a silver colored clutch back tag with first initial and last name. Allow time – it takes several days to get one of these made.





# Personal Protective Equipment

Each cadet is required to have a complete set of personal protective equipment (PPE) meeting the requirements of the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) and NFPA Standard 1851, Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting. A complete set of PPE includes protective coat with wristlets and collar; protective trousers with suspenders; bunker boots; helmet with face shield, earflaps, and chin strap; protective hood; and gloves.

If you have a set of PPE issued by your department and it meets standards, that is all you need.

Because of the length of the on-line academy, cadets renting PPE will have two sets of PPE. A set of practice gear will be issued to each cadet. This will consist of bunker coat, bunker pants, suspenders, and boots. This PPE will be marked as not for use in fire situations. It can be used for the various practice skills throughout the academy, but not in live fire situations. The PPE rental will include a helmet, gloves, and hood for use with this PPE, as well as compliant PPE for the live burn weekend.

This rental rate and program has been negotiated for our students with Gear Cleaning Solutions of Dallas, TX. Cadets may use any vendor of their choice, but they are unlikely to find a similar program. Full PPE rental for the length of the academy would cost significantly more. Contact information for this vendor is at the end of this information sheet.

Regardless of the source of the PPE, it must meet these requirements:

- PPE must be compliant with NFPA 1851 requirements on age of PPE.  
*If Date of Manufacture indicates PPE is 10 years old or more, it cannot be used!*
- **PPE used must have received an Advanced Inspection verifying compliance with standards in NFPA 1851 and TCFP regulations.** If the PPE is issued by a department subject to TCFP regulation, it probably meets this standard. PPE issued by volunteer departments and departments in other states may not. ***It is your responsibility to ensure your PPE meets standards!***
- The Advanced Inspection must be performed by personnel qualified to make these inspections under NFPA 1851 standards and must be documented.
- If the PPE is 3 years or more old, it must have a vapor barrier penetration test as part of the Advanced Inspection. This must be documented.
- If the PPE is issued by a department, the chief of the department must complete and sign the PPE form provided in the Fire Academy Packet. PPE provided by rental companies will have these certifications, so this form is not required.
- PPE must be clean and in good repair.

During the academy, PPE must be maintained in good repair and kept clean. Academy staff will inspect PPE at the beginning of the academy, before live burns, and periodically as necessary during the academy. If the academy staff determines that any cadet's PPE does not meet standards, is damaged, or is excessively dirty, the cadet will not be allowed to participate in drills requiring PPE until the damaged/dirty PPE has been cleaned, repaired, or replaced as needed.

### **Rental Providers**

The academy has negotiated a rate for our students with Gear Cleaning Solutions of Dallas, Texas (GCS). Cadets are free to rent PPE from the vendor of this choice, but this vendor has provided us the best combination of pricing and service. If ordering from GCS, be sure to tell them that you are a Texarkana College Fire Academy cadet to get the reduced rate. Also, you must indicate you are a hybrid academy student as this is a different program from the traditional academy.

Gear Cleaning Solutions – (214) 774-2213 - <http://gearcleaningsolutions.com/> - Mike Holdsclaw

## **Texarkana College Fire Academy Protective Clothing Certification**

The Fire Department listed below wishes to provide protective clothing to our member who is enrolled in the Texarkana College Fire Academy. As Fire Chief, I warrant and certify to the academy all of the following:

1. Protective clothing consists of bunker coat, bunker pants, boots, gloves, hood, and helmet with face shield (or goggles) and ear protection. (A gear bag is optional but recommended).
2. I certify that the protective clothing provided has not been modified in any way, except as approved by the manufacturer and in accordance with NFPA 1851 and Texas Commission on Fire Protection regulations.
3. This protective clothing was purchased in accordance with NFPA standards and met the requirements of the edition of NFPA 1971, *Standard on Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*, that was in effect at the time of purchase.
4. This protective clothing has been inspected, tested, cleaned, and maintained in accordance with NFPA 1851, *Standard on Selection, Care, and Maintenance of Protective Ensembles for Structural Fire Fighting and Proximity Fire Fighting*, and applicable Texas Commission on Fire Protection regulations.
5. I certify that the protective clothing provided is in good condition, clean, and meets all applicable standards for use. I understand that if protective clothing is damaged in the academy, or is found upon inspection by academy staff to not be in compliance, it must be replaced or repaired before the trainee is allowed to participate in any activities requiring protective clothing.
6. Advanced Cleaning of this PPE was performed on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).
7. Advanced Inspection of this PPE was performed on \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

**Complete the Inspection Record on the back of this form.**

Cadet Name	Department Name		
Department Address	City	State	Zip
Telephone	Email		
Fire Chief Signature	Date		

# Texarkana College Fire Academy

## Pre-Academy PPE Advanced Inspections

<b>Coat</b>	Manufacturer: _____	Model: _____
	Serial #: _____	Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Labels Present and Legible	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 years old
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

<b>Pants</b>	Manufacturer: _____	Model: _____
	Serial #: _____	Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Labels Present and Legible	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 years old
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

<b>Helmet</b>	Manufacturer: _____	Model: _____
	Serial #: _____	Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Labels Present and Legible	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 years old
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

<b>Boots</b>	Manufacturer: _____	Model: _____
	Serial #: _____	Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Labels Present and Legible	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 years old
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

<b>Hood</b>	Manufacturer: _____	Model: _____
	Serial #: _____	Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Labels Present and Legible	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 years old
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

<b>Gloves</b>	Manufacturer: _____	Model: _____
	Serial #: _____	Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination	<input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Labels Present and Legible	<input type="checkbox"/> Less than 10 years old
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

<b>DRD</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Not Equipped (Pre-2007 Standard PPE)
	Manufacturer: _____ Model: _____
	Serial #: _____ Date of Mfg: _____
	<input type="checkbox"/> Clean/No contamination <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced cleaning prior to inspection.
	<input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Passed <input type="checkbox"/> Inspection Failed/Repairs Needed

**Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

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