

FIRE ACADEMY FAQ's

What classes are needed to get into the Fire Academy?

There are six Fire Technology classes (FTEC 101, 102, 103, 104, 105 & 106) that you need to **finish first before starting the Academy**. You also need to be EMT Certified, by taking FTEC 121 (Emergency Response) and EMT 093 (EMT Program).

Do you have to take the Fire Technology classes in any order?

No. They are all different courses that can be taken either online or by lab in any order and as many as your schedule allows.

I'm only 17, can I start the academy now?

NO, age does not matter for the Fire Academy, but it does for EMT. You must be 18 to take the EMT course. Also note that the FTEC courses can be taken while still in High School.

I have taken other Fire Technology classes at a different college, are they transferable?

Most of our classes are transferable from other colleges though they might have a different course number or name. It would be best to check with our counselor Diana Valladares (DValladares@riohondo.edu) to make sure.

How do I register for classes/get started?

The first step to applying for the Fire Academy is to attend the Information Meeting. And in order to register for classes, you must complete the college application online (www.riohondo.edu) for the specific semester you wish to attend (Fall, Spring, or Summer 20__).

Within 24 hours of submitting your application, you will receive a Student ID# (begins with 000 - or 001 -). You will need this number to register for classes and meet with our counselor.

How much does it cost to get into the Fire Academy?

The price for the Academy program, books, uniforms, fire gear, etc., could be anywhere from \$4000 to \$5000.

How long will it take to complete the program?

It depends on your attending a full-time or part-time academy, and if you would also like to earn an Associate Degree. This means that in addition to the FTEC course and EMT, you will also need to take General Education courses. [See Document HERE](#). It is highly recommended meeting with our counselor to build an educational plan.

How often do you offer the fire academy?

Twice a year. Once in the Fall and once in the Spring.

Do you have a Part-Time Academy?

Yes, it is offered during the Spring semester. The cadets meet three times a week (0600 – 1800), instead of five and finishes in about six months. The Full-Time Academy is a four-month program that starts in the Fall semester.

When are information meetings held?

Monthly information meetings are held every 2nd Tuesday of every month @ 6:30pm via ZOOM. Updated information will be posted on [our website HERE](#).

Can I still apply to the Fire Academy if I have a criminal record?

Yes, although depending on the nature of the offense (Felony), you might not get hired by a Fire Department. If you are unable to get the record expunged, you might consider applying for the Wildland Fire Academy.

If I graduated from the Academy years ago, can I have copies of my records or certificates?

We only have records that span about eight years ago and some may be incomplete.

For official transcripts, they can be requested from [our Admissions & Records Office HERE](#).