Rio Hondo Fire Academy Selection Process

All Fire Academy applicants will be placed in one of the following tiers based on their qualifications:

A. **Tier 1:**
   - In Service full-time sworn personnel employed by Fire Department Agency.
   - Cadets who separated due to injury from most recent Rio Hondo Fire Academy Class.
   - Completed FTEC 101 through 106 with passing grade of "C" or better.
   - Completed EMT (Course completion, National Registry, or EMT Certification)
   - Successfully completed FTEC 044
      - For Physical Fitness or Kinesiology courses to be considered equivalent from other colleges, valid certification shall be submitted with application demonstrating a passing time on the BIDDLE physical agility exam.
   - Turn in all necessary paperwork/documentation by the given deadline.
      - Fire pre-requisite courses (Fire Tech, EMT, and Physical Fitness Courses, may be taken at another college; Unofficial Transcripts must be submitted from that college with application).
      - Official Transcripts from other colleges must be submitted to Rio Hondo College for applications to be considered.

B. **Tier 2:**

   - One or more of the necessary prerequisite course **in progress.**
   - Turn in all necessary paperwork/documentation by the given deadline.

C. **Tier 3:**

   - Prerequisite courses that are **not in progress but need to be completed** during the Summer or Winter session and/or cannot provide the supporting paperwork/documentation.
   - Turn in all necessary paperwork/documentation by the given deadline.

II.

All selected and waitlisted applicants in Tier 1 and 2 will be invited to the mandatory Biddle Agility and Initial Orientation. Tier 3 applicants will only be invited if at the end of the application deadline the number of applicants is less than the determined class size.

III.

If there are more than the number of applicants greater than the determined class size, the following tie breaking procedures will be utilized:

1. Qualified Applicants in Tier 1.
2. Qualified Applicants in Tier 2. (Tier 2 applicants could be placed on waitlist based on tie-breaking scenarios).
3. Sponsored Applicants: Up to 20% of the determined class size can be Sponsored Applicants.
   - Sponsored Applicants remain in assigned Tiers based on the Tier 1, 2, or 3 description, but can be adjusted within the assigned Tier based on valid Sponsorship Verification Form.
   - A Sponsored Applicant is an applicant that has ties with sponsoring agency, such as an explorer, ambulance operator, reserve or auxiliary, and the intent of the applicant is to return after completion of the Fire Academy to the sponsoring agency in a described capacity.
   - Verification by the Fire Chief of the sponsoring agency must be completed on the Sponsorship Form and submitted with application.
   - Sponsorship Verification Forms submitted after application deadline can be accepted, but will not change the applicants Tier or waitlist status.
4. Number of units completed at Rio Hondo College with a "C" of better in courses in Fire Technology, EMT, or Wildland Fire Technology.
5. Grade Point Average of completed units from accredited colleges in Fire Technology, EMT, or Wildland Fire Technology.
6. Applicants in Tier 3 (Tier 3 applicants could be placed on waitlist based on listed tie-breaking scenarios).

Attention all applicants: Applicants will be placed in Tier 3 if required paperwork/documents are missing or incomplete at the time application is submitted.