



Law and Public Service Career Cluster

The Law and Public Service career cluster focuses on planning, managing, and providing legal services, public safety, protective services, and homeland security, including professional and technical support services. This career cluster includes occupations ranging from police officer and firefighter to political scientist and lawyer.

Statewide Program of Study: Fire Science

The Fire Science program of study focuses on occupational and educational opportunities associated with fire prevention, protection, and firefighting. This program of study includes firefighter safety, building codes, and the necessary physical skills to perform rescues. Students will learn about preparedness, basic fire suppression techniques, basic arson investigation, hazardous material management, and educating the public about fire safety.

Offered to: LMHS and TCHS



Secondary Courses for High School Credit

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|---------|--------------------------------|
| Level 1 | • Principles of Fire |
| Level 2 | • Disaster Response |
| Level 3 | • Firefighter I (Dual Credit) |
| Level 4 | • Firefighter II (Dual Credit) |

Aligned Advanced Academic Courses

Dual Credit Dual credit offerings will vary by local education agency.

Students should be advised to consider these course opportunities to enrich their preparation. AP or IB courses not listed under the Secondary Courses for High School Credit section of this framework document do not count towards concentrator/completer status for this program of study.

Work-Based Learning and Expanded Learning Opportunities

Work-Based Learning Activities

- Shadow a fire chief to learn about fire department operations and skills needed to be a firefighter
- Intern with a fire inspection company to learn about building safety, fire prevention, and fire protection

Expanded Learning Opportunities

- Tour a local fire department
- Participate in SkillsUSA or TSA

Aligned Industry-Based Certifications

- Emergency Medical Responder
- Basic Structure Fire Protection



Example Postsecondary Opportunities

Apprenticeships

- Fire Apprentice

Associate Degrees

- Emergency Medical Technology
- Fire Protection Technology

Bachelor's Degrees

- Fire Science
- Emergency Health Services

Additional Stackable IBCs/License

- Hazardous Materials Awareness
- Fire Plan Examiner



Example Aligned Occupations

Emergency Medical Technicians

Median Wage: \$34,169
Annual Openings: 1,590
10-Year Growth: 19%

Firefighters

Median Wage: \$52,353
Annual Openings: 2,294
10-Year Growth: 14%

Fire Inspectors and Investigators

Median Wage: \$67,014
Annual Openings: 203
10-Year Growth: 14%

Data Source: TexasWages, Texas Workforce Commission. Retrieved 3/8/2024.



For more information visit:

<https://tea.texas.gov/academics/college-career-and-military-prep/career-and-technical-education/programs-of-study-additional-resources>



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Statewide Program of Study: Fire Science

Course Information

Level 1

Course	Prerequisites Corequisites	Local Course #
Principles of Fire 13029200 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: None Corequisites: None *Offered at Industrial Trades Center	7900
<p>Principles of Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security introduces students to professions in law enforcement, protective services, corrections, firefighting, and emergency management services. Students will examine the roles and responsibilities of police, courts, corrections, private security, and protective agencies of fire and emergency services. The course provides students with an overview of the skills necessary for careers in law enforcement, fire service, protective services, and corrections.</p>		

Level 2

Course	Prerequisites Corequisites	Local Course #
Disaster Response N1303011 (1 credit)	Prerequisites: Principles of Fire Corequisites: None *Dual Credit Course	7904
<p>This course provides students in the Fire Academy program with the knowledge and skills necessary to respond effectively to natural and man-made disasters. Through hands-on training and real-world scenarios, students will explore emergency preparedness, incident command systems, search and rescue techniques, triage, and mass casualty response. Emphasizing teamwork, leadership, and critical decision-making, this course prepares students for careers in emergency services, public safety, and disaster management.</p>		

Level 3

Course	Prerequisites Corequisites	Local Course #
Firefighter I 13029900 (2 credits)	Prerequisites: Medical Terminology Corequisites: None *Dual Credit Course *Offered at College of the Mainland	7902
<p>Firefighter I introduces students to firefighter safety and development. Students will analyze Texas Commission on Fire Protection rules and regulations, proper incident reporting and records, proper use of personal protective equipment, and the principles of fire safety.</p>		

Level 4

Course	Prerequisites Corequisites	Local Course #
Firefighter II 13030000 (3 credits)	Prerequisites: Firefighter I Corequisites: None *Dual Credit Course *Offered at College of the Mainland *New for 2026-2027	7903
<p>Firefighter II is the second course in a series for students studying firefighter safety and development. Students will understand Texas Commission on Fire Protection rules and regulations, proper incident reporting and records, proper use of personal protective equipment, and the principles of fire safety. Students will demonstrate proper use of fire extinguishers, ground ladders, fire hoses, and water supply apparatus systems.</p>		

For additional information on the Law and Public Service career cluster,
contact cte@tea.texas.gov or visit <https://tea.texas.gov/cte>