

# Fire Protection Technician

69-credit Associate of Applied Science Degree

## About the Program

As a firefighter, the student will be committed to protecting life, property and the environment through fire fighting and fire prevention activities. WCTC is designated as a Regional Fire Training Center and offers all levels of Wisconsin Firefighter Certification training. The college also boasts state-of-the-art training facilities, equipment and veteran firefighter instructors. An Associate of Applied Science degree or a minimum of 60 college credits is becoming a requirement for full-time employment at many fire departments and is often a minimum requirement for promotion through the ranks.

This degree program is designed to prepare students for a fire service career by providing education in areas pertinent to firefighters, Emergency Medical Technicians, and company officers. (This education includes activities related to fire suppression, fire prevention, hazardous materials, emergency medicine, and disaster planning, to name a few). The degree also provides the foundation for further education if the student desires to become a staff officer and pursue a Bachelor Degree from a four-year institution.

The Fire Protection Technician program is a shared program with Gateway Technical College (GTC). While many fire-related courses require registration with GTC, all courses are offered at WCTC (either through distance learning, interactive television, advanced standing, or a traditional classroom format). Upon program completion, the degree will be awarded by GTC. Students may still elect to participate in WCTC's graduation ceremony.

## Potential Job Titles

- Fire Fighter
- Code Enforcement Officer/Specialist
- Fire Inspector
- Fire Investigator
- Plans Reviewer
- Fire Protection Systems Sales
- Fire Service Equipment Sales

## Required Courses

## Credits

### First Semester

503-127	FireService/Changing Technologies <i>A Gateway Technical College course</i>	2
503-139	Principles of Emergency Service	3
503-142	Firefighting Principles	4
503-143	Building Construction	3
801-195	Written Communication	3+
804-115	College Technical Math 1	5
<b>Total semester credits</b>		<b>20</b>

### Second Semester

503-147	Fire Protection Systems	4
503-151	Fire Prevention	4
531-102	Emergency Medical Technician - Basic	4
801-197	Technical Reporting	3
806-143	College Physics 1	3
<b>Total semester credits</b>		<b>18</b>

### Third Semester

503-110	Fire Safety Communication <i>A Gateway Technical College course</i>	3
503-135	Firefighter Fitness	3
503-152	Hazardous Materials	4
503-155	Fire Protection Hydraulics	4
809-196	Introduction to Sociology	3+
<b>Total semester credits</b>		<b>17</b>

### Fourth Semester

503-156	Strategies, Tactics & Incident Mgmt	4
503-157	Fire Investigation	3
809-195	Economics	3
809-198	Introduction to Psychology	3
	Elective	1
<b>Total semester credits</b>		<b>14</b>

+ Proficiency exam available

Curriculum is current as of catalog printing. The most current curriculum requirements for graduation will be provided upon admission to program, or review at [www.wctc.edu](http://www.wctc.edu).

## Credit Transfer

Credits earned in the Fire Protection Technician program may be transferable to institutions offering baccalaureate degrees. Visit [www.wctc.edu/transfer](http://www.wctc.edu/transfer) for specific information. Since the details of credit transfers change from time to time, be sure to contact the intended college or university to verify credit transferability.

- Send any previous college transcripts
- Complete Skills Assessment test (COMPASS)
- Begin pursuing Financial Aid options with GTC
- Give consent for the release of confidential information
- Requires a criminal background check conducted by the Wisconsin Department of Justice
- Being a member of a fire department is highly recommended but is not an admissions requirement

## Admission Process

- Fill out a WCTC application
- Send \$30 non-refundable application fee made payable to GTC
- Send high school transcript or GED/HSED

For more information, call 262.691.5541.

**Fire Protection Technician  
Required Courses**

<b>503-135 Firefighter Fitness</b>	3	Assess physical fitness level and take part in activities designed to improve the level of physical performance. Learn from a certified health and fitness instructor while preparing to successfully pass fire department physical agility tests.
<b>503-139 Prin of Emergency Services</b>	3	Provides an overview to fire protection, career opportunities in fire protection and related fields, philosophy and history of fire protection/service, fire loss analysis, organization and function of public and private fire protection services, fire departments as part of local government, laws and regulations affecting the fire service, and fire service nomenclature.
<b>503-142 Firefighting Principles</b>	4	Describes basic fire behavior, techniques used to control structural and related fire emergencies, and life safety practices. Students perform all practical evaluations necessary to control and extinguish fires and otherwise meet all requirements for Firefighter I certification with the State of Wisconsin.
<b>503-143 Building Construction</b>	3	Provides the components of building construction that relate to fire and life safety.
<b>503-147 Fire Protection Systems</b>	4	Provides information relating to the features of design and operation of fire detection and suppression systems.
<b>503-151 Fire Prevention</b>	4	Provides fundamental information regarding the history and philosophy of fire prevention, organization and operation of a fire prevention bureau, use of fire codes and identification and correction of fire hazards. Meets all requirements for Fire Inspector I certification with the State of Wisconsin.
<b>503-152 Hazardous Materials</b>	4	Examines characteristics relating to hazardous materials including problems of recognition and mitigation. Prepares students to hazardous materials technician level.
<b>503-155 Fire Protection Hydraulics</b>	4	Provides a foundation of knowledge in order to understand the principles of the use of water in fire protection. Meets all of the requirements for Driver/Operator Pumper certification with the State of Wisconsin. Prerequisites: 503-142 Firefighting Principles or 503-321 Wis State Cert Firefighter I
<b>503-156 Strategies/Tactics/Incident Mgt</b>	4	Provides in-depth analysis of the principles of emergency response through utilization of an incident management system. Prerequisites: 503-142 Firefighting Principles or 503-321 Wis State Cert Firefighter I
<b>503-157 Fire Investigation</b>	3	Provides the fundamentals and technical knowledge needed for proper fire scene investigations.
<b>531-102 Emergency Med Technician/Basic</b>	4	Train in the emergency care procedures that will qualify students for certification as an emergency medical technician and for licensure as an ambulance attendant. Prerequisites: CPR-C; or Health Care Provider
<b>801-195 Written Communication</b>	3	Study and practice the transfer of information, ideas, and experiences in written form through reports, letters, memoranda, and other documents. Gain proficiency in the areas of organization, clarity, accuracy, and directness. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Writing Skills or ACT-English or ASSET-Writing Skills or Accuplacer Sentence Skills or TABE Advanced Language or 831-103 Intro to College Writing or 851-771 Writing-Program Readiness
<b>801-197 Technical Reporting</b>	3	Prepare and present oral and written technical reports. Analyze the problems particular to technical writing, and study the methods used in assembling, developing, and preparing information for technical publications. Discuss the competencies required of the qualified technical communicator. Prerequisites: 801-195 Written Communication
<b>804-115 College Technical Math 1</b>	5	Topics include: solving linear, quadratic, and rational equations; graphing; formula rearrangement; solving systems of equations; percent; proportions; measurement systems; computational geometry; right and oblique triangle trigonometry; trigonometric functions on the unit circle; and operations on polynomials. Emphasis will be on the application of skills to technical problems. This course is the equivalent of successful completion of College Technical Mathematics 1A and College Technical Mathematics 1B.
<b>806-143 College Physics 1</b>	3	Presents the applications and theory of basic physics principles. This course emphasizes problem solving, laboratory investigation and applications. Topics include laboratory safety, unit conversions and analysis, kinematics, dynamics, work, energy, power, temperature and heat. Prerequisites: 804-115 College Technical Math 1 (or concurrent) or 804-151 Technical Math I or 804-153 Unified Algebra & Trigonometry or 804-154 Technical Calculus I or 804-198 Calculus I (or concurrent)
<b>809-195 Economics</b>	3	Discuss the major institutions and principles that underlie the contemporary American economic system, and consider topics such as the free enterprise system, supply and demand, circular flow, government involvement, the federal reserve system, economic growth and development, the effects of international trade, comparative economic systems, and global economics. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehensi or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading
<b>809-196 Introduction to Sociology</b>	3	Learn the basic concepts of sociology: culture, socialization, social stratification, multiculturalism, and the five institutions, including family, government, economics, religion, and education. Other topics include demography, deviance, technology, environment, social issues, social change, social organization, and workplace issues. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehensi or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading
<b>809-198 Introduction to Psychology</b>	3	Explore concepts and terminology related to the topics of learning, perception, personality, motivation, human development, and abnormal behavior. Examine the theories of the major psychologists. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehensi or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading
<b>Elective Options</b>		Any course at the associate degree level will meet the elective requirement.