

Fire Protection Technician

70-credit Associate of Applied Science Degree

About the Program

Firefighters are committed to protecting life, property and the environment through fire suppression, hazardous materials mitigation, emergency medical services and fire prevention activities. WCTC's Fire Protection Technician program is designed to prepare students for a fire service career by providing education on those very topics. WCTC boasts state-of-the-art training facilities and equipment, while also employing a very diverse and experienced cadre of instructors available to assist students as they progress through the program.

Obtaining a full-time firefighting job can be a very competitive process and, given the importance placed on having a strong educational background by local fire department employers, an associate degree in a fire-service related field is becoming a minimum standard in hiring new firefighters. Based upon the State and National fire service curriculum standards, WCTC's Fire Protection Technician Associate of Applied Science Degree is designed to give graduates the tools they need to be competitive and successful in beginning and fostering their fire service careers.

Potential Job Titles

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

Credit Transfer

Credits earned in the Fire Protection Technician program may be transferable to institutions offering baccalaureate degrees. Visit 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.

Required Courses

Credits

First Semester

503-101	Legal Aspects of the Fire Service	3
503-139	Principles of Emergency Service	3
503-142	Firefighting Principles	4
503-151	Fire Prevention	4
804-115	College Technical Math 1	5

Second Semester

503-147	Fire Protection Systems	4
503-152	Hazardous Materials	4
531-102	Emergency Medical Technician - Basic	4
806-178	Life Science Chemistry	5

Third Semester

503-135	Firefighter Safety, Health and Fitness	3
503-143	Building Construction	3
503-157	Fire Investigation	3
801-195	Written Communication	3+
809-196	Introduction to Sociology	3+
	Elective	2

Fourth Semester

503-155	Fire Protection Hydraulics	4
503-156	Strategies, Tactics and Incident Mgmt	4
503-158	Fire Technology and Communications	3
801-196	Oral/Interpersonal Communication	3
809-199	Psychology of Human Relations	3

+ 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.

Admission Process

- Fill out a WCTC application
- Send \$30 non-refundable application fee
- Send high school transcript or GED/HSED
- Send any previous college transcripts
- Complete Skills Assessment test (COMPASS)
- Begin pursuing Financial Aid options
- 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

For more information, call 262.691.5541.

**Fire Protection Technician
Required Courses**

503-101 Legal Aspects of Fire Service	3	503-156 Strategies/Tactics/Incident Mgt	4	806-178 Life Science Chemistry	5
An introduction to the Federal, State, and local laws that regulate emergency services; national standards influencing emergency services; standard of care, criminal law; tort law; liability; and, a review of relevant court cases.		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		Covers a wide range of topics including inorganic and organic. Topics included during the inorganic portion of the course include measurements and conversions, matter and the kinetic molecular theory, periodic table, chemical bonding, chemical reactions, solubility, gases, problem-solving and solutions, equilibrium and acid-base behavior. The organic chemistry portion introduces chemical structure as well as physical and chemical behavior of organic molecules. Many of these topics are related to the field of animal science. Prerequisites: 804-138 Physical Mathematics or 804-106 Intro to College Math or 804-169 Fundamentals of Mathematics or Associate Dean approval; and COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehens or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
503-135 Firefighter Fitness	3	503-157 Fire Investigation	3	809-196 Introduction to Sociology	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.		Provides the fundamentals and technical knowledge needed for proper fire scene investigations.		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 Comprehens or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
503-139 Prin of Emergency Services	3	503-158 Fire Technology and Communications	3	809-199 Psychology of Human Relations	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.		Learn various aspects of fire service communications, including dispatching, fireground radio communications, 800 MHz radio systems, graphical information systems (GIS), global positioning systems (GPS) and other communications and related technologies. Gain exposure to new and emerging fire service technologies.		Examine the principles of interaction as applied to human relations at home and on the job. Explore topics such, as self concept personality development, learning, motivation, emotions, stress, human relations processes, and special relationships. Prerequisites: COMPASS-Reading Skills or 858-775 Reading - Program Readiness or 838-105 Intro Reading & Study Skills or TABE Advanced Reading or Accuplacer Reading Comprehens or College Proficiency - Reading or Grandfathered Rdg Requirement or ACT-Reading	
503-142 Firefighting Principles	4	531-102 Emergency Med Technician/Basic	4	Elective Options	
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.		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		Any course at the associate degree level will meet the elective requirement.	
503-143 Building Construction	3	801-195 Written Communication	3		
Provides the components of building construction that relate to fire and life safety.		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			
503-147 Fire Protection Systems	4	801-196 Oral/Interpersonal Comm	3		
Provides information relating to the features of design and operation of fire detection and suppression systems.		Practice the necessary skills for effective speech delivery, listening, assertiveness, conflict resolution, teamwork, and general interpersonal communication.			
503-151 Fire Prevention	4	804-115 College Technical Math 1	5		
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.		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.			
503-152 Hazardous Materials	4				
Examines characteristics relating to hazardous materials including problems of recognition and mitigation. Prepares students to hazardous materials technician level.					
503-155 Fire Protection Hydraulics	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					