58th Firefighter I Academy

August 20, 2012 – January 10, 2013
Questionnaire for Academy Success

The Fire Academy is very rigorous and challenging and it is a rewarding accomplishment to complete the program. The Academy staff wants you to be successful in achieving your career goals. This questionnaire is designed to assist you in determining your suitability for Academy success and provides further insight for the training expectations.

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

Together with your spouse/partner and/or family members, answer the following questions to help determine if you are ready to undertake the demands of the Fire Academy training.

1. **Do you have all of the necessary finances in order?** Refer to the program cost information. An estimated $4274 will be needed prior to the start of the academy. Don't forget the added expenses for living, food, rent, etc.

2. **Are you physically ready?** At minimum, you should be able to run 1.5 miles within 15 minutes without stopping (six laps around a football field track); perform at least 20 regular push-ups without stopping (not on your knees); perform 25 sit-ups without stopping (knees bent, strict form); and complete one unassisted complete pull-up (hands shoulder-width apart, chin over the bar).

3. **Are you academically prepared? Have you taken college-level courses in the past?** The Academy is 29 units of college-level work compacted into only 19 weeks of instruction; the pace is extremely quick. **Do you have excellent study habits and exceptional test-taking skills?** There are 50 different written and online examinations during the Academy and each must be passed with a minimum score of 80%.

4. **Are you able to follow directions and take orders without feeling the need to question?** The Academy is operated in a para-military manner; orders are given which must be followed without hesitation or complaint. Correctly following the instructions in this application is your first example to staff!

5. **Are you able to remain calm under high stress situations?** Instructors will test your ability to think quickly on your feet, follow directions, and respond calmly under emotionally tense conditions.

6. **Do you get along well with others? Can you accept criticism from your peers?** People who do not work well in a group setting generally find the Academy environment difficult.

7. **Can you devote at least three hours each night to study and preparations?** There is considerable homework and prep time needed during the Academy.

8. **Can you set aside personal business for the duration of the Academy?** Good attendance is essential for success. This will impact your family life. Outside employment during the Academy, including weekend or part-time, takes needed time from study and rest and is therefore strongly discouraged.

9. **Do you have the full support of your family and are they willing to assist you with your training?** Past experience has shown that strong family support is a critical factor in success. Family members can help with your studies and uniform preparation, which can greatly improve your performance.

10. **Do you have adequate health insurance to cover any possible injuries during your training?** Student insurance plans are available through Butte College Health Services.

**NOTE:** If you answered “no” to any of these questions, you should contact the Fire Academy office for further advice.
**LOCATION:**  Butte College - Allied Health Public Services Building (Lot 4)  
3536 Butte Campus Drive (Corner of Clark & Pentz Roads)  
Oroville, CA 95965

**TIME:**  7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday (some Saturdays are scheduled)

**APPROXIMATE FEES:**

- **$1999**  Based on the current $46 per unit enrollment and service fees.  
- **275**  Textbooks purchased from Butte College Bookstore.  
- **600**  Uniforms and physical training clothes.  
- **300**  Wildland and structural gloves, structural boots, turnout suspenders, structural hood, hose strap, and stethoscope. These items are required.  
- **800**  Laptop (required).  
- **$3974**  Approximate Total

The above fees DO NOT include living expenses. All fees are subject to change.  

Out-of-state students are charged $200 per unit above the initial fee (subject to change). **Financial Aid** (530-895-2311) and/or **Veteran's benefits** (530-895-2566) may be available through Butte College for qualified students. It can take up to four months to process financial aid. Please apply for grants and loans as soon as possible.

**UNITS:**  29 semester units + .5 unit-Critical Skills Workshop

**CERTIFICATION:** The Fire Academy conforms to standards for certification by the California Board of Fire Services. Upon successful completion the student is eligible for certification as an NREMT and is academically qualified for state certification as a Firefighter I. Additional certifications can be achieved for CAL-Fire Basic Wildland Firefighter; Low Angle Rescue; Incident Command Systems 100 & 200; Terrorism Consequence Management; Vehicle Extrication; Fire Control 3; Confined Space Awareness; Swift Water Rescue; Rapid Intervention Crew Tactics; Hazardous Materials-First Responder Operational; and Firefighter Survival.

**CLASS PREREQUISITES:** None; however, it is HIGHLY RECOMMENDED that a 40-hour First Responder course be taken by non-EMT/Paramedics to prepare for the EMT portion of the academy. This course can be used on CAL-Fire applications.

**APPLICATION PROCESS:** ALL applicants are required to:

1. Complete the attached **Pre-enrollment application** and return it to the Fire Academy (AHPS 144) with:  
   - Proof of your Reading and English assessment scores from another college OR a copy of your college diploma. Reading Level IV & English Level III is mandatory; testing is waived when you provide proof of an AA/AS degree or higher. High School transcripts are NOT be accepted.  
   - Provide an accurate and legible email address on the Pre-Enrollment application that is checked often. Note that ALL correspondence is done through email.

2. Enroll in Butte College and obtain a student ID # by completing an Enrollment Application online at [www.butte.edu](http://www.butte.edu).

3. Attend one mandatory Fire Academy orientation. Dates listed below.

4. Complete a Personal History Packet, which must include a copy of your High School Diploma/GED. (Distributed after above qualifications have been met.)

5. At the designated date all qualified applicants will be entered into a lottery.

Revised: 3/21/2012
The first 50 selected students must:
- Complete a provided medical packet, including a doctor’s release.
- Show evidence of a current CPR Certification. This CPR card must include Adult 1 & 2 Rescuer CPR; Child & Infant CPR; and Adult, Child & Infant Obstructed Airway Maneuvers and must remain current throughout the Academy. The American Heart Association-Health Care Provider or equivalent is the suggested source.
- Take note of Butte College’s “7 Days to Pay” Policy and make arrangements accordingly. If you do not make arrangements, you will be dropped from the academy and your place may be given to another student on the waitlist.

**UNIFORMS:** All participants are required to wear the Butte College Fire Academy uniform. Details will be sent to those who are accepted.

**REQUIRED EQUIPMENT:** Academy cadets are required to have a laptop computer. Details attached.

**HOUSING:** There is no housing on campus. Chico State’s Craig Hall dormitory and special housing (houses and apartments) are available to Butte College students (1-800-559-1393). A list of off-campus housing can be found at [www.butte.och101.com](http://www.butte.och101.com)

**LOCATION DIRECTIONS:** Butte College is located between Chico and Oroville. You can reach the college by taking Durham-Pentz Road off Highway 99 or Clark Road off Highway 70. The Fire Academy office is located in Allied Health Public Services (AHPS) Room 144 in parking lot 4.

**TRANSPORTATION:** There is some off-campus training for which cadets are responsible for their own transportation (up to a 45-minute drive/ride-along program). There are NO EXCEPTIONS.

**NON-DISCRIMINATION:** The Butte-Glenn Community College District does not discriminate on the basis of ethnicity, religion, age, gender, sexual orientation, color, or disability in any of its facilities, programs or activities. The District is committed to providing reasonable accommodations in a timely manner upon request.

**OTHER:** If you have a physical or learning disability, you must contact Disabled Student Services at (530) 895-2455 prior to the starting date of the academy so that we can accommodate your needs. Other accommodations should be requested as soon as possible but no later than 30 days prior to the start of the academy.

**INFORMATION:** Please contact the Fire Academy office for further information.

Phone: 530-895-2402  
Email: bocastwe@butte.edu (Wendy Bocast, Administrative Secretary)  
Fax: 530-895-2938

**Mandatory Fire Academy Orientation Information**

Mandatory Orientation will discuss Academy procedures, as well as the physical, mental, and academic requirements of the program. A tour of the Fire Training Grounds is included in the 3-hour presentation. Family members are encouraged to attend. Being well informed and prepared is essential for success in the Fire Academy.

The following dates and times for the 58th Academy are:

**Friday, March 9, 2012 – 6:00-9:00 PM, AHPS 118 A&B**  
**Saturday, April 14, 2012 – 1:00-4:00 PM, AHPS 118 A&B**

No appointment is necessary. If you have questions please call 530-895-2402. THERE IS NO FEE FOR THIS ORIENTATION.
IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Mandatory Orientation Dates:  
March 9 & April 14, 2012
Fire Academy Application Deadline:  
May 4, 2012
Butte College student registration completed:  
May 4, 2012
Personal History Packets emailed:  
May 11, 2012
Personal History Packets returned by:  
June 8, 2012
Lottery results with Acceptance Packet emailed:  
June 15, 2012
Medical Packet and CPR Card due by:  
July 13, 2012

Failure of mail courier services to deliver documents on time does not excuse the deadline.
Fire Academy Admissions Policy

Selection of Fire Academy attendees is based on a defined and consistent process to ensure fairness for all applicants. This process is outlined as follows:

To begin the application process, all initial applicants must complete the “PRE-ENROLLMENT” steps outlined in the “INFORMATION SHEET” and meet all deadlines. All required materials must be received on or before the date specified and all applicants must attend a mandatory orientation meeting. It is the responsibility of each applicant to meet the deadlines.

All qualified applicants’ names are then entered into the computer-based lottery to be randomly selected and ranked. The first 50 selections will be sent notices informing them that they have been chosen to enroll into the Fire Academy. Applicants who rank above 50 (for example, 51, 52, etc.) will be placed on a waiting list in the order of their ranking. In the event there is a withdrawal from any applicant in the first 50 selections, the next ranked applicant will be notified and permitted to proceed with the application process. It is recommended that those on the waiting list be prepared, should they be notified of a vacancy and given permission to continue the application process.

All applicants that have been selected to continue the process must then complete the “ENROLLMENT” steps and meet all deadlines. This includes the payment of fees by the specified date. Failure to do so will disqualify them from entering the academy and the next available applicant will be notified of a vacancy.

All persons who are not selected on their first application attempt may reapply for admission to the next successive academy with the opportunity for their name to be entered twice in the lottery. Those who have applied to the academy two consecutive times without success, and apply for a third consecutive time will be automatically accepted into that third academy without going through the lottery process.

Persons who have been accepted into the academy but choose to decline the offer, and at a later date wish to attend, will be required to reapply as though applying for the first time.

All students who become physically injured during attendance in the academy and are in good standing may request an “incomplete” grade to withdraw from the academy and be automatically accepted in the subsequent academy. The student, however, must obtain a physician’s statement on letterhead that he or she has sustained injuries that preclude the completion of the academy. If the student reapplyes, acceptance into the next academy will be based on a medical release from a physician to confirm that the student is fit for the academy. All returning students will re-enter the academy at a point determined by the fire academy staff and director.

Academic failure, failure to complete other academy requirements, or violations of the Cadet Manual that result in dismissal do not permit a student to reapply to the academy with added names to the lottery. Provided the student is permitted to reapply, reapplication will begin as though the student was applying for the first time.

There are no exceptions to any of the steps specified in this document. Failure of mail or courier services to deliver documents on time does not excuse the deadline. Please plan accordingly.
A COMPUTER LAPTOP OR NOTEBOOK IS REQUIRED FOR THE ACADEMY

MINIMUM SPECIFICATIONS
LAPTOP or NOTEBOOK

Recommended Software for using Blackboard CE 9 at Butte College

**Windows Operating Systems (XP or newer)**
Highly recommend installing any critical Windows updates available.

Web Browsers
- Internet Explorer 8
- Firefox 3.6

Additional Software
- Java (JRE) 1.6 (free at: http://www.java.com/en/download/index.jsp)

**Mac OS X (10.3-10.6)**
Highly recommend installing any Mac OS updates available.

Web Browsers
- Safari 5
- Firefox 3.6

**NOTE:** As always, running the Browser Check from the Blackboard login page is the easiest and simplest way of ensuring that a user’s computer is ready. Users can also go to (http://www2.blackboard.com/tuneup) to assess their computers readiness.

**Wireless Networking**
Wireless Card with 802.11g (or 802.11b/g)

**NOTE:** Most new laptops are equipped with 802.11g (or 802.11b/g) standard; however, if your laptop is more than 4 years old, you may have to purchase a wireless access card with 802.11g (or 802.11bg).
58th FIREFIGHTER I ACADEMY  
(August 20, 2012 – January 10, 2013)  
PRE-ENROLLMENT APPLICATION  

Please Print Legibly

Applicant’s Name: ________________________________________________________

Mailing Address: _________________________________________________________

City: __________________________ State: _______ Zip Code: ____________________

Cell: __________________________ Telephone: ________________________________

Email: ___________________________________________________________________

Butte College ID: _______________________________________________________

If you do not know your Butte ID #, provide your Social Security Number.

Signature: __________________________________________________________________

Return this application to:  
Butte College Fire Academy  
AHPS 144  
3536 Butte Campus Drive  
Oroville, CA 95965

Reading Level IV and English Level III are required for admittance into the Fire Academy. Call our Assessment Office at 530-895-2350 and sign up for the test. Please call our office at 530-895-2402 once you have completed the assessment.

Butte College accepts assessment scores from other California community colleges. If you take the assessments at another college, you must attach the test results to this application. Our Assessment office will evaluate your scores and determine your Butte College placement. If you have taken college English, provide unofficial transcripts. If you have a previous college degree, you are not required to assess; however, you must attach a copy of your degree to this application. High School transcripts are NOT accepted.

Fire Academy Orientation Dates:  
Friday, March 9, 2012, 6:00-9:00 pm, AHPS 118 A&B  
Saturday, April 14, 2012, 1:00-4:00 pm, AHPS 118 A&B

Application deadline: May 4, 2012

For Office Use Only

DOB_________________________  
Assess Email_________________  
Assess Ck’d__________________  
Orient_______________________  
PHP Sent____________________

Revised: 3/21/2012
Med/CPR Pkt Sent____________________

Called from Wait list__________________