MENDOCINO COLLEGE

2027

FSC-90
Fire Fighter Academy
Orientation Packet

Revised March 2026 – Subject To Change

MENDOCINO COLLEGE

Welcome

Prospective Fire Fighter Academy Student:

Thank you for your interest in Mendocino College's Fire Fighter Academy, FSC-90. We are excited about your interest in participating in this program and hope that this orientation packet helps answer your questions and prepares you for success.

Basic Facts

To enroll in the Fire Fighter Academy, students must complete several prerequisite requirements and attend two mandatory orientation sessions. One of the most challenging prerequisites is obtaining a Public Safety-First Aid and CPR certification. I encourage students to begin this process as soon as possible to fulfill this State of California requirement. Information about these prerequisites is highlighted in the next section of this packet.

FSC-90 classes will start on January 19th,2027 and the classes are scheduled Monday through Friday from 7 am until 5 pm each day. This class has some scheduled Saturday classes (to be determined). Classes are estimated to end in May, 2027 and Capstone testing process at the College of the Siskiyous in Weed, California is scheduled to occur in the beginning of June, 2027 (date to be determined).

Students are required to attend the academy every day. Students who miss more than 5% of a mandated subject matter or are absent for more than 24 hours are dropped from the course, per State Fire Training regulations. To be enrolled in the FSC-90 course students are required to meet a number of prerequisites including EMS training, obtaining a medical clearance from a doctor, and passing a Candidate Physical Fitness Test, prior to enrollment. More information about the course prerequisites are listed below.

Mendocino College partners with the College of the Siskiyous for the final exam Capstone testing. This structured, skill and knowledge-based assessment testing process meets strict State Fire Training (SFT) requirements. After successfully passing these tests, students will receive their Fire Fighter II certificate.

To participate, students are required to purchase academy uniforms, rent Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) and Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), and pay for the course's tuition costs. A complete listing of the equipment costs and tuition costs is listed later in this packet. Financial Aid is available to help students participate in this program. You will find more information about assistance later in this packet.

MENDOCINO COLLEGE

Prerequisites

To enroll and participate in the Fire Fighter Academy, students must complete several prerequisites, before enrolling in the FSC-90 Fire Fighter Academy.

Step 1 - Become a Mendocino College Student

Apply online at www.mendocino.edu or complete the Application for Admission (if you are a continuing student of Mendocino College and have been enrolled in one of the last 2 semesters, this is not necessary).

Step 2- Complete the Public Safety-First Aid Training Prerequisites

California State Fire Training requires that each student participating in the Fire Fighter Academy has completed these courses: (or show proof of Fall 2026 enrollment)

- Public Safety-First Aid, or a higher qualification (EMT, or Paramedic)

AND

- CPR healthcare provider certification or equivalent.

Mendocino College offers two courses in the Fall 2026 semester that meet these requirements: EMS-202, First Aid/Emergency Care/CPR, and EMS-135, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). Students are encouraged to register early for these courses to ensure availability. Either of these courses meets this prerequisite requirement.

Step 3 - Complete a Medical Clearance - Physical Exam

Visit your doctor and complete a physical exam, and have your doctor complete the Mendocino College Fire Science medical examination and clearance form (attached) – the form must be less than one year old. **This form must include a Doctor's Office Stamp and Signature.**

Step 4 – Successfully Complete a Candidate Physical Fitness Test (CPAT)

A CPAT test is the recognized International Association of Fire Fighters (IAFF) standard for measuring an individual's ability to handle the physical demands of being a fire fighter. To be considered for FSC-90 Academy enrollment, candidates can complete this requirement by either taking the CPAT test at an approved Firefighter Candidate Testing Center (FCTC) OR proof of successful CPAT completion at another California State Fire Training Academy, OR by taking the test at the College's mandatory orientation session for the 2027 FSC-90 class. Proof of successful completion must be less than a year old.

Firefighter Candidate Testing Center (FCTC)

For more information on FCTC testing schedules and locations, academy candidates are encouraged to visit the FCTC website, https://www.fctconline.org/cpat/ for more information.

Step 5 – Submit Documents to Admissions and Records

Mendocino College uses a first-come, first-served enrollment process, and students should not wait for the orientation sessions to submit their enrollment packets to the Registration Office.

Return all documents to: Mendocino College, Office of Admissions and Records

Fax: 707 468-3430 OR Scan/Email: registration@mendocino.edu
Hand Deliver to: North County Center, 372 E. Commercial Street

Admissions & Records, Ukiah Campus, 1000 Hensley Creek Road,

Lake Center, 2565 Parallel Drive, Lakeport

Coast Center, 1211 Del Mar Drive, Fort Bragg

Step 6 - Attend both scheduled mandatory orientations sessions.

Students must attend these in-person orientations to be eligible to enroll in the class. Students who do not participate in the orientations will not be eligible to enroll in the Fire Fighter Academy course.

Mendocino College uses a first-come, first-served enrollment process, and students should not wait for the orientation sessions to submit their enrollment packets to the Registration Office. The enrollment process will be completed, and students will receive an email notification of enrollment from Admissions and Records after Admissions and Records have received all prerequisite documents and students have attended both orientation sessions.

Submitting your prerequisite documents holds your place in line for a space in the Academy.

Session #1 – Date to be determined – October 2026

Orientation Topics:

- Course Prerequisites
- Financial Aid Presentation
- Career Point Presentation
- PPE Protective Gear Rental Program
- Course Attendance and Scheduled Days
- Student Policy Manual
- Uniform Policy / Fit testing
- Course Outline
- Capstone Testing Process
- Physical Fitness Requirements and Training

Session #2 – Date to be determined – November 2026

Orientation Topics

- Course Prerequisites
- PPE Protective Gear Rental Program
- Course Attendance and Scheduled Days
- Student Policy Manual
- Uniform Policy / Fit testing
- Course Outline
- Capstone Testing Process
- CPAT Test

Candidate Physical Fitness Test (CPAT) – Athletic Gear Required: Tennis Shoes, Shorts, Sweats

During the second orientation session, students will be given the opportunity to complete a Candidate Physical Fitness Test (CPAT). This test is a recognized standard for measuring an individual's ability to handle the physical demands of being a fire fighter.

FSC-90 Candidate MUST successfully pass the CPAT test during the College's Orientation Session, OR show successful completion of the test as another California State Fire training recognized academy, OR by successfully completing the CPAT test at a Firefighter Candidate Testing Center.

Academy Costs

Students will be responsible for purchasing uniforms and renting their Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), and Wildland Protective Gear, as well as covering student tuition costs and fees. This guide lists the estimated costs for this program and suggested vendors.

Daily Class Uniform (Class "B" Uniform)

Equipment Specification	Suggested Vendor	Estimated Costs
Trousers: Navy Workrite Brand: Class B Pant Model: FCPO	https://www.workritefire.com/mens-non-fr-100-cotton-classic-fire-chief-pant/FCP0.html?dwvar_FCP0_color=navy&cgid=station-wear-mens **Or Equivalent – Pants and Shirt Must Match: NO CARGO PANTS**	$72.00
Shirt: Navy Workrite Brand: Class B Long Sleeve Shirt Model FCSO	https://www.workritefire.com/mens-non-fr-100-cotton-classic-long-sleeve-fire-chief-shirt/FCS0.html?dwvar_FCS0_color=navy&cgid=mens-shirts **Or Equivalent – Pant and Shirt Must Match** **Agency Attire and Patches are not permitted**	$68.00
Belt: Black Basket	Galls	$50.00

Weave with silver square buckle (no department buckles).		
Boots: Black work boots (OSHA-Approved) that are black leather – **Zipper, Slip On Boots or Lace-up Wildland Boots**	**Suggested Vendors:** Southwest Eagle Boots: Model# FFB 401AC – 8” Haix Airpower XR1 Boots: Model: Airpower XR1 Pro 5.11 ATAC Side Zip Boots: Model ATAC 2.0 8” Side Zip Danner Flashpoint II NFPA Certified	$350.00
Socks: White, Black, Grey or Dark Blue socks are permitted. No bright colors	Various	Provided by Students
T-shirt: Academy provided Navy Blue PT shirts shall be worn at all times under Class B uniform shirts. Department shirts are not permitted.	Mendocino College	No Cost
Class B Uniform	**Sub-Total**	**$540.00**

Physical Education Uniform

Equipment Specification	Suggested Vendor	Estimated Costs
Shorts: Navy: Under Armour Mens Tactical Academy 9” Shorts OR Sport-Tek Posicharge Tough Mesh Pocket Short 9” Inseam	Must Purchase through Mendocino College	$30.00
Optional Sweat Pants: Navy: Gildan Heavy Blend Adult Sweatpants	Must Purchase through Mendocino College	$20.00
T-Shirt: Navy: Academy T-shirts will be provided – Class designed t-shirts allowed after mid-terms, no department t-shirts allowed	Must Purchase through Mendocino College	$20.00
Athletic Tennis Shoes:	Various – Student Supplied	$100.00
PT Gear	**Sub-Total**	**$150.00**

PPE, SCBA & Wildland Gear

Mendocino College has approved "911 Safety Equipment" as our official vendor for rental of Personal Protective Equipment, SCBA's and Wildland gear. Students may use department-issued gear, or are required to rent PPE, SCBA and Wildland Gear. The total cost for renting gear for the Fire Fighter Academy is $1,378. Students must also pay for shipping and a $100 security deposit. See the attached flyer for additional details and order online codes.

Personal Protective Equipment Specifications:

Wildland Boots: Black in color, heavy-duty, **ZIPPER, SLIP ON** or **LACE-UP** work boots with deeply lugged soles and heels (Vibram), and leather tops at least eight inches in height. The toe of the boot should be made of a hard material, such as hard leather, to reduce the risk of toe injuries. Steel toes are not required but do give added protection. Can be a dual-compliant boot. NFPA 1977 Lace-up Boots are preferred for Wildland Activities and ankle protection.

Structure Gear: If you are using department-issued structure gear, it must meet current standards and be inspected at orientation. Structure gear rental is available. See attached flyer. ***SCBA***: If using your department-issued SCBA, it must be a SCOTT SCBA, and you must show proof of fit testing. SCBA rental is available.

Fit testing will occur at orientation.

Estimated Tuition & Fees Costs

Category	Explanation	Estimated Costs
Enrollment Fee/Tuition	FSC-90 19.5 units x $46 per unit	$897
Health Fee	$10 per semester	$10
Student Representation Fee	$2 per semester	$2
Student Center Fee	$5 per semester	$5
Textbooks Jones and Bartlett	Firefighter Skills - $145 Wildland Fundamentals $40 Binders & Materials $10	Included in Materials Fee
Mendocino College Materials Fee	Textbooks $195	$195
HazMat/CSTI Certificate Costs	$60 Class Fee	Paid by College
State Fire Training Certificates	See Capstone Testing	Paid by College
Capstone Testing Costs		
College of the Siskiyous Subtotal per student $67	$46 Per Unit, $17 Health Fee $4 Student Fees	Paid by College
Fire Fighter II Certificate	SFT Certificate $75 per student	Paid by College
Mileage, Housing and Meal Costs 3 nights / 4 days 540 total miles @ 0.70 per mile	**Estimated Costs**: Hotel $400 Meals $400 Mileage $357	$1,157
Tuition and Fees	**Sub-Total**	**$2,266**

Total Course Cost Breakdown

Expense	Explanation	Estimated Cost
Class B Uniform	Daily Uniform	$540
PT Gear	Daily PT Gear	$150
PPE, SCBA, Wildland Rental	911 Safety Equipment $1378 Rental Cost $200 Shipping	$1578
Tuition & Fees	Enrollment, Fees and Certificate Costs	$2,266
Fire Fighter Academy	**Total Estimated Costs**	**$4,534**

Financial Aid

Financial Aid representatives will be present at the first orientation session on Friday, October 3rd, 2025 to explain financial aid and scholarships that are available.

Students are encouraged to visit the Financial Aid Office early (before the orientation sessions), to determine their eligibility and begin the application process.

To begin the financial aid process, students are encouraged to complete the Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form, and the form can be found on the College's Financial Aid website, under the "Apply for Financial Aid" tab:

https://www.mendocino.edu/enrollment-services/financial-aid/apply-financial-aid

The Financial Aid Office is open Monday to Thursday, 9am to 5pm, and is located in the MacMillan Hall, Room 1130, Ukiah Main Campus, 1000 Hensley Creek Road, Ukiah. Their phone number is 707-468-3110 and they can be contacted by email at financialaid@mendocino.edu

Need More Information

We are excited to have you onboard! If you have questions, or need more information, please do not hesitate to email the Mendocino College Public Safety Coordinator, Chris Dewey at cdewey@mendocino.edu