

Fire Internship Program

SRJC understands one of the bigger challenges you face is the recruitment and retention of volunteer fire personnel. One option that might help you is the Fire Internship Program which allows Fire Academy graduates to Intern at your station on a schedule that works for you.

How it works:

- The Work Experience program conducts a presentation on internships to academy students.
 - You are welcome to attend and discuss specifics about your department to enhance recruitment
- You choose the semesters you want to participate and the minimum level of commitment for hours
 - Agency determines length of internship (often one year commitment)
 - Scheduled shifts are determined by each Agency and range from six, nine hour shifts per month to one, twenty-four shift per week
- Agency screens and interviews applicants
- Selected interns commit to the weekly or monthly work schedule with Agency and enrolls in SRJC Fire Intern course.
- Enrolled intern is covered for Worker's Compensation during the semester(s) enrolled
- Intern and supervisor establish four specific learning objectives (see pages 3-4)
- SRJC Instructor meets with student and supervisor at the jobsite near the beginning of the semester to formalize objectives and sign an Objective Agreement form (the only paperwork required)
- Two instructors currently assigned to Fire Interns are Jeff Allen and Matt Gustafson
- Near end of semester instructor comes back to jobsite so student and supervisor can evaluate (score) the intern's performance on the learning objectives

Benefits

- Provides on-the-job experience to students who are interested in a Fire Services career
- Allows you to sign-off on Firefighter I for a student who works with you for one year
- Adds trained unpaid staff to your department to enhance your response to calls
- Allows you the benefit of evaluating potential future firefighter candidates
- Enhances the interns training

Twenty Fire Interns participating in the Spring 2015 semester at:

CAL FIRE- St Helena Gold Ridge Marin County Rancho Adobe San Rafael

Other Agencies who have previously utilized interns:

Bennett Valley Bodega Bay Cloverdale Corte Madera Mill Valley
Russian River Sonoma Valley Southern Marin Ukiah Valley

What do Fire Interns Do? Sample Learning Objectives include:

Rancho Adobe

- Understand the operation of the rescue 42 equipment by passing a 10 question quiz with at least 70%.
- Don a SCBA in one minute per RAFD standards.
- Demonstrate the operation of a Breathing Air Compressor with in the RAFD standards.
- Understand how to use all of the wildland hand tools by passing a 10 question quiz with at least 70%.
- Demonstrate proper Holmatro tool deployment to RAFD standards.
- Demonstrate a wildland progressive hose lay to RAFD standards.
- Become efficient and fluid in supply line and hydrant connection per RAFD standards.
- Demonstrate proper use of positive pressure ventilation fan to RAFD standards.

Corte Madera

- To properly perform a daily inspection of my SCBA to Corte Madera standards.
- To properly deploy a 2 ½ hose to ground monitor to Corte Madera standards.
- Demonstrate knowledge of equipment locations on Engine 13 with 90% accuracy.

Southern Marin

- Complete a through inventory of Truck 4 to Southern Marin standards.
- Demonstrate knowledge of Southern Marin RIC SOP
- Illustrate proper investigation of IRB program, knowledge, and procedures to Southern Marin standards.

San Rafael

- Ventilate using a power saw to cut an opening on a flat roof to supervisor's standards.
- Set up the engine for structure protection including deploying 100 ft of hose, attaching to rear discharge, performing quick step pickup, and loading hose back into engine to supervisor's standards.
- Demonstrate ability to start, stop and replace the chain on a Stihl chainsaw to supervisor's standards.

CAL FIRE

- Demonstrate 1 ¾ hose line pull to a structure per CalFIRE standards.
- Demonstrate establishment of IC on a wildland fire per CalFIRE standards.
- Engagement a fire apparatus into pump mode then back into drive mode per CalFIRE standards.
- Perform vertical ventilation of a structure per CalFIRE standards.
- Identify contents of each compartment of a Model #34 to Captains standards.

Other Objectives

- Complete projects for the agency such as paint hydrants, enter run/CAD data, test hose, etc.
- Become familiar with "fire station lifestyle" by demonstrating how to operate a mop, how to clean a restroom, and how to plan fire station meals.

WHAT CAN'T FIRE INTERNS DO? Drive a motorized vehicle or boat.

What is the next step?

- Contact Bev Henningsen, SRJC Intern Coordinator, to be added to the "Participating Agency" list
 - bhenningsen@santarosa.edu or 707-527-4604
- Identify the contact person in your agency
- Talk to the other agencies who host interns to see how it works for them
- Attend the next Intern presentation to Academy students on Wednesday, March 26 from 4-5pm for "intensive" students and 6-7pm for "extended" students