

## Physical Agility Testing

The physical performance test is designed to test a candidate's ability to perform fire fighting duties which require physical agility, strength and endurance. This test consists of a series of events which have been designed to simulate typical tasks firefighters are called upon to perform at a fire scene. Some tests are:

- ✓ Ladder Climb
- ✓ Hammer Swing
- ✓ Citizen Rescue
- ✓ Dry Hose Drag
- ✓ Hose Carry Stair Climb
- ✓ Hose Hoist
- ✓ Smoke Ejector
- ✓ Ladder Removal and Replacement

## Career Opportunities...

The position of firefighter works a 24 hour shift schedule. There are a variety of career opportunities within the department, and the chance to gain personal satisfaction by helping people in the community. As a firefighter, you may work in the following areas:

- ✓ Fire Suppression
- ✓ Hazardous Materials
- ✓ Training Division
- ✓ Fire Prevention Bureau
- ✓ Emergency Preparedness
- ✓ Administration
- ✓ Fire Prevention Education

## CONTACT

If you would like to obtain more information about becoming a Firefighter contact:

**Modesto Fire Department**  
600 Eleventh Street, Modesto, CA 95354  
(209) 572-9590



## MODESTO FIRE DEPARTMENT STATION LOCATIONS

Station #1	610 Eleventh Street
Station #2	629 Second Street
Station #3	635 El Vista Avenue
Station #4	1505 Blue Gum Avenue
Station #5	200 W. Briggsmore Avenue
Station #6	2700 Standiford Avenue
Station #7	1800 Mable Avenue
Station #8	673 Airport Way
Station #9	4025 Fara Biundo Drive
Station #10	148 Imperial Avenue
Station #11	4225 Carver Road
Fire Prevention Administration	1010 Tenth Street Place 600 Eleventh Street



**City of Modesto**

**FOR EMERGENCIES: CALL 9-1-1**

**FIRE—POLICE—MEDICAL**

**Modesto Fire Department**

# BECOMING A FIRE FIGHTER

*"We Care"*



**Modesto Fire Department**  
600 Eleventh Street  
Modesto, CA 95354

Tel: (209) 572-9590

## *To be a Firefighter...*

You must first become a firefighter trainee. The hiring process for the position of firefighter trainee involves the following steps, all of which must be completed satisfactorily to be considered for the position. You must:

- ✓ Have a high school diploma or the equivalent.
- ✓ Be at least 21 years of age at the time of final filing of application.
- ✓ Pass the written entry-level test.
- ✓ Pass job related physical performance exercises.
- ✓ Pass medical examination.
- ✓ Possess a valid California Class "C" driver's license. Possession of no less than a Class 2 operator's license is required prior to completion of the 12-month probation.
- ✓ Pass an oral interview conducted by selection committee with a minimum score of 70%.
- ✓ Pass a thorough background investigation.
- ✓ Possession of a current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) card is required at time of application.
- ✓ Possess a valid E.M.T. certificate at the time of application.
- ✓ Possession of a Firefighter 1 Certificate **OR** graduation from a Firefighter 1 academy certified by the State Fire Marshal's Office **OR** the completion of 15 semester units of college coursework in Fire Science "major" courses. A list of classes including name of school, course title, number of units and date completed must be attached to the application. College transcripts will also be required by date of oral board interview.

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**FIRE—POLICE—MEDICAL**

## *Key Skills and Abilities...*

In addition to fighting fires, the firefighter must deal with a wide range of emergency situations, natural disasters, civil disturbances, and medical emergencies. To handle these emergencies effectively requires a great deal of training and practice. The professional firefighter will study the science of fire and hydraulics, rescue, emergency medicine, ventilation, salvage and overhaul, hose, rope and ladder procedures, and forcible entry. Important skills are:

- ✓ Learn the layout of the City's water-main system and street numbering system.
- ✓ Retain presence of mind in emergency situations.
- ✓ Think and act quickly and effectively in emergencies.
- ✓ Understand, communicate and follow oral and written directions promptly and accurately.
- ✓ Perform general office and clerical duties in support of assigned activities.
- ✓ Perform heavy lifting and physical maneuvering.
- ✓ Pass all required oral, manipulative and written exams for Firefighter Trainee.
- ✓ Establish and maintain cooperative-working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

To assist in the Fire Department's goal of preventing fires, firefighters study fire origin and cause, conduct building inspections, present fire safety programs and education, and even conduct station tours.



## *The Process...*

### **Written Test**

A written test will be administered to accepted applicants. The scope of the written test may include any of the qualification requirements listed. The written test may include, but is not limited to: understanding oral information, reading comprehension, analyzing data, true/false and multiple choice questions.

### **Physical Agility Test**

A physical agility test will be conducted to determine if the candidate is physically able to perform various tasks, related to the job of firefighting, within certain time constraints. This will be rated on a pass/fail basis. Successful candidates will be scheduled for a qualifications appraisal panel.

### **Qualifications Appraisal Panel**

The qualifications appraisal panel will assess the candidate's education and experience as they relate to the position in any of the qualification areas listed. Successful candidates will be placed on the eligibility list.

### **Medical Examination**

Prior to appointment, a medical examination will be required. At the time of hire, preference will be given to non-smoking candidates.

### **Background Investigation**

Prior to appointment, a background investigation will be conducted to ensure a candidate's personal characteristics are suitable and the information supplied is accurate. The background investigation may include fingerprinting, review of employment history, driving and conviction record.

### **Selection Process**

At the completion of the exam process, names of qualifying candidates will be placed on an eligibility list from which vacancies will be filled. Placement on the list does not guarantee employment. Candidates are informed whether or not they achieved list placement but are not informed of their rank or scores.

