

<u>Program</u>	<u>Contact</u>	<u>Date Updated</u>
Fire & Tech Rescue	James Demay, Dean of Public Saftey (910) 900-4138 <a href="mailto:jdemay@sampsoncc.edu">jdemay@sampsoncc.edu</a>	02/21/2024

State	Meets educational Requirements	Does not meet educational requirements	Undetermined	State	Meets educational Requirements	Does not meet educational requirements	Undetermined
Alabama			*	Nebraska			*
Alaska			*	Nevada			*
American Samoa			*	New Hampshire			*
Arizona			*	New Jersey			*
Arkansas			*	New Mexico			*
California			*	New York			*
Colorado			*	North Carolina	*		
Connecticut			*	North Dakota			*
Delaware			*	Northern Mariana Islands			*
Florida			*	Ohio			*
Georgia			*	Oklahoma			*
Guam			*	Oregon			*
Hawaii			*	Pennsylvania			*
Idaho			*	Puerto Rico			*
Illinois			*	Rhode Island			*
Indiana			*	South Carolina			*
Iowa			*	South Dakota			*
Kansas			*	Tennessee			*
Kentucky			*	Texas			*
Louisiana			*	US Virgin Islands			*
Maine			*	Utah			*
Maryland			*	Vermont			*
Massachusetts			*	Virginia			*
Michigan			*	Washington			*

Minnesota			*	West Virginia			*
Mississippi			*	Wisconsin			*
Missouri			*	Wyoming			*
Montana			*				

**Comments:** Firefighter certification requirements vary by state and other individual factors; credentials, training, job experience, criminal history, or military service. Student applications are reviewed on a case-by-case basis. There are no standardized requirements across all 50 states for the firefighter certification. Most fire departments require applicants to be a minimum of 18 years old and have a current driver's license and a high school diploma or equivalent. Potential Firefighters must pass drug tests and a physical examination. Many Fire Fighters must have emergency medical technician, or EMT, certification, in addition to a firefighter course. Sometimes certification is required for hiring, while other departments include it in training for new hires. Yet others expect firefighters to acquire certification on their own during the first year. Many people think of taking Fire Fighter exams in other states, thinking it may be easier to get hired in another state. Chances are it is as tough (if not tougher) than where you currently live.

**Other things to consider when getting Firefighter certification/degree:**

- Is your EMT certificate (or paramedic license) transferable? Many states (meaning state EMS agencies) do not accept EMT certificates or paramedic licenses from other states.
- If you truly are interested in working out-of-state, pay the extra money to get your National Registry EMT certificate or National Registry Paramedic certificate.
- Some states have reciprocity and some do not. California for example does not currently accept Firefighter I certificates from any other state.
- To better prepare, you can either contact fire departments you are planning on applying, to or call the state fire marshal's office in the state you desire to work in.