

Technical Standards

TECHNICAL STANDARDS AND ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

South Plains College's **Fire Technology / Fire Academy** has established technical standards and essential functions for the program. The ability to meet these standards and essential functions, with or without reasonable accommodations, is required to satisfactorily complete the program.

The college does not discriminate in admission or access to programs based on any characteristic protected by law, including disability. Persons with disabilities are eligible for admission, as long as they can carry out classroom and laboratory assignments; pass written, oral and practical examinations; and meet all of the requirements of the program and generally accepted requirements of the profession, with or without reasonable accommodations.

Disability & Accommodations Services: If you have a disability or acquire one, you may be entitled to receive support services and/or accommodations intended to assure you an equal opportunity to participate in, and benefit from, the program. Reasonable accommodations for students with disability-related needs will be determined on an individual basis taking into consideration the technical standards and essential skills which must be performed to meet the program objectives. To receive more information or to apply for services, please contact the Student Disability Services 806-716-4675 (Reese/ATC/Plainview) or 806-716-2577 (Levelland).

Requirements	Standards	Examples
Critical Thinking	The ability to understand course materials and maintain a certain grade/performance level that meets the set academics requirements.	Demonstrate judgment and decision making as required to organize various tasks and complete assignments and projects. Thinking about the pros and cons of different ways to solve a problem. Ability to complete and pass state licensing and capstone examinations, react with correct response in staged simulations, proficient decision making in live burn, ladder, and other rescue or lifesaving scenarios.
Communication	The ability to listen, understand, and communicate ideas presented through spoken words and sentences.	Use oral expression, reading and writing comprehension to verify received information. Provide and receive verbal direction to and from others. Present ideas both verbally and in written format (report writing scenarios where the student must describe in detail certain scenarios, staged situations where the student must use effective speaking and listening skills, etc.).

Mobility	Sufficient strength and gross and fine motor coordination to walk, stoop, run, lift, crawl, climb, carry, and manipulate hand and power tools using a wide range of motion of extremities.	Daily physical training to include running, stair climbing, ladder-climbing skills, dragging heavy hoses, carrying hay bales to burn site, physically holding high pressure/high volume fire hoses in position, and carrying/dragging dummies. Students routinely perform weight training-related activities, which involve, weight circuit, lifting, stooping, climbing, and carrying heavy objects from one location to another.
Motor Skills (Tactile)	Demonstrate tactile ability for physical intervention, finger dexterity, range of motion, cardiovascular endurance.	Ability to quickly move your hand, finger, or foot based on a sound, light, picture or other commands. Ability to use all extremities and digits for physical encounters to include installation and removal of fire hoses, adjustment of fire hose nozzles, operation of fire truck controls, use of various hand and power tools to enter structures/vehicles, maneuver, grip, and climb ladders under stressful situations.
Hearing	Sufficient auditory perception to receive verbal communication and assess problems in intrapersonal communications, Demonstrate hearing awareness for safety precautions Must be able to hear soft sounds. Must be able to communicate effectively via radio.	Active listening to others, not interrupting, and asking good questions. Ability to listen effectively to victims where some may be soft-spoken. Ability to hear and understand verbal live fire situation directions. Ability to relay information about incidents or emergencies to personnel using a phone or radio.
Visual	Sufficient visual acuity, such as color discrimination, near and far vision, assessing risk potential, engaging in deadly firefighting activities.	Ability to watch gauges, dials, or display screens to make sure a machine is working properly. Ability to operate a vehicle and distinguish colors. Ability to see in both light and dark conditions. Ability to closely monitor and keep track of how well people and/or groups are doing to make improvements.
Safety	The ability to follow and implement all areas of safety.	The Fire Technology Program/ Academy prepares students to enter an occupation where safety

		<p>is critical for firefighters and victims.</p> <p>Activities will require multiple safety precautions when in lab situations including rescue maneuvers, ladder skills, climbing and repelling skills, operating firefighting equipment, and physical training.</p>