

# Fire Explorer

## Program Definition

Fire Exploring is a unique career exploration program for young men and women. The City of Torrance Fire Department, and Learning for Life, in a joint partnership, bring the career of firefighting to life by offering youth participants an opportunity to learn about the fire service firsthand.

Fire Explorers, under close supervision, participate in non-hazardous activities that will familiarize participants with the nature and demands of the fire service. In addition to learning about the fire service, the main goal of the Fire Explorer Program's is to provide young adults with a sense of responsibility to their community through ongoing community-based activities. Fire Explorers will train in five areas of development: Career, Character, Service, Life Skills, and Leadership Experience.

The Fire Explorer is the entry level position in the Torrance Fire Department's "Grow Our Own" series. This is the very first opportunity to learn and understand about a career in the fire service at its most basic level. Fire Explorers with the Torrance Fire Department will learn how to prepare themselves to be competitive in a very aggressively sought after career within the fire service.

## Program Structure

Fire Explorers work under the immediate supervision of a Firefighter who is the Explorer Post Advisor. Fire Explorers are assigned to specified duties and activities based on completed training and demonstrated ability and experience.

The organizational structure of the Explorer Post is similar to that of the Fire Department. This allows for the development of leadership skills and abilities to be nurtured and utilized within the young adults participating.

## Examples of Duties

Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Participates in drills and training in firefighting techniques
- Sets up and uses fire hose, ladders, and other firefighting equipment
- Maintains fire station, fire apparatus, and equipment
- Learn pre-fire planning and fire prevention
- Learn hydrant maintenance program
- Participates in public education and community outreach
- Participates as an observer in the Fire Explorer Ride-Along Program
- Performs various other duties as assigned.

## QUALIFICATION GUIDELINES

### Licenses and Certifications

Possession of a valid CA Class C Drivers License is desirable.  
Be a registered member of the Learning for Life exploring subsidiary.

### Education and Experience

Must be between the ages of 16 and 20 years old and have completed the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Must be enrolled in school. Must possess and maintain a 2.5 (C average) or greater GPA.

### Special Requirements

Pass the Torrance Fire Department's Fire Explorer Program Physical Abilities Test.  
Have no serious arrests and/or convictions.  
Must maintain Torrance Fire Department grooming standards.

Work is performed both inside and outside in seasonal climate and weather conditions. Elevated heights, slippery surfaces, oily conditions, dust, dirt, smoke, heat, hazardous substances, chemicals, and odors are conditions frequently encountered. Physical demands include heavy lifting (minimum of 50 lbs) and carrying of fire equipment while working in required protective clothing. Work requires manual dexterity to assemble fittings and perform hose and ladder placement evolutions. Bending, stooping, running, squatting, pulling and climbing are also required.