

## FIRE SCIENCE/FIRST RESPONDER

Instructors, Phil Gonzalez and Oscar Tovar

### TRAINING STUDENTS FOR ENTRY LEVEL POSITIONS:

- Forest Fire Fighter
- Fire Fighter Recruit
- Municipal Fire Fighter
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Paramedic

### BENEFITS OF THIS CLASS:

- May connect students to Fire Explorer Program within the community
- Introduces students to Fire Academy training
- Students are prepared for Universal Precautions methods and proper use of safety equipment
- Students practice measuring vital signs
- Students learn steps assist with special rescue situations



### IN THIS CLASS, STUDENTS LEARN TO:

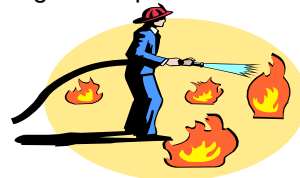
- Describe fire department, organization structure and operating procedures
- Examine tools of the trade including portable extinguishers, ropes, forcible entry tools, ground ladders, fire hoses, alarm systems
- Practice fire fighter safety, use of personal protective equipment and clothing, participate in physical fitness sessions, and prepare for fire station protocol
- Understand department communication equipment and systems, and participate in public education programs
- Consider the legal and ethical issues related to the medical field
- Identify basic anatomy and body systems
- Make patient assessments and to properly lift and move patients
- Demonstrate airway care and rescue breathing for infants, children, and adults
- Recognize and respond to medical emergencies, scene safety, and crisis intervention

### UPON SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CLASS, STUDENTS RECEIVE:

- Completion Certificate in Fire Science/First Responder
- Letter of Competency stating the skills learned and the degree of mastery achieved
- CPR/AED Certification
- First Responder Certification

### JOB MARKET INFORMATION:

- The number of Fire Fighters employed will be affected by the availability of funds in the cities where the fire departments are located.
- Employment rises in rapidly growing areas.
- During dry months, seasonal firefighters are employed in California to fight fires that occur in forests and rural areas.
- Occupational Employment Projections estimate job growth between 4.4-10 percent by 2008.
- Growth is primarily because of the rapidly expanding aging population in Santa Clara County projections.
- Surveys show EMT students are usually placed as soon as they complete required certification because of their advanced training and experience.



### ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS:

**Phil Gonzalez**, retired 32 year veteran of the San Jose Fire Department and a graduate of Andrew Hill High School (1970), has taught as a credentialed Fire Service Instructor at Cabrillo College, West Valley/Mission College, and California State Fire Marshall's Office programs. He is a Certified California State Fire Marshall's Office Instructor, and is now an Instructor for CCOC/MetroED Fire Science and EMT programs.

**Oscar Tovar** entered the Fire Service/EMT field in 1990. He has worked with South County Fire, CAL Fire and in 1994 he achieved his dream of working with San Jose Fire. At San Jose Fire, Oscar has served as a Fire Fighter, Fire Inspector, and was promoted to Fire Captain in 2003. Oscar is still a fulltime firefighter. He has over 4000 teaching hours in the fire service and medical field.

# School-to-Career Pathway

