



Associate of Applied Science Degree in Fire Protection

OVERVIEW

Kilgore College offers a 60-semester-credit-hour ("SCH") **Associate of Applied Science** degree in **Fire Protection**. The Basic Firefighter Certification (Firefighter I-VII) comprises 23 semester credit hours toward the degree. Once a student completes 15 SCH in courses within our degree program at or through Kilgore College, we can award institutional credit (23 hours) for a student's basic firefighter certification. There may be a fee for this transfer of credit to post to the academic transcript.

- Credit cannot be obtained until completion of the 15 SCH requirement. In other words, the credit is not automatically awarded upon proof of holding basic firefighter certification.
- No additional credit for certifications or work experience is given due to the maximum number of credit hours given within a degree is used for the 23 SCH on the basic firefighter certification (no credit can be awarded for Fire Inspector, Fire Investigator, Driver/Operator, etc.) per the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

All courses in the Fire Science AAS degree are offered online. This includes the five general-education classes and the seven Fire Protection courses. While the Fire Protection courses are completely online (including all exams), the general-education courses may require on-site periodic exams. Students must communicate with the instructor in those courses to determine specific testing procedures.

FIREFIGHTER EXEMPTION

[Full-time, paid firefighters](#) in the State of Texas are [exempt](#) from tuition and lab fees for courses offered within an academic fire science degree program. This exemption applies to tuition and lab fees only and does **not** apply to any out-of-district fees, general education fees, or distance-education fees. This tuition exemption also applies for [Advanced SFFMA certification](#). Please note that there are limits related to grade-point average and excessive SCH in effect as of April, 2014. Please check [THIS](#) page for more information.

In order to utilize the firefighter exemption, the student must provide to the Kilgore College Business Office and Financial Aid Office a formal letter, on department letterhead, stating that the individual is either a full-time, paid firefighter with said department or holding Advanced SFFMA in good standing at the indicated volunteer fire department. The exemption is applied to your student account when other non-exempt fees are paid. Exemption letters must be submitted annually and should include the student's date of birth and date of employment.

Non-Exempt fees:

- Out-of-District Fees: \$79 per semester credit hour¹
- General Education Fees: \$35 per semester credit hour²
- Distance Education Fees: \$25 per online course³

Most courses in the degree program are three semester credit hours, with a few being four semester credit hours. Please consult the [Kilgore College Catalog](#) for more information.

GETTING STARTED

NEW OR TRANSFER STUDENTS:

STEP 1: Log into www.applytexas.org and follow the steps there to apply to Kilgore College. Select Fire Protection as your major.

STEP 2: Notify the Fire Protection Office of the fact that you've applied. Notification can be either through email to rgolden@kilgore.edu or mferguson@kilgore.edu or by calling 903.983.8177. This step is important as we do not have any other form of verification of submitting application online unless notified by the student.

STEP 3: Verify TSI status. Texas law requires that all students enrolling in college credit-hour courses meet the TSI (Texas Success Initiative) requirements by taking a test that assesses reading, writing and math skills. Please contact [KC Testing](#) for further information (you may call them at 903.983.8690 if you'd prefer).

STEP 4: Submit an **official** transcript from **each** college or university you've attended. A transcript is considered official only when it bears the signature of the registrar and the seal of the issuing institution. Official Transcripts have to be sent directly from transfer school or, if delivered in person, in a sealed envelope from the transfer school. If you have any questions

¹ subject to current rate

² subject to current rate

³ subject to current rate

regarding transcripts, please contact the KC [Registrar](#) at 903.983.8606. Unofficial copies of transcripts can be sent to the Fire Protection Offices for review.

STEP 5: If you need financial aid, you will need to first submit your FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid). The FAFSA is available [HERE](#). Federal Aid is based on your need and can be applied for throughout the year. Kilgore College also offers a wide array of scholarships. Deadline for scholarships is Feb. 1 for the Presidential Scholarship and April 1 for all other scholarships. For more information, please contact the Financial Aid Office at 903.983-8211 or by visiting the [KC Financial Aid Office](#)'s webpage.

STEP 6: Attend a New Student Orientation (you do have the option to take the orientation online if you'd prefer to do so). Orientation is required for all first-time college students and recommended for anyone who is new to Kilgore College. Sessions are scheduled at convenient times throughout the year. Contact the Student Success Office at 903.988.7537 for more information and exemptions for Transfer/Former Students.

FORMER KILGORE COLLEGE STUDENTS:

"Former enrolled students" are students who have not enrolled in KC for one long semester and who wish to return. Whether these students were forced to leave (academic or disciplinary suspension) or chose to leave, they must meet the following requirements:

STEP 1: Follow the detailed instructions for re-enrolling that can be found online [HERE](#).

STEP 2: Submit an official transcript from **every** college or university attended since the last enrollment at KC. A transcript is considered official only when it bears the signature of the registrar and the seal of the issuing institution, and is sent to KC directly from the issuing institution or, if delivered in person, in a sealed envelope from the transfer school..

Contact Information:

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CURRICULUM

General Education Courses:

- ENGL-1301, Grammar & Composition
- CHEM-1405, Chemistry for Non-Science Majors
- Fine-Arts Elective (Three SCH)
- GOVT-2306, State & Local Governments
- SPCH-1315, Public Speaking

Fire Academy Courses:⁴

- FIRS-1301, Firefighter Certification I
- FIRS-1407, Firefighter Certification II
- FIRS-1313, Firefighter Certification III
- FIRS-1319, Firefighter Certification IV
- FIRS-1323, Firefighter Certification V
- FIRS-1329, Firefighter Certification VI
- FIRS-1433, Firefighter Certification VII

Upper-level Fire Protection Courses:

- FIRT-1319, Firefighter Health and Safety
- FIRT-1311, Fire Service Hydraulics
- FIRT-1327, Building Construction
- FIRT-1338, Fire Protection Systems
- FIRT-1307, Fire Prevention Codes & Inspection
- FIRT-1353, Legal Aspects of Fire Protection
- FIRT-1303, Fire & Arson Investigations I⁵

⁴ Fire certification courses I-VII may be completed by presenting documentation of successful completion of a Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) Basic Structural Firefighter Academy and/or verification of successful completion of the state written and performance certification exams with an overall average of 70% or more on the written exam. Upon successful completion of Fire Certification courses I-VII the student will receive 23 SCH.

⁵ Capstone experience