



Public Safety & Education

Fire Protection Technology

2
Years

TO DEGREE

6
Classes

TO CERTIFICATE

9,000+

FIREFIGHTERS EMPLOYED

By Cal Fire

11%

JOB GROWTH

Fire Engineering

Program Overview

Fire protection encompasses all the means available of reducing potential harm caused by fire. Students in the Fire Protection Technology program learn about fire and life safety, building construction, and water supply as they relate to fire protection, fire investigation, and fire suppression systems. Courses also cover the history, philosophy, and culture of fire prevention and emergency services and explore career opportunities in fire protection.

Job Outlook

With wildfires becoming an annual phenomenon in California, fire protection expertise is in demand, with full-time hiring at Cal Fire alone set to grow 10% year over year as of 2020-2021. While many graduates find employment as firefighters, fire inspectors, or fire investigators, diverse opportunities are increasingly available in emergency management, forensics, and insurance. Graduates can also pursue additional education in fire science, engineering, or environmental studies en route to careers in civic and policy planning surrounding fire protection.

CAREERS

Firefighters

\$42,110 - \$139,110

Insurance Claims Investigators

\$46,310 - \$109,260

Fire Inspectors & Investigators

\$62,870 - \$159,920

*Fire Protection Engineers

\$76,000 - \$150,890

*Emergency Management Directors

\$71,750 - \$179,450

* Requires additional training
Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics (CA data)

spotlight

related degree program

CSU San Marcos offers a 100% online bachelor's degree in Wildfire Science and the Urban Interface, developed in partnership with Cal Fire and other agencies.

