

SECONDARY FIRE ACADEMY(SFA)

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

1. When does the Secondary Fire Academy run?

There are 2 intakes; Fall (September- December) and Winter (January – April)

2. When does training take place?

Every Wednesday from 6:30 pm to 10:00 pm

3. What is the location for the training?

Abbotsford Fire Rescue Service Training Centre, 1544 Riverside Rd, Abbotsford

4. When and how can I apply into the SFA?

Before mid-April. Contact your school-based Career Advisor.

5. What are the pre-requisites required to apply for the SFA?

Academic success for Grade 10 and/or 11, good attendance, teacher reference and physical fitness. Above all, a deep passion to help others.

6. When can I expect a response after I have applied for the SFA?

If you meet the requirements, you will be invited to a preliminary interview.

7. What are the next steps after the preliminary interview?

Interview with the Abbotsford Fire and Rescue Service Chief. If you are successful, you will be notified to attend the Physical Assessment Test.

8. What does the Physical Assessment Test involve?

You have to complete certain tasks as per the instructions of the Chief as follows:

- Pull a 120-lb dummy over 100 m
- Pull the fire hose over 200 m
- Go through a maze in the dark with a helmet on. (minimal visibility)
- Pull the ladder from the ground to the wall.
- Carry the hose up two flights of stairs.

9. What do I wear for the Physical Assessment Test?

Running shoes, jogging pants and shirt

10. What do I expect after the Physical Assessment Test?

You will be notified by e-mail that you have been selected and you should attend the turnout gear fitting.

11. What do I wear for the Turnout Gear Fitting?

Running shoes, jogging pants/shorts, and shirt

12. How long does it take for the turnout gear fitting?

Less than an hour

13. What is the next step in this process?

Attending the mandatory orientation session with your parents, followed by your first training session.

14. What does a typical training day look like?

It consists of both classroom instruction and physical work.

15. What does physical work entail?

You will be exposed to the different aspects of Firefighting and rescue operations. Topics include but are not limited to:

- Hose work
- Ladders
- Search
- Forcible entry
- Ropes and Knots
- Small tools
- General hall duties (mopping, bathrooms, equipment cleaning and truck checks, etc)

16. What happens when I complete the SFA?

You can apply to become a Paid On Call Volunteer.

17. Who can I contact with further questions?

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