

OXNARD COLLEGE REGIONAL WILDLAND FIRE ACADEMY

Spring 2027 — Battalion 9

Wildland Fire Application

INTRODUCTION

Oxnard College offers the Wildland Fire Academy every Spring. There are 30 seats available in the academy, and it meets on Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays from 0800 to 1700 hours over the course of 10 weeks, including Spring Break. Please refer to the current application information for upcoming academy dates and deadlines.

PROGRAM EXPECTATIONS

This is a physically demanding, safety-critical training program. Before applying, please note:

- Attendance is required for all scheduled days (Wed/Thu/Fri, 0800–1700) across the full 10-week term; the schedule does not accommodate routine absences.
- Training involves sustained physical exertion in outdoor conditions, including hiking with pack weight and work in heat.
- Accepted applicants will be required to submit a medical clearance to participate and a training liability waiver prior to the first day of the academy.

ACCEPTANCE GUIDELINES

To be considered for admission to the Wildland Fire Academy, applicants must submit a completed application, and all required documents listed on the Application Checklist page. Applications are reviewed and accepted on a first-come, first-served, in the order complete application packets are received. Applying earlier in the window improves your chances of a seat. Incomplete applications or those missing required documents will not be considered for admission.

APPLICATION SUBMISSION

Applications will only be accepted during the application window from September 1st through September 30th. The application will be posted on the website on the 1st day of September. Because seats are filled on a rolling basis as complete packets arrive, we encourage you to apply as early in the window as possible. Your application must be submitted electronically to the email address below:

Email your completed Wildland Fire Application to:

OCwildlandapplication@vcccd.edu

Subject: Spring 2027 Wildland Fire Academy

Contacts:

Captain Jonathan Payne

jonathan_payne3@vcccd.edu

Wildland Academy Coordinator

Dr. Shannon Findlay

strefts@vcccd.edu

805-678-5248

Counselor

María Magaña

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805-289-6336

Administrative Assistant, Public Safety

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Application for Admission

Name: _____ DOB: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #: _____ Email Address: _____

Are you currently enrolled at Oxnard College? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Oxnard College Student ID Number (if you have one): _____

Emergency contact (name/phone #): _____

Education

High School: _____ Yr. Graduated: _____

College/Trade School: _____ Yr. Grad: _____ Units Completed: _____

College/Trade School: _____ Yr. Grad: _____ Units Completed: _____

Degrees earned: _____

Prior fire-related coursework or training (if any): _____

Have you completed an EMR/EMT class? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Training location: _____ State: _____ Expiration Date: _____

Have you served in the Military? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Branch: _____ Discharge Type: _____

How did you hear about this program? (optional) _____

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Tell Us About You

Please answer the following questions in your own words. The information you provide will help us balance experience levels within academy companies. Aim for roughly 150–250 words per answer. Utilize a separate word document for any spill over. AI is not recommended.

1. Why do you want to participate in the Oxnard College Wildland Academy?

2. Good physical condition is a vital component to being a wildland firefighter. Please describe your current personal fitness level.

Be specific about your current activity level and how it relates to sustained outdoor physical work.

3. What is your experience/knowledge of mechanical equipment and tools?

4. Describe a time when you have displayed leadership and/or problem-solving skills.

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5. What are your strengths? Give a specific example that demonstrates one of them.

6. What are your weaknesses, and what steps have you taken to address one of them?

7. What is your greatest personal and/or professional accomplishment?

Certification

I certify that the information provided in this application is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this program involves sustained physical exertion in outdoor conditions, including hiking with pack weight and work in heat, and I am prepared to meet those demands.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

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Application Checklist

Required Forms:

- ☐ Application for Admission

Required Attachments:

- ☐ “Tell Us About You” answer sheet
- ☐ Resume

All required forms and attachments must be completed when the Application for Admission is submitted. Applications will not be accepted without ALL documentation. It is your responsibility to double check your packet for completeness.

All attachments must be in PDF format. Links/photographs will NOT be accepted. Name your attachments accordingly.

If accepted, you will be required to submit a medical clearance to participate and a signed training liability waiver before the first day of the academy.

Oxnard College does not discriminate against any person in any of its programs because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, status as a Vietnam-era veteran, or marital status.