Wildland Firefighting

Allan Hancock College’s Wildland Fire Technology program offers a variety of options for those pursuing a career or interest in wildland firefighting. The program allows students to achieve a certificate or associate in science (A.S.) degree in the target area of interest within the field. These areas include:

- Wildland Firefighting Operations
- Wildland Firefighting Prevention, Investigation and Prescribed Burning
- Wildland Firefighting Logistics, Finance and Planning

The program uses nationally recognized course curriculums, providing students with multi-component proficiency training. The training is consistent with standards used by agencies such as the United States Forest Service, Cal Fire, National Park Service, Bureau of Land Management, and the Bureau of Indian Affairs as well as those throughout the Santa Barbara County area.

Courses within the program offer extensive review of lessons learned in the field, with strong emphasis on situational awareness and safety. Courses offer a variety of techniques such as group discussion, interactive exercises and testing practices to ensure comprehension of critical topics.

Graduates of the Wildland Firefighting A.S. Degree or Certificate program will:

- Demonstrate complete understanding of the Incident Command System as it relates to wildland fire suppression.
- Recognize critical weather factors influencing wildland fire behavior.
- Understand the capabilities and limitations of resources used in wildland firefighting.
- Gain a thorough understanding of the risks associated with wildland firefighting as well as measures required for their safety.
- Develop knowledge related to wildland fire prevention, investigation and prescribed fire processes.
- Recognize the importance of supporting functions such as the logistics, finance and planning sections.

Allan Hancock College is a California public community college in northern Santa Barbara County serving more than 11,000 credit students each semester. The college offers degrees and certificates in more than 100 fields of study from accounting to welding. The college has a campus in Santa Maria and centers in Lompoc, Solvang, and at Vandenberg AFB.

Career Technical Education (CTE)

Wildland Firefighting

- Associate in Science Degree and Certificate of Achievement options
  - Wildland Firefighting Operations
  - Wildland Firefighting Prevention, Investigation and Prescribed Burning
  - Wildland Firefighting Logistics, Finance and Planning

The Allan Hancock Joint Community College District is committed to the active promotion of diversity and equal access and opportunities to all staff, students, and applicants, including qualified members of underrepresented/protected groups. The college assures that no person shall be discriminated against because of race, color, ancestry, religion, gender, national origin, age, physical/mental disability, medical condition, status as a Vietnam-era veteran, marital status, or sexual orientation.

Allan Hancock College will provide, upon request, alternate translation of its general information documents in large print, Braille, e-text, etc. Please call (805) 922-6966 ext. 3788.
Wildland Firefighting FAQs

Q: Do I have to be a graduate of Allan Hancock’s Firefighter 1 Academy to begin working toward an A.S. degree or certificate in Wildland Fire Technology?
A: Attending the Firefighter 1 Academy is not required to pursue a goal in wildland fire technology. While not mandatory, the academy includes a component of wildland fire training, making graduates more competitive for entry-level positions.

Employment Opportunities:
Earning an A.S. Degree or a Certificate in wildland firefighting from Allan Hancock College will provide students with the skills necessary to pursue successful careers including:

- Wildland Firefighter (Engine)
- Smokejumper
- Helicopter Crewmember
- Fire Prevention
- Hotshot Crewmember
- Fuels Management/Prescribed Fire

Due to their ongoing involvement in wildland firefighting, city and county fire agencies also value the training offered by the wildland fire technology program. For this reason, students pursuing structural firefighting also benefit from the program, adding greater diversity to their training experience.

References for information related to employment opportunities include:
- http://www.sbcfire.com
- http://www.fs.usda.gov/lpnf
- http://www.fire.ca.gov
- http://www.usajobs.opm.gov

Prerequisites:
Prerequisites for all wildland firefighting courses are the following two National Wildfire Coordinating Group Incident Command System Courses:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EWFT 301</td>
<td>Introduction to Incident Command System</td>
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<tr>
<td>WFT 302</td>
<td>Basic Incident Command System [I-200]</td>
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Wildland Firefighting Core Course Requirements (A.S. and Certificate of Achievement)
The A.S. Degree and Certificate of Achievement require completion of the following courses (15 units):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Course Title</th>
<th>Units</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>WFT 101</td>
<td>Wildland Fire Behavior</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFT 102</td>
<td>Wildland Fire Fighter Safety and Survival</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFT 103</td>
<td>Wildland Fire Operations (Ground, Air)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFT 104</td>
<td>Wildland Fire Public Information Officer, Prevention, and Investigation</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WFT 105</td>
<td>Wildland Fire Logistics, Finance and Planning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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In addition to the required 15 core units of Wildland Fire Technology, students must complete another 15 units that apply toward the specific area they choose to pursue. This allows students to achieve 30 total units, required of both the A.S. Degree and Certificate of Achievement.

These areas include:

Wildland Firefighting Operations (A.S. and Certificate of Achievement)
This option offers students knowledge and understanding related to fire suppression operations within the wildland fire environment. A variety of courses are offered, with emphasis on Firefighter Safety, Entrapment Avoidance, Command Structure, and information specific to a variety of fireline positions.

(Refer to the AHC Catalog or www.hancockcollege.edu/cte for specific course listings.)

Wildland Firefighting Prevention, Investigation, and Prescribed Burning (A.S. and Certificate of Achievement)
This option provides students with a thorough understanding of Fire Prevention, Investigation and Prescribed Burning processes in the wildland fire environment. A variety of courses are offered, ensuring students’ comprehension for responsibilities related to positions within the field.

(Refer to the AHC Catalog or www.hancockcollege.edu/cte for specific course listings.)

Wildland Firefighting Logistics, Finance, and Planning (A.S. and Certificate of Achievement)
This option provides students with training required for support functions within the Incident Command System. Upon successful completion students will demonstrate knowledge required of positions working within the Logistics, Finance and Planning Sections.

(Refer to the AHC Catalog or www.hancockcollege.edu/cte for specific course listings.)

For more information:

Wildland firefighting is one of the career technical education programs at Allan Hancock College within the department of Public Safety. It resides in the Public Services Industry sector.

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