



# MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE STRATEGIES FOR SUCCESS ADVISING GUIDE: *Fire Protection & Safety Technology*

The **Fire Protection & Safety Technology Associate in Science Degree** program provides broad based coursework for individuals seeking employment in this field and those presently working in a fire-science occupation and seeking career advancement.

This advising guide includes information that will help you to explore whether the **Fire Protection and Safety Technology** major will support your long-term academic and career goals.



## EXPLORE YOUR OPTIONS WITH ACADEMIC ADVISING

Throughout each semester, meet with your advisor so that he/she can guide you through a self-exploration process that will help you identify your academic and career interests.

### Beginning of Semester:

\_\_\_ Schedule an appointment to meet with your academic advisor during the first few weeks to discuss future plans and how an **Associate in Science Degree in Fire Protection and Safety Technology** can help you achieve your goals.

\_\_\_ Explore your personal interests by completing Focus2, an online career assessment tool:  
<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices/focus2.aspx>

### Mid-Semester:

\_\_\_ Schedule an appointment with academic advisor review your academic progress, Focus2 results and create an academic plan in DegreeWorks.

### Before Semester Ends:

\_\_\_ Schedule an appointment to discuss and register for the classes you will take the following semester.  
(Early November for spring, Early April for fall and summer)

\_\_\_ Visit the Academic Career & Transfer Center or call 1-800-818-3434 to schedule an appointment.

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- Exploring Your Options
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## FIRE PROTECTION AND SAFETY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM OUTCOMES

Graduates of the Fire Protection & Safety Technology program are prepared to:

- Demonstrate an understanding of the principles of fire development, cause and prevention;
- Apply theoretical knowledge of hydraulic principles to solving water-supply problems for fire protection;
- Understand the principles of supervision and management necessary for leadership and administration in the fire service;
- Identify the different types of building construction encountered during fire operations;
- Identify hazardous materials, hazardous properties, and successful emergency-scene operations;
- Recognize the importance of building-construction concepts and materials in fire safety, the effects of heat and fire on buildings, and the impact of fire to personal safety of building occupants;
- Develop a tactical fire attack plan and describe the strategic elements of the plan.

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### **PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

- Establish a relationship with your **Fire Protection and Safety Technology** professors about academic and career paths. They are a great source of career advice.
- Firefighting is a physically challenging profession. It is important to be in excellent physical shape and participate in an exercise program to improve strength, flexibility, endurance, and agility.
- If you are interested in working in a civil service municipality, you must apply to take the civil service exam in March and be ready to take it in April. The civil service exam is given every two years.
- Having a, basic, intermediate EMT or Paramedic license can increase your chances of employment.
- Develop interpersonal and collaboration skills. Firefighting is a team effort that requires the ability to work well with others. These skills can be developed and improved through participation in student government activities, team sports and part-time jobs that require contact with other people.
- You may receive credit for training and courses taken at the Massachusetts Firefighting Academy, the military or while working on the job. Please bring all Fire Science certifications and transcripts to the initial meeting with a **Fire Protection and Safety Technology** advisor.
- All general education and **Fire and Safety Technology** courses are offered at MCC, on both campuses and online.
- EMT 100 Emergency Medical Technician is strongly recommended to fulfill the two electives in the **Fire Protection and Safety Technology** program. This course can give the successful student a competitive advantage when applying to most fire departments.



### **THE CAREER PATH**

A degree in **Fire Protection and Safety Technology** can lead to local, national and international careers, including:

firefighter at the town, city and state levels, or in military and airport facilities, as well as opportunities to work in fire investigation with the state Fire Marshal's office, or working in emergency medical services where medical technicians and firefighters work closely together. Opportunities are also available within the business and industry area including job opportunities as a fire insurance claims investigator, hazardous materials and fire protection engineer, hospital fire safety engineer, fire prevention inspector, or working with the National Fire Protection Association in fire investigation to publish and establish safety standards.

#### **Career Planning Activities:**

- \_\_\_ Work with career advisor to create resume, cover letter and help improve your interview skills.
- \_\_\_ Identify internship and volunteer opportunities in your desired field
- \_\_\_ Attend career workshops and job fairs
- \_\_\_ Meet with a Fire Protection and Safety Technology advisor several times a semester to choose appropriate courses to fulfill all curriculum requirements.

### **MCC ADVISING RESOURCES**

#### **Career Services:**

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/careerservices>

#### **Transfer Services:**

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/transfer>

#### **MassTransfer:**

[www.mass.edu/masstransfer/](http://www.mass.edu/masstransfer/)

#### **Financial Aid:**

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/financialaid>

#### **Foundation Scholarships:**

<https://www.middlesex.mass.edu/foundation/scholarships/>

#### **College Board Match Maker:**

[http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/search/adv\\_typeofschool.jsp](http://collegesearch.collegeboard.com/search/adv_typeofschool.jsp)