CADET PROGRAM TEST REQUIREMENTS

Selected candidates must meet or complete any pre-requisite requirements that the Fire Academy or EMT school require. This includes the Firefighter Candidate Physical Abilities Test and any academy entrance test requirements established by St. Petersburg College.

(IAFF/IAFC) CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITIES TEST

It is a requirement for the Fire Academy that applicants pass a Firefighter Candidate Physical Abilities Test (CPAT). The St. Petersburg Fire Department will assist with pre-test mentoring sessions and coordinating the CPAT for the selected eligible candidates. The CPAT is a standardized test that evaluates the candidate's physical ability to complete firefighter related tasks. This is a pass/fail test based on a nationally validated maximum total time to complete all of the required tasks.

During the CPAT, you must progress along a continuous test path completing a set sequence of tasks. Participants wear a 50-pound (22.68-kg) vest to simulate the weight of self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and firefighter protective clothing. An additional 25 pounds (11.34 kg), using two 12.5-pound (5.67-kg) weights that simulate a high-rise pack (hose bundle), is added to your shoulders for the stair climb event.

The sequence of events are as follows:
- **Stair Climb** - climbing stairs while carrying an additional 25 pounds (simulated hose pack).
- **Hose Drag** - stretching uncharged hose lines and advancing lines.
- **Equipment Carry** - removing and carrying equipment from fire apparatus to the fire grounds.
- **Ladder Raise and Extension** - placing a ground ladder at the fire scene and extending the ladder to the roof or a window.
- **Forcible Entry** - penetrating a locked door and breaching a wall.
- **Search** - crawling through dark unpredictable areas to search for victims.
- **Rescue Drag** - removing individuals from a fire building.
- **Ceiling Breach and Pull** - locating fires and checking for fire extensions.

Please note that the Firefighter CPAT is very strenuous and requires a maximum effort. It is recommended that applicants begin preparing themselves physically and mentally as soon as possible. To help reduce unnecessary injury and to determine if you can safely perform all of the tasks it is recommended that you consult with your healthcare provider.

ST. PETERSBURG COLLEGE ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Candidates selected for the sponsorship program must meet the entrance test requirements for the Fire Academy and EMT School. Entrance requires passing scores on the Tests of Adult Basic Education (TABE) or the Postsecondary Education Readiness Test (PERT). Exceptions to this requirement may be granted for the following: Serving active military duty; previously earned an Associate's degree; has previous "valid" test scores and completed any minimum required courses; or competed college level English and Math at an accredited college. For details about the college admission requirements and a full list of exceptions, see the following: https://go.spcollege.edu/fireacademy/#tab=5.