

# Welcome



County of Los Angeles Fire Department

Explorer Program

Virtual Recruitment/Open House





# Meeting Agenda



- Welcome
- Learning for Life Partnership
- Explorer Posts
- Explorer Program Basic Requirements
- Explorer Program Overview
- Life as an Explorer
- Training Requirements
- Financial Commitment
- Application Process
- Q&A Session





# Learning for Life Partnership

- The County of Los Angeles Fire Department partners with Learning for Life to offer participants the opportunity to explore the career of a firefighter.
- Participants are given the opportunity to train and work side by side with fire service professionals while being mentored.
- Participants are consistently supervised by firefighters who are trained mentors according to Learning for Life's policies and procedures.



# Explorer Posts

- 12 LACoFD Explorer Posts:\*

- ❖ Fire Station 13 (Vernon)
- ❖ Fire Station 28 (Whittier)
- ❖ Fire Station 32 (Azusa)
- ❖ Fire Station 58 (Fairfax)
- ❖ Fire Station 82 (La Cañada)
- ❖ Fire Station 89 (Agoura Hills)
- ❖ Fire Station 116 (Carson)
- ❖ Fire Station 118 (Industry)
- ❖ Fire Station 129 (Lancaster)
- ❖ Fire Station 150 (Santa Clarita)
- ❖ Fire Station 166 (El Monte)
- ❖ Fire Station 187 (Pomona)

*\*There is a maximum of 24  
Explorers per post.*





# Explorer Program Basic Requirements

- 15-20 years of age.
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA in school.
- In good health and able to participate as determined by a doctor's physical.
- Willingness to be a team player.
- Participants 18-20 years of age will be subject to a background investigation (Livescan) conducted by Learning for Life.





# Explorer Program Overview

- Explorers are required to invest in their development by meeting certain milestones.
- Not a hangout spot.
- We do not babysit.
- Not for the lazy.





# Explorer Program Overview

- Get a head start on a life-saving career.
- Gain life-enhancing skills.
- Be mentored by professionals.
- Learn about the various career pathways available in the Fire Department and L.A. County.
- Get involved in community events by serving at approved functions.
- Develop and maintain physical fitness.





# Life as an Explorer

## Commitment





# Life as an Explorer

## Participation Requirements:

- Attend bi-monthly meetings on the 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday each month (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday each month (9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) at your post location.
- Attend mandatory CERT training, CPR training, Disaster Drill, and Muster; attend banquet.
- Be an active member of your post and participate in community events, as needed.
- Monthly ride-along requirement:  
8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. (note: no overnight ride-alongs)
- Sign and agree to the Code of Conduct.
- Actively work to complete Task Book.
- Please note excessive tardiness and absences are grounds for dismissal from the Explorer Program.





# Training Requirements

## Mandatory Two-Day Orientation

### Mandatory Orientation Weekend for New Explorers

- Two days of training (Saturday & Sunday)
  - ❖ 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
- Held at a designated LACoFD Training Center.
- Explorers shall be hydrated, eat a nutritious breakfast, and bring healthy snacks and a lunch.
- Upon completion of the Orientation Weekend, Explorers will receive a helmet, gloves, brush coat, goggles, and a Task Book.





# Training Requirements

## Mandatory Two-Day Orientation Training Topics

- Station demeanor, attitude, behavior
- Rank structure
- Department organization
- Equipment location
- Emergency Operations: “Where you are during the emergency”
- Breathing apparatus
- Orientation to making a hydrant
- Orientation to pulling hose line
- Orientation to ladders
- Proper cleaning





# Training Requirements

## Explorer Task Book

### Explorer Task Book:

- The Task Book provides Explorers direction on the training they need to complete.
  - ❖ Explorers are provided with supplementary reading materials.
- Training topics are covered and practiced at post meetings and on ride-alongs.
- Upon completion of the Task Book, Explorers will undergo an overall evaluation of skills and physical test.

### Explorer Task Book Completion:

- Successful completion of final evaluation:
  - ❖ Issued certified Explorer patch, belt buckle, and turnouts.
- Earn the position of “Certified Explorer.”





# Financial Commitment

- The LACoFD will cover the cost of the following: uniform shirt, academy patches, uniform pant, name plate, steel-toe boots, belt, and belt buckle (certified explorers only).
- Financial Commitment is approximately \$135 (uniform physical fitness gear cost \$50; Learning For Life Exploring Fee \$85).
- \$85 paid *annually* and directly to “Learning for Life”
- Uniform items not covered:
  - Cold Weather Gear (i.e., sweatshirt, jacket)
  - Baseball cap
  - Beanie
  - Extra uniform pants and shirts
- Additional costs may apply for banquet participation.
- *All costs and fees are approximate.*





# Application Process

- Meet all program requirements.
- Commit to participating in the two-day Orientation, bi-monthly meetings, monthly ride-alongs, mandatory training, annual disaster drill and muster, and banquet.
- Application link will be posted on the Department's website and social media platforms; applications will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis.
- **If accepted, participants will be asked to agree to the following:**
  - ❖ Attending the mandatory uniform fitting.
  - ❖ Completing all required Department paperwork and Learning for Life application in advance of the Family Meeting.
  - ❖ Completing the medical/physical form and having it signed by a physician in advance of the Family Meeting.
  - ❖ Completing Youth Protection training (if over 18) in advance of the Family Meeting.
  - ❖ Attending the mandatory Family Meeting (Explorer and one family/legal guardian member).
  - ❖ Agreeing to all Explorer Program requirements including the Attendance Policy.





# Application Process Continued

- **Application Dates:**

- ❖ Application Dates: Saturday, May 31, 2025, at 9:00 a.m. through Monday, June 2, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.
- ❖ We anticipate the application process will be very competitive (approximate spots - 150).

- **Notification Emails (Selections and Regrets):**

- ❖ Friday, June 13, 2025

- **If selected, important/mandatory dates include:**

- ❖ Uniform Fitting Session (June 28<sup>th</sup>)
- ❖ In-Person Family Meeting (August 2<sup>nd</sup>)
- ❖ In-Person Orientation Weekend (August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>)
- ❖ Explorer Post Meetings begin September 3<sup>rd</sup>
- ❖ **The above dates are MANDATORY.**





1. fire.lacounty.gov

2. In menu, click “Join Us”

3. Next, click “Other Programs”

4. Click on “Explorer”

The screenshot shows the website [fire.lacounty.gov/explorer-program/](https://fire.lacounty.gov/explorer-program/). The browser's address bar and navigation icons are at the top. A red navigation bar contains the text "LACoFD Foundation | Contact Us" on the left and "Fire Station Locator" followed by social media icons on the right. Below this is the "County of Los Angeles FIRE DEPARTMENT" logo. A dark menu on the right side of the page includes a "JOIN US" link with a left-pointing arrow, and four options with right-pointing arrows: "FIREFIGHTER", "LIFEGUARD", "ADDITIONAL JOBS", and "OTHER PROGRAMS". The main content area features three images: two firefighters smiling, a firefighter extinguishing a fire, and a firefighter holding a hose. Below the images is the large yellow text "BE A FIRE EXPLORER" and a circular "EXPLORER PROGRAM" logo. At the bottom, a yellow banner contains the text "Explore The Possibilities". Three red arrows originate from the left side of the image: the first points to the URL in the address bar, the second points to the "JOIN US" link in the menu, and the third points to the "OTHER PROGRAMS" link in the menu.

fire.lacounty.gov/explorer-program/

LACoFD Foundation | Contact Us

Fire Station Locator

County of Los Angeles  
**FIRE**  
DEPARTMENT

JOIN US

FIREFIGHTER

LIFEGUARD

ADDITIONAL JOBS

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**BE A FIRE EXPLORER**

EXPLORER PROGRAM

Explore The Possibilities



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# Explorer Program Contact Information

County of Los Angeles Fire Department  
[www.fire.lacounty.gov/explorer-program](http://www.fire.lacounty.gov/explorer-program)

Follow us on social media

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# Q&A Session

Community Services Liaison Gina Chan







Thank you for joining!

