

"We teach explorers firefighting and medical skills, but also provide instruction on how to communicate during times of crisis. With just the right words, you can take an unstable situation and make it stable."

— Bruce Bailey, Post Advisor Station 7,
San Juan Capistrano, 37-year firefighter



EXPERIENCE THE ADVENTURE OF A FIRE EXPLORER

Would you like to learn how to respond quickly and calmly to a medical emergency? Work with a team that enjoys serving the community? Gain hands-on experience with firefighting equipment and apparatus? Learn lifelong skills that can help you save lives – and contribute to society. *Explorers experience similar training and duties of firefighters – because they train alongside real firefighters.*

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Be 14 to 21 years old
- If 14, be in last semester of 8th grade
- Join Learning for Life Exploring Division (www.learning-for-life.org)
- Maintain at least a 2.0 GPA
- Have no serious arrests or convictions
- Maintain fire safe grooming standards
- Be in good physical health
- Be free of physical limitations that could endanger yourself or others

SELECTION PROCESS

- Before submitting application, attend 3 weekly meetings at your desired post
- The post advisor will interview candidates at those meetings
- Candidates will be invited to submit an application packet to the post advisor

"I can throw a 24-foot and 14-foot ladder, take vital signs, spike an IV bag and much more."

— Scott Rosenthal, 2-year Fire Explorer

OCFA EXPLORER POST STATIONS

Post # 9605 • Station 5

23600 Pacific Island Dr. • Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
Kevin Skinner, Post Advisor • (949) 249-3085

Post # 9606 • Station 6

3180 Barranca Pkwy. • Irvine, CA 92606
Michael Yeun, Post Advisor • (949) 559-7530

Post # 9607 • Station 7

31865 Del Obispo, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675
Bruce Bailey, Post Advisor • (949) 831-0872

Post # 9621 • Station 21

1241 Irvine Blvd. • Tustin CA 92780
Bob Hutnyan, Post Advisor • (714) 328-3034

Post # 9631 • Station 31

22426 Olympiad Rd., • Mission Viejo, CA 92692
Greg Hennessey, Post Advisor • (949) 581-1910

Post # 9634 • Station 34

1530 N. Valencia Ave. • Placentia, CA 92870
Shaun Miller, Post Advisor • (714) 996-2121

Post # 9658 • Station 58

58 Station Way • Ladera Ranch, CA 92694
Kurt L. Bidingier, Post Advisor • (949) 347-2258

Post # 9661 • Station 61

8081 Western Ave. • Buena Park, CA 90620
Aaron Creager, Post Advisor • (714) 527-4118

Post # 9664 • Station 64

7351 Westminister Blvd. • Westminister, CA 92683
Dan Bustamante, Post Advisor • 714 379-4920

For detailed information,
first visit our website

www.ocfa.org

Community Volunteer Services
(714) 573-6050



FIRE EXPLORING PROGRAM

*Learn about firefighting
alongside your heroes*



Join the
Fire Exploring Program
Orange County Fire Authority

www.ocfa.org





CAREER, CHARACTER, PUBLIC SERVICE, LIFE SKILLS, LEADERSHIP

THE MISSION of OCFA's Fire Exploring Program is to help you learn about fire service careers and develop leadership and life skills that will be useful in any career.

TIME COMMITMENT

Weekdays: One night weekly for 3 to 4 hours at your post

Weekends: Special events, such as OCFA ceremonies, partner city festivals and other civic events

Personal outside activities: Post advisor will help you work around after-school and sports activities

"Jake enjoys dirt-bike riding, golfing and other activities, while schoolwork and the Explorers remain high priorities. We were so proud watching him walk in his uniform in the Laguna Niguel holiday parade. Afterwards, he helped firefighters and Explorers cook breakfast."

— Pete Kalin,
Father of Fire Explorer Jake Kalin



COST TO PARTICIPATE

Learning for Life: Annual dues \$11

Meeting Dues: \$8 to \$15 per month

Uniform: Approximately \$200.00

Safety Gear: Will be provided

CHALLENGE YOUR MIND AND BODY

Exploring is a career education program where you'll develop many aspects of your life — physical and emotional. We provide field and classroom style training at your week-long Explorer Academy which cover fire education, training sessions in first aid, CPR, fire suppression and equipment use and safety demonstrations. You'll also learn mechanical skills such as how to throw ladders, pull hose, tie knots, couple hose, squirt water, and simulate wildland firefighting.

Once assigned to your post, you will attend weekly drill nights where you will continue your education and training working side by side with your post advisor and fellow Explorers.

Put your skills to the test by participating in the annual OCFA Fire Explorer Games. Compete against other explorer posts throughout Orange County and Riverside by performing in individual and team events. Awards are given to individuals based on performance with the best team taking home the perpetual "team trophy".

"Scott has matured so much in the last two years. The firefighters not only train him, but mentor him, which has helped him every step of the way. Station 58 is his second home.."

— Dee Dee Rosenthal,
Mother of Fire Explorer Scott Rosenthal

MEETING GOALS, GAINING REWARDS

"I want to help people and give back to the community in a way I'll love for the rest of my life."

— Jake Kalin, Fire Explorer

Post advisors are part mentor, part drill sergeant and part guidance counselor. They provide an environment which fosters personal growth, responsibility to one another and commitment to the community. Their dedication enables our Explorers to take it to the next level and become Ride-Along Certified thru extra curricular training. This achievement allows Explorers to ride on most fire apparatus and observe firefighters as they fight fires, answer medical aid calls and protect our community.



"My goal is to help Explorers become good leaders and team players. I stress the importance of education, respect for themselves and their community, and how to be intelligent, caring people."

— Bruce Bailey, Post Advisor Station 7, San Juan Capistrano,
37-year firefighter

LEARN NEW SKILLS



Participate in the week-long Explorer Academy



Participate in OCFA Explorer Games with other Explorer posts. Train with them as well.



Once certified, participate on an OCFA Ride-Along.

"...What's most exciting are the ride alongs. I have been on structure fires, traffic collisions, medical aids and brush fires." — Scott Rosenthal, 2-year Fire Explorer