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## **BRIDGE ACADEMY ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

### **PURPOSE**

This document establishes recruit firefighter eligibility requirements for attending a Bridge Academy. A Bridge Academy is a regionally approved six-week training academy with a minimum of 214.5 hours of training designed for eligible professional firefighters.

### **FIREFIGHTERS ELIGIBLE FOR BRIDGE ACADEMIES**

Firefighters who have graduated from a CALSC regional training academy with a gap of employment of less than one year and are certified to practice emergency medical care with the Arizona Department of Health Services (i.e., Emergency Medical Technician-Basic or Paramedic). Firefighters with a gap of employment of more than one year must attend a full regional academy.

Those working as full-time paid professional firefighters within the State of Arizona with a valid Arizona State Firefighter I & II certification and are certified to practice emergency medical care with the Arizona Department of Health Services (i.e., Emergency Medical Technician-Basic or Paramedic).

**Note:** The employment agency may choose to have higher training standards, but never lower. For example, a fire department may require full academies for new hires who meet the criteria for a Bridge Academy.

### **EVALUATION & REMEDIATION**

Recruit firefighters attending a Bridge Academy shall be held to the same performance standard as those attending a full academy. Recruit Training Officers shall evaluate performance standards with final evaluations and approval granted by the Chief of the Regional Training Academy administering the Bridge Academy.

If a recruit firefighter attending a Bridge Academy fails to meet performance standards, the employing agency shall be responsible for decisions regarding continued employment (i.e., if the recruit should be allowed to reenter a future Bridge Academy, full Recruit Training Academy, or separation).

### **ADDITIONAL TRAINING REQUIREMENTS**

The employment agency is responsible for additional training. Examples include emergency medical services, wildland-urban interface, driver training, organizational, and administrative procedures.

### **APPROVAL FROM CALSC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

A Bridge Academy can be utilized for training recruit firefighters so long as it complies with this document and the curriculum established by the Regional Training Subcommittee. A compliant Bridge Academy can be administered without approval from the CALSC Executive Committee.

**Note:** The CALSC Executive Committee reserves the right to consider and permit recruit firefighter eligibility for attending a Bridge Academy in special circumstances that fall outside the scope of this directive.