



January 2025

Attention Explorers and Explorer Advisors,

US Forest Service, Angeles National Forest-FIRE will be hosting its 31st annual Wildland Firefighter Explorer Academy starting April 4, 2025.

Academy will be 4 weekends / 120+ hours of training that will focus on Wildland/Urban Interface firefighting and prescribed fire knowledge & skills. The academy will also provide a physical training component. Graduates will meet requirements for NWCG Firefighter-2 certification.

Academy will include 1 orientation day & 4 in-person training weekends and Explorers will stay at the Training Center during the Academy. Graduation will be on April 27, 2025.

We are seeking a diverse candidate pool of Explorers from Southern California. Join this amazing Fire Explorer Academy!

The cutoff and deadline to apply to the Academy is **March 6, 2025, at 6pm.** Explorers will be notified if they were selected 2 weeks before Academy starts. Limited slots available.

If you have any questions, email mail@anfpost99.com

Visit us on the web for more information and academy application: explorewildfire.com
Scan QR code for video & academy info.

Thank you,

Captain Peter Rosas
Division Chief Oscar Vargas
Academy Coordinators



[Academy Video](#)



[Academy Info & Application](#)

Wildfire Explorer Academy

Class 31 / 2025



Information & Details

Dates:

MARCH 29th. Orientation day. 9AM to 5PM. Required.

APRIL 4th, 5th, 6th. Academy week 1

APRIL 11th, 12th, 13th Academy week 2

APRIL 18th, 19th, 20th Academy week 3

APRIL 25th, 26th, 27th Academy week 4

Explorers arrive on Fridays and go home Sundays.

Times:

Fridays: 5:00 PM-10:00 PM. Explorers can arrive as early.

Saturdays: 6:30 AM-10:00 PM.

Sundays: 6:30 AM-5:00 PM.

Location:

Little Tujunga Fire Station/Training Center
12371 N. Little Tujunga Canyon Road
San Fernando, CA 91342

Host Agency: US Forest Service, Angeles National Forest-Fire & Aviation Management

Who can participate: Fire Explorers (ages 16 to 21) from Southern CA Explorer Posts.

Application deadline: Application deadline is March 6, 2025.

Selections/notifications: Explorers will be notified if they were selected 2 weeks before Academy starts.

Cost:

\$375 (included meals, hat, t-shirts, gear, training materials and more)

Curriculum: Courses are certified by the National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) and exceed the requirements for Firefighter-2 certification.

Training will include the following courses and subjects:

S-110 Basic Wildland Fire Suppression Orientation

S-190 Introduction to Wildland Fire Behavior

S-130 Basic Wildland Firefighter Training

Incident Command System (ICS)

FEMA IS-100, IS-200, IS-700, IS-800

S-134 Look Outs, Communications, Escape Routes

Fire Shelters

L-180 Human Factor on the Fireline

Leadership skills and knowledge

Fireground Communications

Wildland Fire Prevention and Investigation

Fire in the Wildland/Urban Interface

Field Drills (Hoselays/Handline Construction)

Live Fire Training and Scenarios

Physical Fitness Drills

Land Navigation

Sand-Table / SIM-TABLE training drills and much more

Explorers that pass all courses and physical fitness requirements will receive a National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) certificate of completion that makes them eligible for Type-2 Firefighter certification.

Attendance: Required to attend all training sessions and not allowed to miss any time during the Academy unless approved in advanced (before academy starts) by Academy Coordinator.

Orientation: Saturday March 29th (9AM to 5PM) will be an orientation day. Attendance is mandatory to get into the Academy. Explorers must bring a lunch, uniforms, personal protective equipment and work out clothing. This day is designed to ensure Explorers are registered, ready, briefed, and properly equipped for the rest of the Academy.

Testing: Tests will be given throughout the course with one mid-term and one final. All classroom work must be completed while in the academy. Participants who fail courses will not receive certificate for those courses.

Organization: Participants will be divided into Engine Companies & Crews and will compete with other *companies/crews* for the best academic scores, teamwork, physical fitness, etc.

Awards: Academic and physical fitness awards will be presented during graduation ceremony.

Meals: Meals not provided orientation day or Fridays. Meals provided Saturdays and Sundays.

Uniforms:

Explorers must wear and bring their uniforms (uniform shirt, Post T-shirt, uniform pants, shorts and sweatshirt) and bring 2-4 plain white T-shirts, running shoes, dark-blue sweatshirt, and physical training gear. The Academy will provide wildland fire gear for field drills if you cannot provide your own.

Academy Rules

1. Comply with Academy safety plan.
2. Mutual Respect is required and there is zero tolerance of any form of harassment/hazing.
3. The Academy has a "closed campus policy" during in-person training sessions.
4. Visitors are not allowed on the training center compound.
5. The use of alcohol, drugs, or any type of diet stimulants (ephedrine) is strictly prohibited.
6. Any incidents of cheating on exams or insubordination will be grounds for immediate removal.
7. Always keep training locations clean and neat.
8. Use of media-players, cameras or cell phones is not allowed.
9. Explorers will follow the dress code as written below:
 - a. Hair: Explorers must present a professional appearance. Hair must be clean and styled in a professional manner.
 - b. Shaving Policy: Male Explorers are expected to be always clean shaven.
 - c. Uniforms: Explorers will be required to wear their department approved uniforms. Shirts and pants will be clean and pressed. Department approved belts must be worn. Leather belts must be polished and free of wear.
 - d. Boots: Boots will be polished or oiled to your department's specifications. Wildland leather boots with Vibram soles are recommended but not required. Fire resistant boots required for Live-Fire Drills.
 - e. Jewelry: Wearing jewelry is not allowed due the risk and hazards during drills.
 - f. Watches, wedding bands or emergency ID bracelets are acceptable forms of jewelry.
 - g. No Facial jewelry allowed.
 - h. Undershirts: Academy t-shirts (provided) or plain white t-shirt may be worn
 - i. Garments: Female Explorers are to wear only dark gray, black or navy sports bras.
 - j. Soft caps: Approved Academy hats (provided) will be worn by Explorers outside and will be removed when entering buildings.
 - k. Jackets/Sweatshirts: Approved department jackets and sweatshirts will be permitted but must be removed during lineup and inspections.

** Failing to comply/follow the rules could lead to immediate removal from the Academy and notification to your Explorer Advisor and Home Agency.