Augusta Technical College partners with the Augusta Fire Department to Launch Fire & Emergency Services Degree Program

Augusta, GA - June 18, 2025

The Augusta Fire Department is proud to announce its partnership with Augusta Technical College to support the launch of the Fire & Emergency Services Occupation Associate of Applied Science Degree, a program aimed at preparing the next generation of first responders with the skills, certifications, and knowledge needed to serve our community.

Beginning this fall, students can enroll in a five-term, 64-credit program at Augusta Tech. Graduates of the program may become certified and/or licensed as Firefighter I, Firefighter II, Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), and Advanced EMT (AEMT), positioning them for immediate entry-level employment in fire and emergency services.

"This partnership is a major step forward in building a safer, stronger Augusta," said Fire Chief Antonio Burden. "By combining our field expertise with Augusta Tech's outstanding academic resources, we're creating a direct pathway for individuals who are ready to answer the call and serve with excellence."

The program combines classroom learning, hands-on training, and clinical experience to fully prepare students for entry-level firefighter and EMT-A roles.

"We are proud to partner with the Augusta Fire Department to deliver high-quality training in Fire Science and Emergency Medical Services," said Dr.

Melissa Frank-Alston, Interim President of Augusta Technical College. "This collaboration not only strengthens our commitment to workforce development but also ensures that our region's first responders are equipped with the skills, education, and credentials needed to serve and protect our community at the highest level."

This partnership advances Augusta's goals in workforce development and public safety, while creating a vital recruitment pipeline of qualified, ready-to-serve first responders.

About Augusta Technical College

Augusta Technical College, a unit of the Technical College System of Georgia, is a public postsecondary institution that provides academic and technical education, customized business and industry training, continuing education, student support, economic development, and adult education services to its service area (Burke, Columbia, Lincoln, McDuffie, and Richmond Counties) at a competitive financial value. Associate of Science Degrees, Associate of Applied Science Degrees, diplomas, and technical certificates of credit are provided through traditional and distance delivery methods. For more information, visit augustatech.edu.

Media Contact

Kimberly N. Holden
Executive Director, Marketing & Public Relations
706.771.4819
kimberly.holden@augustatech.edu

About The Augusta Fire Department

Augusta Fire/EMA protects lives through prevention, emergency response, and public education. In partnership with organizations like the Red Cross & Augusta Tech, the department offers smoke alarm installations, safety programs, and career training. For more info, please visit https://www.augustaga.gov, and follow us on FB: Augusta, Georgia Fire/EMA, X: @AugustaFireEMA, and IG: @AugustaFire.

Media Contact
Chiquita Richardson
Public Information Officer, Augusta Fire Department
(706) 825-1076
Crichardson@augustaga.Gov