



UNIFIED FIRE AUTHORITY

MEMORANDUM

25-209

December 3, 2025

TO: All Personnel

FROM: Operations Chief Kay

SUBJECT: Heavy Rescue School 2026

Unified Fire Authority will host a five-week Heavy Rescue School from May 10, 2026 through June 12, 2026. The school provides training in the following NFPA 1006 disciplines:

- Technician-level Rope Rescue (May 10-16, 2026)
- Technician-level Confined Space Rescue (May 18-21, 2026)
- Technician-level Vehicle Extrication (May 26-30, 2026)
- Technician-level Trench Rescue (June 1-5, 2026)

Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) training will also be provided (June 8-10, 2026)

Dates may adjust based on operational or logistical needs. Applicants should remain available from May 10–June 12, 2026.

Eligible applicants include:

- Firefighters who have completed merit probation
- Promoted Specialists (Engineer and Paramedic)
- Captains

Those interested in future participation in the Heavy Rescue Program are encouraged to apply. Students must meet all attendance requirements and demonstrate competency in each discipline to complete school successfully.

Heavy Rescue School enrollment is limited to 16 students. Two Captains, four Specialists, and 10 firefighters. Captains and Specialists will be selected by seniority. If the number of firefighter applications exceeds available capacity, a written examination will be administered. Seniority will then be added to the written exam score to determine each applicant's final ranking. Final selection will be based on departmental needs and established eligibility criteria.

Operations Staff

- Students will attend school on days off on their own time.
- When scheduled on duty, students will be placed on department business for the hours required to attend.
- Students are responsible for managing their own constant staffing sign-up, trade working obligations, or mandatory staffing requirements that may conflict with attendance.

Day Staff

- Students will attend school on days off on their own time.
- When scheduled on duty, students will be placed on department business for up to 20 hours. Other hours will require vacation or schedule adjust to cover attending the course.
- Students should coordinate with their Division Chief or Manager and receive approval prior to applying.
- Students are responsible for managing their own constant staffing sign-up, trade working obligations, or mandatory staffing requirements that may conflict with attendance.

Heavy Rescue School is connected to advancement to Firefighter II on the Firefighter Pay Plan.

Promotional testing to a Firefighter Specialist will occur separately as scheduled by the Emergency Services Assistant Chief and Human Resources Division.

To apply for the 2026 Heavy Rescue School, submit:

1. A resume outlining relevant qualifications.
2. A cover letter explaining your interest and goals related to the Heavy Rescue Program.
3. Upload both documents by 5:00 pm, January 4, 2026.

<https://unifiedfire.applicantpro.com/internaljobs>

For questions, contact:

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