Sunrise Mountain High School
Peoria Unified School District’s Fire Science Program of Study
Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security Career Cluster

OVERVIEW

The Fire Science Program of Study at Sunrise Mountain High School in Glendale, AZ, prepares learners for postsecondary and career success by providing rigorous in-school instruction and opportunities to learn directly from experts working in the field. The program was started in 2004 due to Arizona’s critical need for employees in fire science.

To meet this demand, the Peoria Fire Science Advisory Council worked with Peoria Unified School District to develop the program of study. The council continues to be involved by revising standards, determining what skills learners need to be successful in the workforce and expanding work-based learning opportunities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Student Demographics</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(42)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Low Income</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minority</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

INSTRUCTION FROM INDUSTRY EXPERTS

The Fire Science Advisory Council members cover the full breadth of stakeholders needed to create a high-quality program of study, including multiple educational partners, eight fire departments, representatives from the Bureau of Land Management, and Professional Medical Transport Ambulance staff, among others. Council members regularly offer work-based learning experiences, including mentorship, job shadowing and internships. Learners are required to complete a minimum of 100 hours of work-based learning activities, including internships, job shadowing, ride alongs and more.

100 percent of students take part in work-based learning opportunities and experiences. After they have gained skills through training, learners share their knowledge in the community by teaching fire and life safety skills to CO-OP programs at three high schools.

The hands-on skills the Fire Science students are gaining in workplace settings are complemented by their classroom instruction. Program instructors are an active-duty fire captain and firefighter, each bringing decades of professional experience to the classroom.
A CLEAR VISION OF SUCCESS WITH STACKABLE CREDENTIALS

The stackable credentials offered throughout this program are a key component of the program’s success. Throughout the duration of the program, learners earn college credit, and various industry certification offerings allow learners multiple on and off ramps throughout their education and career. Specifically, students can earn up to nine dual enrollment credits, which articulate to an associate of science degree in emergency response and operations in fire science.

These seamless transitions set learners up with the academic knowledge, hands-on experiences and credentials needed to succeed after graduation.

“The young men and women come in prepared both physically and mentally while possessing the necessary skills to become a professional firefighter. The skills they are exposed to while in the Fire Science Program mirror our standards at preparing our future firefighters and lays the groundwork for successful career in fire service.”
— Captain Tony Neely, Lead Recruit Training Officer, Peoria Fire Medical Department

Success by the Numbers

100%
Participated in Work-Based Learning

100%
Graduated High School

100%
Earned an Industry-Recognized Credential

60%
Earned Postsecondary Credit

Data based on 2016-17 school year