



## WHAT IS EXPLORING?

Exploring is Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 14 (and have completed the eighth grade) or 15 to 20 years old. Adults are selected by the participating organization for involvement in the program. Color, race, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic background, economic status, or citizenship is not criteria for participation.

The purpose of our explorer program is to provide experiences to help young people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. Explorers are ready to investigate the meaning of interdependence in their personal relationships and communities.

The Murrieta Fire Department has teamed up with Learning for Life to provide the young men and woman in the area a chance to learn firsthand about the fire service.

### Program Goals

- Teach explorers about fire service.
- Help with career path
- Teach respect to self and others
- Create good citizenship
- Leadership

### **Teaching Explorers About Fire Service**

Fire Explorers go through a six (6) day fire academy. In the academy, Explorers learn how to work with fire hose, ladders, personal protective equipment, self contained breathing equipment, station and equipment care, C.P.R., and live fire control 3 training. After the academy, the Post meets two times a month for training. The Department also has a ride along program, where the explorer gets to ride on the engine for the day, and see firsthand what being a firefighter is about.

## **Help with Career Path**

This is an important part of our program. Without a good career path, it is almost impossible to get a job in the fire service. Our explorers learn about background investigations, oral interview, classes needed, and the order in which to take them.

## **Teach Respect to Self and Others**

Respect starts with respecting yourself. How you act is how you are viewed by others. When one has no self respect, it is impossible for them to respect others. The fire service is all about self respect and respecting others. We take pride in being firefighters and always present ourselves as professionals.

## **Creating Good Citizenship**

Citizenship is created through community service throughout the year. The explorers help with community events, street closures, parking lot attendance, and many other tasks.

## **Leadership**

Leadership is a big part of the fire service. The fire service is a paramilitary organization meaning that there is a rank structure that everyone follows. Fire explorers learn about that structure and become a part of that structure by providing leadership at their level in the structure.

## **How do I become a Murrieta Fire Explorer?**

The Murrieta Fire Department brings explorers on once a year in June.

- The first step to becoming an explorer is to fill out an interest form found on the Fire Department's webpage, Fire Administration Office or at any of our five (5) fire stations. This will place you on a list for the next start date.
- Contact will be made on a first come basis in June
- The contact will invite you to pick up an application
- Once the application is accepted, you will be invited to an oral interview
- If accepted, you and your parents will need to come to orientation night.
- There will be a mandatory academy during the last full week of July.
- Monday thru Saturday 0700 – 1700 hours