



Southern Maine Community College  
Fire Science Department  
2 Fort Road  
South Portland, ME 04106  
207-741-5808



Dear Prospective Public Safety Student Live-In Program Applicant:

In this portal you'll find information about the SMCC Public Safety Student Live-in program and an application package. Applications for fall placement are available in early February each year (and posted on the Fire Science portal). Completed applications are due in early May. Your completed application may be mailed, or scanned and e-mailed, to me.

Students who apply for the program by the annual deadline and plan to attend any SMCC academic program as a full time student (complete at least 12 credits per semester) will be interviewed in late May / early June in Gorham, Maine. Students "from away" may interview via Skype. The live-in student selection "draft" is held immediately after the interviews and students are notified within 5 days.

Those students selected for the live-in program sign a live-in contract, and must attend a 1-day mandatory orientation in late June @ SMCC where they will be briefed about live-in opportunities and obligations and assigned self-study reading and online course materials for the Live-In Firefighter I + II Academy. Students must complete their self-study assignments over a 6-week period in order to attend the 3-week academy, which is held the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weeks of August each year.

The 3-week Firefighter I + II Academy is held in Falmouth and Yarmouth, Maine. Students may stay @ their assigned live-in fire-rescue stations. In addition, students complete a 2-day Emergency/Ambulance Vehicle Operator's Course (EVOC/AVOC) training weekend, and – if they are ready -- a 2-day Basic Pumps Operations Course (BPOC) during the fall semester.

College classes begin in late August. Generally, Firefighter I + II students complete 1-2 practice weekends in September and early October, and then take Maine Fire Service Institute/Pro Board practical and written certification end-tests in late October.

For specific dates, see Live-In Selection and Training Schedule, posted on this portal.

Applicants not selected in the spring annual process may be interviewed and placed anytime that vacancies occur during the summer break or school year. Most wait-listed applicants who attend SMCC are selected for live-in positions within a few months.

As you can see, the college and host communities have high expectations and strict requirements for our live-in students. Meeting these expectations and requirements also mean great opportunities for those students who complete the program because potential employers know that these students are "the cream of the crop", have gained valuable experience, served their community, and are well-prepared for public safety and other careers. Our best graduates successfully compete for career positions in Maine, across New England and all over the United States.

We look forward to your application. As long as you have applied to an SMCC academic program you can apply for placement in the student live-in program. Your selection for a live-in assignment will be contingent upon your acceptance by SMCC and your registering for at least 12 academic credits. Your continued participation in the live-in program requires that you maintain at least a "C" average in your studies, complete basic fire and EMS training, and meet your student live-in contract requirements.

Please let me know if you have questions. *Keep in touch!*

*Professor Willis*

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