



Start Right Courses

Fire Sciences (A.S.)

Meta Major
Valencia Degree

Public Safety
Associate in Science, Fire Sciences

Start Right

This guide outlines coursework to be chosen **within the first 18 credits** for students who plan to complete an **Associate in Science, Fire Sciences** degree at Valencia College.

Fire Sciences

The Fire Science Technology degree program offers the student a scientific understanding of fire and emergency hazards, with emphasis on effective prevention, control and management. The program will provide students an enhanced opportunity as current fire fighters and staff to pursue various professional opportunities in Public Safety with multiple educational pathways. General education courses are included to prepare the graduate to communicate and work effectively with all levels of society. Students should consult with the School of Public Safety Career Program Advisor to obtain information on courses required to pursue certifications from the Florida Bureau of Fire Standards and Training. Courses are available online, blended and in the classroom.

Start Right Courses

Choose from these courses for your first 18 credit hours at Valencia College (your first 2-3 terms).

<u>ENC 1101</u>	FRESHMAN COMPOSITION I	3 credits
<u>FFP 1000</u>	FIRE SCIENCE FUNDAMENTALS	3 credits
<u>FFP 1505</u>	FIRE PREVENTION	3 credits
<u>MATH or SCIENCE</u>	SEE GEN ED CORE REQUIREMENTS	3 credits
<u>FFP 2120</u>	BUILDING CONSTRUCTION FOR THE FIRE SERVICE	3 credits
<u>FFP 1540</u>	PRIVATE FIRE PROTECTIONS SYSTEMS I	3 credits

*Limited Access Program (Interview and selection process required)

How many courses should I take?

Enrollment is based on credit hours, not the total number of classes you take.

Full-Time: 12 or more credit hours is a full-time course load.
A typical first semester of classes will be 4 courses for full-time students.

Part-Time: 11 or fewer credit hours is considered a part-time course load.
A typical first semester of classes will be 2 courses for part-time students.

Start Right Courses

How should I choose my class schedule?

- **If you are required to take developmental education courses, you must enroll in them first.**
- **Take one course per subject per term**
Valencia recommends students take **only one course per subject per term**, especially if the courses are “Gordon Rule” (writing intensive). This will help students maintain a balanced class schedule.
- **Complete a course sequence without interruption**
Valencia also recommends that once students **begin a course sequence, they complete it without interruption**. Course sequences are cumulative and each new course will build upon the material learned in the previous course. Thus, you may not want to take breaks in between classes in subjects like math, science, or writing (to name a few).
- **Plan to study two hours for every hour you are in class**
The decision about the best course load for you in any given term should be based on the **amount of time** you have available to complete your academic work. As a general rule, you should plan to allow for at least two hours of study outside of class for every one hour you are in class. Following this rule, you would need to plan for 24 hours a week outside of class for the semesters in which you take 12 credit hours for a total of 36 hours per week devoted to college.



How do I know which classes to take for my degree?

- See all the courses required for your degree in **My Education Plan** in Atlas
- Develop a term-by-term plan to complete your degree with **My Education Plan** in Atlas
<https://atlas.valenciacollege.edu/>

Full Degree Requirements

Valencia Catalog (Your year of entry 2019-20) valenciacollege.edu/catalog
Fire Sciences Program <http://valenciacollege.edu/asdegrees/fire-services/>

Advising

Look in Atlas (“Courses” tab, “Academic Profile”) for your assigned advisor. Your advisor can help you stay on the right pathway toward your degree. Contact your Advisor at least once a term. Advising Centers on each Campus: East Bldg. 5, Room 210 Osceola Bldg. 2, Room 140 Lake Nona Bldg.1, Room 149 West SSB, Room 110 Winter Park Bldg. 1, Room 210 Poinciana Bldg. 1, Room 101 Downtown, Union West, Room 105.