



## NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**

Augusta Fire/ Emergency Management, 706-821-2489

### **AUGUSTA FIRE PARTNERS WITH RCSS TO OFFER HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FIREFIGHTING TRAINING PROGRAM**

**AUGUSTA, Ga., October 14, 2021** – The Augusta Fire Department and the Richmond County School System are proud to announce a joint program to allow high school juniors and seniors to train as firefighters and learn life-saving skills.

Augusta Firefighters/EMTs will provide first-hand training, teaching, and mentorship to high school students interested in a post-graduate career in emergency services.

“This is a great opportunity for young people to explore a community-based career before they graduate,” said Fire Chief/EMA Director Antonio Burden. “Even if they choose not to become a firefighter after graduation, the lessons and skills these students will learn can make a positive impact on themselves and their families for the rest of their lives.”

The Explorer Program starts in November and goes until mid-May. Each training session will be on a Saturday at an Augusta fire station.

To qualify, students must be 16-years-old and a junior or senior at a Richmond County High School. They must pass a sports physical and maintain a 2.5 overall grade point average.

If your teen is interested in joining the Augusta Fire Department Explorer Program, parents should contact their student's guidance counselor.

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If you have not signed up for emergency alerts, you can download the CodeRed the app on your phone or text “Augusta” to 99411 to start the sign up process.

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