Forestry Conservation and Firefighting

Do You Like …
… being outdoors?
… responding quickly in stressful situations?
… organization and detail?
… teamwork?

If so, you may be a good candidate for Job Corps’ Forestry Conservation and Firefighting career training program.

SKILLS

Learn how to perform the essential tasks of a forestry conservation and firefighting specialist, including:

» Controlling and suppressing forest fires as part of a firefighting crew.
» Using shovels or engine- or hand-driven water or chemical pumps to extinguish flames.
» Providing technical assistance regarding the conservation of soil, water, forests, and related natural resources.
» Compiling data pertaining to size, content, condition, and other characteristics of forest tracts.
» Surveying forest lands for seedling survival and wildlife damage.

EXPECTATIONS & REQUIREMENTS

While on the job, you will be expected to display the following traits at all times:

» Attention to detail
» Endurance
» Problem-solving skills
» Concern for safety and rules
» Teamwork

And you will need to meet a few basic requirements in order to be hired as a forestry conservation and firefighting specialist, including having:

» Strong math and reading skills
» A high school diploma or the equivalent
» Completion of the core curriculum and passing scores on all written and performance tests
» Certification in basic first aid and CPR
» Ability to work in steep terrain and in extreme temperatures, altitude, and smoke while maintaining the ability to meet unforeseen emergencies

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CREDENTIALS

As a Job Corps student, you can earn credentials in your training area that demonstrate you have gained the knowledge and skills to help you succeed in your career. Credentials may lead to greater employment opportunities, higher wages, and promotions.

Students who complete a Renewable Resources and Energy training area can earn nationally recognized credentials from organizations such as the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA), the Professional Landcare Network (PLANET), and the North American Board of Certified Energy Practitioners (NABCEP).

CAREER OPTIONS

Most Forestry Conservation and Firefighting graduates go on to become forest and conservation specialists. Forestry conservation and firefighting specialists spend most of their time outdoors and have very physically demanding tasks. Those interested in this career should be able to follow directions well because of the risks involved with this job. They work in close-knit teams in forested and wooded areas.

SALARY

The average starting salary for most forestry conservation and firefighting specialists is $35,000/year.

*For additional salary information and career path options in this field, visit www.mynextmove.org.