

What to Do:

- Maintain a personal physical fitness program. Approach your career of firefighting as a lifelong career of strengthening. Whatever workout you pursue, it should include both strength training and aerobic workouts.
- Obey all local, state and Federal laws. No Class A or B misdemeanor within the 24 months preceding the date of the written examination. Applicants are eligible to reapply for subsequent entrance exams once the unsuitable factor is no longer applicable. Any felony conviction deems an applicant permanently unsuitable.
- Continue your education. Applicants will be tested on critical thinking, reasoning ability, judgment and memory skills.
- Retain employment (unless fulltime student). Applicants must demonstrate maturity, integrity, dependability, good work ethic and loyalty to their past and present employers.
- Maintain a clean background and lifestyle!
- Stay Positive! Don't stop what you're pursuing outside SAFD employment! It takes a few years on average to qualify for SAFD's hiring process. The best candidates are the ones who keep coming back year after year and are pursuing success through other skills, careers, and education. They understand that once employed with SAFD, they will have time to have multiple careers, interests, or endeavors. Don't be that candidate that expects to be the "Next Firefighter" just because he or she is signed up for the next exam! This is a long-term plan so don't sit around all year just waiting for the test. Be very productive and let your mentor keep you connected on what is up and coming for SAFD.

What not to Do:

- Don't Drink & Drive Irresponsibly. Any DWI conviction within the last 5 years will deem an applicant unsuitable. Two or more traffic violation convictions within the twelve (12) months preceding the date of the written examination will prevent you from testing. Applicants are eligible to reapply for subsequent entrance exams once the unsuitable factor is no longer applicable.
- Don't use Illicit Drugs. Cannot have used marijuana or synthetic cannabinoids for the purpose of recreation or intoxication anytime during the twenty-four (24) months preceding the date of examination nor more than three (3) independent times during the last 5 years. Applicants are eligible to reapply for subsequent

entrance exams once the unsuitable factor is no longer applicable. Any drug listed in the Texas Controlled Substances Act that's used by an applicant over the age of 16 years old will permanently disqualify the applicant. Applicants aged 16 or under that violated the Act, will be eligible to reapply after five (5) years from the most recent date of usage.

- Don't Be Late. Showing up late for scheduled appointments may cause an applicant to be dropped from the process. Applicants are eligible to reapply for subsequent entrance examinations.
- Don't Sit Idly. The SAFD is looking for candidates that's self-motivated, shows initiative, productive and caring. Make good use of your time while seeking employment with the SAFD.
- Don't Give Up!!

Entrance Exam study recommendation

1. Go to our website, <http://www.safdcareers.com/> then click > How to Become a Firefighter > First Step > scroll down until you see "study for exam". At this point, you need to thoroughly spend time studying the Study Guide. Don't be in any rush doing this part because the exam will be in a similar format as this study guide. You need to be able to clearly understand what the sections of the test will entail.
2. Print out the SAFD 50 question practice exam that is located with the study guide. Take the practice exam, time yourself, and then grade your score. This will give you a snapshot of where you were at the beginning. Starting in March before the exam, you will have the opportunity to take multiple other practice exams. Your goal will be to consistently score in the 90's.
3. Recommendation to purchase "The Encyclopedia of Firefighter Examinations" from Don Mcnea @ <http://www.fireprep.com/>. I would order the book while you are going over the study guide so that you don't lose any time waiting on it. Study this book intensely. However, look at the table of contents and only study the sections that correlate and mirror what the Study guide prepared you for. Don't study anything that isn't on the study guide (i.e. skip any Math stuff).
4. Plan to attend classes at Cafe College (they are free) before the exam. Go to safdcareers.com to learn more. They can fill up fast.
5. Recommendation to attend Don Mcnea seminar in San Antonio. Every year, a representative comes into SA to sell his study seminar We have heard great reviews from people that have gone to this class.