

ORDINANCE NO. 2024-O-211

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 12: FIRE PREVENTION AND PROTECTION; ARTICLE IV, SECTION 12-81, OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES BY AMENDING THE FIRE PREVENTION FEES, PURPOSE AND SCHEDULE, AND ARTICLE V, SECTION 12-91. FIREFIGHTING FEE-BASED EDUCATION FEES, PURPOSE AND SCHEDULE FEES; PROVIDING THAT THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BE CUMULATIVE; PROVIDING A SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR PUBLICATION; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, it is the intent of the City Council of the City of Laredo, Texas (“City Council”) to protect the public health, safety, and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the ordinance is to amend the fee schedule to increase Fire Prevention and Firefighting Fee-Based Education fees due to increased call volume and increased departmental expenses; and

WHEREAS, State law permits the City of Laredo (“City”) to assess fees to recover the costs of providing Services to the public if such fees are reasonably related to the actual costs of providing such services; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 12 of the City of Laredo Code of Ordinances establishes the City’s fees and charges for Services, which fees partially defray the costs incurred by the City in providing the Services; and

WHEREAS, the Fire Chief has reviewed and favorably recommended the adoption of the Fire Prevention and Firefighting Fee-Based Education fees; and

WHEREAS, the City Council has deemed the proposed local amendments appropriate for the City of Laredo;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LAREDO, TEXAS THAT:

Section 1. The City of Laredo Code of Ordinances, Chapter 12, Article IV, Section 12-81, is hereby amended as follows:

Fees for fire inspection services shall be for the amounts and purposes hereinafter set forth in exhibit A.

Activity	Fees	
<i>Plan Review</i>		
Plat Review	\$125.00	Per plat
Plan Review Construction	\$125.00 + \$0.01 per square foot	

Plan Review for Sprinkler System	\$125.00 + \$0.002 per square foot	
New Sprinkler System Installation	\$125.00 + (1-25) \$1.50 per head, (26 +) \$0.50 per head + \$100 per standpipe	
Sprinkler System Modification/Remodel	\$75.00 + (1-25) \$1.50 per head, (26 +) \$0.50 per head	
Plan Review for Fire Alarm System	\$125.00 + \$0.002 per square foot	
New Fire Alarm System Installation	\$125.00 + (1-25) \$1.75 per device. (26 +) \$0.75 per device	
Fire Alarm Modification/Remodel	\$75.00 + (1-25) \$1.75 per device, (26 +) \$0.75 per device	
Fire Alarm Connected to Sprinkler System	\$125.00	Per panel
Fire Alarm Panel Replacement	\$125.00	Per panel
Plan Review for Vent Hood System	\$180.00	Per hood
Permits		
Above-Ground Storage Tanks	\$250.00	Per tank
Control Burning	\$225.00	For every 30 days
Explosive (Transport)	\$75.00	Per vehicle
Food Booth	\$25.00	Per day
Fireworks Display	\$250.00	Per display
LPG Tank	\$100.00	Per tank
Mobile Refuel initial fee	\$250.00	
Mobile Refuel 1—3 vehicles	\$200.00	Annually
Mobile Refuel 4—6 vehicles	\$400.00	Annually
Mobile Refuel 7—10 vehicles	\$600.00	Annually
Mobile Refuel 11 + vehicles	\$800.00	Annually
Parade Float	\$35.00 Per float	Per event
Pyrotechnics, Indoor	\$150.00	Per event
Spray Paint Booths	\$180.00	Per booth
Underground Storage Tanks	\$250.00	Per tank
Used Clothing (Ropa Usada)	\$125.00	
Underground Fire Line	\$150.00 per line + \$50.00 per hydrant	
Tents Permits	\$75.00	Per tent
Inspections		
After Hours Inspection	\$200.00	Per hour minimum 2 hours
Airport	\$150.00	
Assembly – Occupancies under 300 occupant load	\$75.00	
Assembly – Occupancies from 300-500 occupant load	\$125.00	
Assembly – Occupancies over 500 occupant load	\$175.00	
Beer and Wine Permits Inspection	\$125.00	
Daycare or Similar Inspection licensed for up to 12 children	\$50.00	
Daycare or Similar Inspection licensed for over 12 children	\$75.00	

Detention/Correctional	\$150.00	
Fire Inspection	\$75.00	
Fuel-Line Pressure Test	\$75.00	Per line
Fuel Dispenser	\$75.00	Per dispenser
Hotel/Motel	\$100.00 + \$20.00 per floor	
Hospital or Similar Inspection	\$250.00 + \$1.00 per Bed after 150 beds	
Hydrostatic Test	\$75.00	Per test
Monitoring Wells (Ignitable Liquids)	\$75.00	Per well
Nursing Home or Similar Inspection	\$150.00 + \$1.00 per Bed after 100 beds	
Rehab, Physical Therapy and Clinics	\$125.00	
Re-inspection Fee	\$125.00	
Underground Tank Removal	\$250.00	Per tank
Warehouse 0-50,000 sq. ft.	\$125.00	
Warehouse 50,001-200,000 sq. ft.	\$225.00	
Warehouse 200,001 + sq. ft.	\$325.00	
Wrecking Yard/ Junk Yard	\$100.00	
Operating without a Permit	Permit fee + 150% of Permit fee	
Others		
Fire Drill (Commercial)	\$75.00	Per Fire Drill
Fire Equipment Demo/Training	\$150.00	Per demo/training, up to 40 people
Fire Report Copy	\$10.00	Per copy
Standby Fire Company	\$250.00 per hr.	Minimum 2 hrs.

Sec. 12-91. Purpose and schedule fees.

The purpose and schedule fees for firefighting fee-based education fees shall be for the amounts and purposes hereinafter set forth in:

Tuition and technical courses:

Filing fee for non-institutional courses: \$50.00

(1) Emergency medical services and related fields

Course	Number of Hours	Fee
CPR course (pre-requisite)	8 hrs.	\$50.00
Emergency medical technician—EMT	327 hrs.	1,400.00
Paramedic EMT-P	1,000 hrs.	4,000.00
Basic trauma life support	16 hrs.	200.00
Basic trauma life support (Pediatrics)	16 hrs.	200.00
EMS instructor course	40 hrs.	250.00

(2) Formal recertification courses

Course	Number of Hours	Fee
Emergency medical technician EMT	48 hrs.	\$500.00

Paramedic EMT-P	96 hrs.	500.00
-----------------	---------	--------

(3) Fire protection courses and related fields.

On-Site Training

Structure Firefighter

The Recruit Fire Academy offers one pathway to your Basic Structural Firefighter certification. This traditional face-to-face academy is a six-month-long (735 hours) program of intense classroom and physical training with hands-on training at the Laredo Fire Training Facility. After successfully completing this course, students will be qualified to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Basic Structural Firefighter exam. This structured curriculum covers all of the National Fire Protection Association's (NFPA) qualifications for:

- Fire Fighter I
- Fire Fighter II
- Hazardous Materials-Awareness
- Hazardous Materials-Operations

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Basic Firefighting Academy	5-6 Months	\$5,500

(4) Aircraft Rescue Firefighter

This course is a four (4) week (160 hours) program plus live fire scenarios that are designed to meet or exceed the minimum requirements of FAA FAR 139.319, ICAO Airport Service Manual 14.1.3, and NFPA 1003 Standards for Airport Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications. After successfully completing this course, students will be qualified to take the Texas Commission Aircraft Rescue Firefighter Protection exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Participants must be certified through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) as a Fire Fighter (Basic) to be eligible to take the Commission Aircraft Rescue Firefighter exam.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Basic ARFF-Texas Curriculum	120	\$2,000
FAA/FAR 139 Compliant ARFF Fuel Fire Handline Ops	4	\$500 (Per Individual)
ARFF Vehicle, Large Fuel Spill	4	\$1,000
ARFF Commission Skills (Wing, brake, interior, cargo)	16	\$750

Live Fire Courses – Misc.

Course	# of Hours	Fee
Live Fire - burn tower operations	8 hrs.	\$200
Propane burns	8 hrs.	\$300
Specialized live burns	8 hrs.	\$300
Specialized courses with burns	16 hrs.	\$450

(5) Hazardous Materials Technician

This course provides the basic skill set needed to satisfy the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) minimum requirements for a State Certified Hazardous Material Technician. After successfully completing this course, students will be qualified to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Hazardous Materials Technician exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

To be eligible to take the Commission Hazardous Material Technician exam, participants must be certified through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) as a Fire Fighter (Basic).

Course	# Hrs.	New Fee
Hazardous Materials Technician State Certified	80	\$1,000

Instructor I

The Fire Instructor curriculums are designed to provide clear guidance that ensures adequate presentation of the information required to meet the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1041, Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Instructor I exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Participants must be certified through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) as a Fire Fighter (Basic) to be eligible and have three (3) years of experience.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Instructor I	48	\$300

Instructor II

Fire Instructor II is designed to teach firefighters the knowledge and ability to develop individual lesson plans for a specific topic, including learning objectives, instructional aids, and evaluation instruments; schedule training sessions based on the overall training plan of the authority having jurisdiction; and supervise and coordinate the activities of other instructors. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Instructor II exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Must hold as a prerequisite a Fire Instructor I certification

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Instructor II	48	\$300

Instructor III

Fire Instructor III is designed to teach firefighters the knowledge and ability to develop comprehensive training curriculum and programs for single or multiple organizations, conduct organization needs analysis, and develop training goals and implementation strategies. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Instructor III exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Must hold as a prerequisite a Fire Instructor II certification

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Instructor III	48	\$300

Fire Officer I

This course is designed for the first-line company officer/supervisor. It satisfies the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1021 Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications, Chapter Four Fire Officer I. It is designed around classroom lectures and group exercises to improve your abilities to manage a single fire company. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Officer I exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Hold Basic Structural Fire Protection AND Fire Service Instructor I certification.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Officer I	64	\$500

Fire Officer II

This course is designed to meet the needs of the mid-level officer/supervisor and satisfies the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1021 Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications, Chapter Five Fire Officer II. It is designed around classroom lectures and group interactive exercises to improve your abilities to manage multiple fire companies. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Officer II exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Hold Basic Structural Fire Protection, Fire Service Instructor, and Fire Officer I certification.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Officer II	64	\$500

Fire Inspector

This course is designed for individuals conducting fire inspections, life safety surveys/inspections, and fire code enforcement for single occupancy. The Fire Inspection I course satisfies the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1031 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plans Examiner, Chapter 4 Fire Inspector I. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Inspector exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Complete a commission-approved Inspector training program

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Inspector Course	180	\$1,000

Fire Investigator

Introduction to the investigation of fires and explosions of known and unknown origin, including investigative techniques, collection and preservation of evidence, case preparation and presentation, point-of-origin, and arson law. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Investigator exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Complete a commission-approved Fire Investigator training program

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Arson Course	120	\$1,000

Plan Examiner

This course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge described in Chapter 7, "Plan Examiner I" of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1031, Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner. The course covers the basics of plan administration and plan review. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Plan Examiner exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Complete a commission-approved Plan Examiner I training program

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Plans Examiner	80	\$1,000

Driver Operator-Pumper

This course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge for Driver/Operator-Pumper as described in Chapters 4 and 5 of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Hold Basic Structural Fire Protection

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Driver Operator-Pumper	40	\$500

Flashover Chamber Course

The course begins with a classroom session which explains flashover signs and signals. This session lasts approximately two hours. Following the classroom session, students will enter the flashover chamber where they will be exposed to several actual flashovers in a controlled environment. Students will learn how to anticipate flashover by carefully observing conditions.

This is a hands-on class in which the students will be subjected to high heat conditions and hostile fire conditions

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Flashover Chamber Course	4	\$500
Flashover Chamber Course	8	\$1,000

Fire Extinguisher Course

Fire Extinguisher Safety training course explains how to properly assess the environment and determine if conditions are favorable to use a fire extinguisher safely and successfully. The course covers how a fire extinguisher works, what type to use and the correct procedure for using one.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Extinguisher/Dry Chemical Operations	4	\$100

Hazardous Materials Awareness

The Hazardous Materials Awareness course provides students with training to proficiency in identifying hazardous materials; utilizing the most current U.S. Department of Transportation's Emergency Response Guidebook (ERG) to identify hazardous materials risks and protective actions, utilizing hazard communication documents to identify hazardous materials risks and protective actions, and determining awareness-level personnel and public protective actions.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Hazardous Materials Awareness	8	\$150

Online

Driver Operator-Pumper

This course is designed to provide you with the skills and knowledge for Driver/Operator-Pumper as described in Chapters 4 and 5 of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1002, Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications. This course will require students to take the final exam in person, along with TCFP skills. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Driver Operator-Pumper I exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Hold Basic Structural Fire Protection eligible and have three (3) years of experience.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Driver Operator-Pumper	Self-Pace	\$300

Fire Officer I

The Fire Officer training program is designed to prepare fire officers or aspiring fire officers to become leaders in the fire service. Our Fire School program is conveniently designed to be taken via the Internet. You can learn everything you need to know without worrying about deadlines or rearranging your current schedule. The program covers all necessary curriculum requirements to become a Fire Officer I and is approved by the TCFP. This course will require students to take the final exam in person, along with TCFP skills. You will be eligible to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Officer I exam after successfully completing this course.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Hold Basic Structural Fire Protection AND Fire Service Instructor I certification.
eligible and have three (3) years of experience.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Officer I	Self-Pace	\$300

Instructor I

The Fire Instructor curriculums are designed to provide clear guidance that ensures adequate presentation of the information required to meet the Job Performance Requirements (JPRs) of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1041, Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications. This course will require students to take the final exam in person, along with TCFP skills. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Instructor I exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Participants must be certified through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) as a Fire Fighter (Basic) to be eligible and have three (3) years of experience.

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Instructor I	Self-Pace	\$300

Hazardous Materials Technician

This course provides the basic skill set needed to satisfy the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) minimum requirements for a State Certified Hazardous Material Technician. After successfully completing this course, students will be qualified to take the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Hazardous Materials Technician exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

To be eligible to take the Commission Hazardous Material Technician exam, participants must be certified through the Texas Commission on Fire Protection (TCFP) as a Fire Fighter (Basic).

Course	# Hrs.	New Fee
Hazardous Materials Technician State Certified	Self-Pace	\$300

Fire Inspector

This course is designed for individuals conducting fire inspections, life safety surveys/inspections, and fire code enforcement for single occupancy. The Fire Inspection I course satisfies the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1031 Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plans Examiner, Chapter 4 Fire Inspector I. Upon successful completion of this course, you will be eligible to challenge the Texas Commission on Fire Protection Fire Inspector exam.

TCFP Certification Requirements:

Complete a commission-approved Inspector training program

Course	# Hrs.	Fee
Fire Inspector Course	Self-Pace	\$300

International Fire Training Initiative: Sister Cities Agreement

The International Fire Training Initiative is designed to offer progressive hands-on training and experience to enhance the operations of fire departments that have an active Sister City Agreement with the City of Laredo.

Rate
50% discounted rate for Sister City Fire Departments

Section 2. This ordinance shall be cumulative of all provisions of ordinances of the City of Laredo, Texas, except where the provisions of this ordinance are in direct conflict with the provisions of such ordinances, in which event the conflicting provisions of such ordinances are hereby repealed.

Section 3. It is hereby declared to be the intention of the City Council that the phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this ordinance are severable, and if any phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section of this ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional by the valid judgment or decree of any court of competent jurisdiction, such unconstitutionality shall not affect any of the remaining phrases, clauses, sentences, paragraphs and sections of this ordinance, since the same would have been enacted by the City Council without the incorporation in this ordinance of any such unconstitutional phrase, clause, sentence, paragraph or section.

Section 4. The City Secretary of the City of Laredo is hereby directed to publish the proposed Ordinance as required by Section 2.09 of the Charter of the City of Laredo. **[Publication is required if the ordinance imposes a fine, penalty, or forfeiture. City Charter 2.09(D)]**

Section 5. This Ordinance shall become effective 60-days after introduction of a public hearing.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL AND APPROVED BY THE MAYOR ON THIS _____ DAY OF _____, 2024.

VICTOR D. TREVINO, M.D.
MAYOR

ATTESTED:

MARIO I. MALDONADO, JR.
CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DOANH T. NGUYEN
CITY ATTORNEY

BY: _____
JOAQUIN A. RODRIGUEZ
ASSISTANT CITY ATTORNEY