Purpose Statement:

All students in this program are expected to meet certain essential functions/technical standards which are essential for successful completion of all phases of the program and which reflect industry requirements and standards. To verify the students' ability to perform **these** essential functions, students may be required to demonstrate the following technical standards:

Standard	Definition of Standard	Example(s) of Technical Standard
1. Critical Thinking Skills	Abilities are sufficient for classroom, lab, and work in industry situations.	Receive, interpret, and correctly complete assignments (e.g.: reading, research, writing, and presentations). Receive critical information and quickly synthesize a plan of action.

2. Mobility/Motor Skills	Physical abilities are sufficient to safely perform the essential physical tasks required in classroom, laboratory, and firefighter training environments.	Participate in activities which require moving, lifting and maneuvering of heavy equipment such as ladders, bundles of hose, and other skills related to performing the functions of a firefighter/rescuer, including the following: Ability to follow direction and orders that allows for uniformed movements in large groups. Lift objects weighing a minimum of 50 lbs. from the ground to a minimum of shoulder height. Participate in exercise and activities requiring eye-hand coordination, leg strength and coordination, grip strength, arm and upper body strength, shoulder strength and correct body weight distribution, cardiovascular exertion, and restrictive breathing. Maneuver, balance and climb items, such as ladders, uneven or unsteady surfaces, or obstacles.

Lift, pull and maneuver items, such as charged or uncharged hose lines, ropes, and rescue mannequins.
Perform in situations requiring the use of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA/supplied air systems) (standing, crawling, and working).

Mount and dismount small and large apparatus.

Ascend and descend stairs repeatedly with and without a load.

Perform repetitive motions, such as up and down, side to side.

Perform to standards in a physically demanding environment using firefighting equipment weighing 100 lbs. or more and dragging 165 lbs. or more.

3. Tactile Skills	Sense of touch and feel.	Discern various levels of heat in the surrounding environment, particularly when heat is rising to dangerous levels. Detect movement and resistance when operating equipment.
4. Auditory Skills	Auditory abilities are sufficient to work effectively and safely.	Discern instructors and team direction in a classroom, and outdoor, harsh, dynamic lab environment. Understand spoken words over a two-way radio and public address systems. Detect audible emergency signals in a loud environment. Review videos in the classroom, online, and lab environment.

5. Visual Skills	Visual ability is sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in the classroom, lab, and other locations on the campus.	Discern visual information provided in the classroom and in harsh and rapidly changing firefighting lab environments.
6. Communication Skills	Abilities are sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form.	Speak and write clearly and distinctly in interacting with team members and instructors and preparing documents and written tests. Provide and follow directions from other members of the class or instructors. Demonstrate active listening skills.

7. Interpersonal Skills	Abilities are sufficient to interact with individuals and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds. Accept responsibility and correction in a professional manner	Establish rapport with teammates and others participating in projects. Respect and care for others whose appearance, condition, beliefs, and values may conflict with your own. Demonstrate sufficient emotional health to perform under stress, exercise good judgment and promptly complete all academic and work-based learning responsibilities.
8. Coping Skills	Ability to manage stress, adapt to changing conditions, and respond appropriately in demanding or emergency situations.	Solves personal and interpersonal problems. Minimizes stress and conflict. Balances internal needs and external demands. Function and perform to standards in a simulated or actual rapidly changing, high-stress, dangerous environment.

	Develop skills to become comfortable working in confined spaces and in constrictive clothing and masks. Avoid the use of substances as a coping strategy. Ask for help with stress before reaching personal limitations.

In the case of a qualified individual with a documented disability, appropriate and reasonable accommodations will be made unless to do so would fundamentally alter the essential training elements, cause undue hardship, or produce a direct threat to the safety of the student or others.

Accessibility Services Statement

The College has a legal obligation to provide appropriate accommodations for students with documented disabilities. If you have a disability and are seeking accommodations, you should contact the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) office (Sink Building; (828) 694-1813; access@blueridge.edu). Students can contact SAS at any time, however they are encouraged to initiate this process as soon as possible (prior to the start of classes and/or field experience).