



# Long Beach City College

## NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 09, 2013

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### **Long Beach City College Earns National Recognition As A Top Fire Science College**

LONG BEACH, CA – Long Beach City College (LBCC) has been identified as a Top 25 college in the nation offering a Fire Science program with the highest return-on-investment. Fire Science Online, a leading national nonprofit resource organization for fire science and career information, has listed Long Beach City College's Fire Science program a 25<sup>th</sup> out of 900 colleges and universities across the country that offer similar programs.

The list recognizes programs with significantly lower-than-average tuition rates in states where firefighters are paid well.

"With this list we wanted to point prospective students towards schools that could jump start their careers," said Matt Davis, Managing Director of Fire Science Online. "These programs are both affordable and highly-rewarding."

Ranked schools were assessed by using a strict criteria that included: a) Program tuition less than \$10,000; b) Average Annual Salary greater than \$50,000; c) A minimum of 35 active students in the program; d) U.S. accredited schools only; e) Fully reviewed fire science and forestry programs.

"This is a tremendous honor and we are extremely pleased with this recognition," said Michael Biggs, LBCC's Public Services Department Head. "Our fire science program has been successful in training fire fighters who serve throughout California, including the Long Beach Fire Department."

"Fire Science Online is a resource we refer fire candidates to for information on educational opportunities related to becoming a Firefighter," said Long Beach Fire Chief, Michael DuRee. "To make it on this list is an accomplishment and to be toward the top is all the more impressive."

The Long Beach City College Fire Science program educates and trains students in the technical fields relating to fire and safety practices. The program also provides partial lower-division preparation for the baccalaureate degree in this field and offers certification for entry into a fire academy and entry-level positions in private and public fire-related occupations.

"We are proud to have been recognized for our Fire Science program offerings that produce exceptional graduates who in turn serve residents of Long Beach and abroad, and contribute their skills to the firefighting community," said Eloy Ortiz Oakley, Superintendent-President of Long Beach City College.

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Marilyn Brock, added, "Students looking for a challenging and rewarding program should consider LBCC's Fire Science program both for its quality of instruction and affordability."

For more information on Long Beach City College's course offerings and programs visit <http://www.lbcc.edu/>. For a complete listing of Top Fire Colleges, please visit <http://www.firescience.org/college-degree-rankings-online/fire-science-degree-high-return-investment/>.

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#### **About Long Beach City College**

##### **"Where Education Works!"**

*Long Beach City College consists of two campuses with an enrollment of over 25,000 students each year. The education program's primary purpose is to prepare students for transfer to baccalaureate-granting institutions, entry into work or career development, and to support businesses in economic development. Long Beach City College serves the cities of Long Beach, Lakewood, Signal Hill and Avalon.*