Firefighting is a complicated, and often dangerous, job. Being a volunteer makes no difference to those dangers. As such, a lot of training must be taken throughout the career of a firefighter. To lump this together would be overwhelming and unachievable. But broken down over time and by tiers, it becomes manageable. Tiers are represented to give the firefighter a step process (start here, choose a pathway, go there next). The basic tier all members are required to obtain. The next tiers are driven by the firefighter and what they wish to do in their service.

This is designed to give you an up-front idea of what is ahead of you and how those going before you, met the challenge. Changes to this occur frequently as training and challenges are met and addressed. Changes in course titles are often encountered as well-so general terms apply, and equivalency is acknowledged.

Tiers are as follows: All persons, Junior. Firefighters, Support Personnel, Driver Operator, Exterior Firefighter, Interior Firefighter, Officer, Chief Level Officer.

Typically, you begin at the lowest level and all areas below you, you have met/completed.

All persons:
- Hazardous Communications
- Incident Command Series (ICS) 100
- Traffic Incident Management (TIMS)
- POV Response Awareness
- Hazardous Material (Haz Mat) Awareness

Junior Firefighters:
- ICS 200
- Department SOP's

Support Personnel:
- ICS 700 (Or SCSFA ICS)
- Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) in house familiarization
- Fire Suppression Hose Management in house familiarization

Driver Operator:
- A SC Class E license or a CDL
- Emergency Vehicle Drive Training course (EVDT)
- Pumper Operations 1 course
- Pump Operations 2 course
- ICS 300

Exterior Firefighter (non-interior):
- Basic Firefighting course 1152
- Flammable Liquids Course
- Wildland Firefighting Course
- Haz Mat Operations level course
- Automobile Extrication Course

Interior Firefighter: Basic Building Construction Course
Firefighter 1 (NFPA, IFSASC or Pro Board)
Firefighter 2 (NFPA, IFSAC or Pro Board)

Officer: ICS 700
Fireground Safety Officer Course
Preparing for Incident Command or Strategy and Tactics for Incident Command

Chief Officer Level: New Chief Officer 1 Course
New Chief Officer 2 Course
State Fire Marshal Rules and Regulations Course