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CITY COUNCIL

Scottsdale to offer college credit for firefighter training



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FILE PHOTO

The City of Scottsdale worked out an agreement with Maricopa County Community College District to allow for firefighter training to count as community college credit through Mesa Community College.

Posted Friday, May 8, 2020 5:59 pm



By Josh Martinez (mailto:jmartinez@newszap.com)

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Scottsdale firefighters will soon see added benefits for their service thanks to a new agreement with Maricopa County Community College District.

The Scottsdale City Council approved on consent an agreement with MCCCDC that would allow Scottsdale Fire Department staff to receive college credit for their training and education programs. Council made the authorization at its April 21 meeting.

City staff say SFD's training and education programs --- such as firefighter recruit training, fire science and other courses required for promotion --- meet the minimum course competencies for community college courses. Through the agreement, firefighters can earn credit from Mesa Community College.

City staff also see a benefit of the agreement being these courses are taught with meaningful connections to the Scottsdale community and are in line with city policies and procedures.

Furthermore, Scottsdale Fire Department Training and Development staff, or someone they designate, would still continue to teach these courses as well as the use of city facilities and resources.

SFD employees who decide to participate would need to register as MCC students through the Fire Department Training and Development Division.

The school would then invoice the department for the cost of the college credits while SFD would also invoice MCC for the instruction and facilities. City staff believe these numbers will be offsetting, resulting in no impact in no cost to either entity.

This move comes with the city anticipating the retirement of many within the fire department's ranks. At an Oct. 15, 2019 meeting, the City Council approved the hiring of six new full-time equivalent positions in anticipation of an 85% attrition of its workforce from 2020-25.

The city announced their plans to hire as a way to get ahead of the retirements and minimize the impact of having a less-experienced staff.

Back in October, city staff didn't anticipate new recruits completing their academy training or deployment until late May to early June.

Keywords

Scottsdale City Council (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter=Scottsdale City Council), Scottsdale Fire Department (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter= Scottsdale Fire Department), Maricopa County Community College District (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter= Maricopa County Community College District), Mesa Community College (/search_mode/keyword/browse.html?search_filter= Mesa Community College)

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COVID-19



ELECTION
Candidates vie for county leadership roles
By Matt Roy
... Voters will decide in the August primary who will compete in November to fill important elected positions representing the more than 4 million residents of Maricopa County. Some incumbents — such as those running for sheriff, assessor and county attorney — face no competition in the Aug. 4 Primary Election, while other seats — such as those for school superintendent and Board of Supervisors — have no competitive primary races this year.

County Assessor
Incumbent Eddie Cook faces one fellow Republican challenger in the August Primary to determine which will compete against a Democratic opponent in November. Mr. Cook served on the Gilbert City Council from 2003-2020 before being appointed to fill the assessor role by vote of the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors in February. Mr. Cook was appointed following the resignation and subsequent resignation of Paul Peterson, who faces criminal charges in Arizona and Utah related to an alleged adoption scheme involving payment.

Gyms, pools open; stay-at-home ends Friday
By Howard Fisher
... fitness centers both public and in hotels and apartments, will also be allowed to open immediately. And, beginning Saturday, major league teams are welcome to start playing their games here. But for the moment, the stadiums and arenas will have only the players and staff. No spectators will be allowed, though Mr. Duvey said he believes the conditions of the pandemic in Arizona actually are safe enough here to permit people in the stands. One key figure the governor is using to support his decision is a decline in the percentage of tests for the virus coming back positive. At one point the rate was in the 30 percent range; the most recent figures are at 2.5 percent. Only thing is, the initial tests performed far months in Arizona has been only of those who showed symptoms of COVID-19. That was done at least in part because of limited testing supplies. In the past few weeks, however, state Health Director Cara Christ has allowed testing of all who think they may have been exposed. By definition, that increases the pool of those tested to include more who are less likely to have the virus. Mr. Duvey reacted angrily to questions about whether relying on those test results was a mistake.

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On April 1, a researcher at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention emailed Nevada public health counterparts for lab reports on two travelers who had tested positive for the coronavirus. She ...

AP Source: NFL extends virtual offseason work through May (/stories/ap-source-nfl-extends-virtual-offseason-work-through-may,158571)

Vast cutbacks in jobs and spending before any summer rebound (/stories/vast-cutbacks-in-jobs-and-spending-before-any-summer-rebound,158503)

Paul Manafort released from prison due to virus concerns (/stories/paul-manafort-released-from-prison-due-to-virus-concerns,158490)

U. of Michigan seeks to remove law firm in sex abuse suits (/stories/u-of-michigan-seeks-to-remove-law-firm-in-sex-abuse-suits,158570)

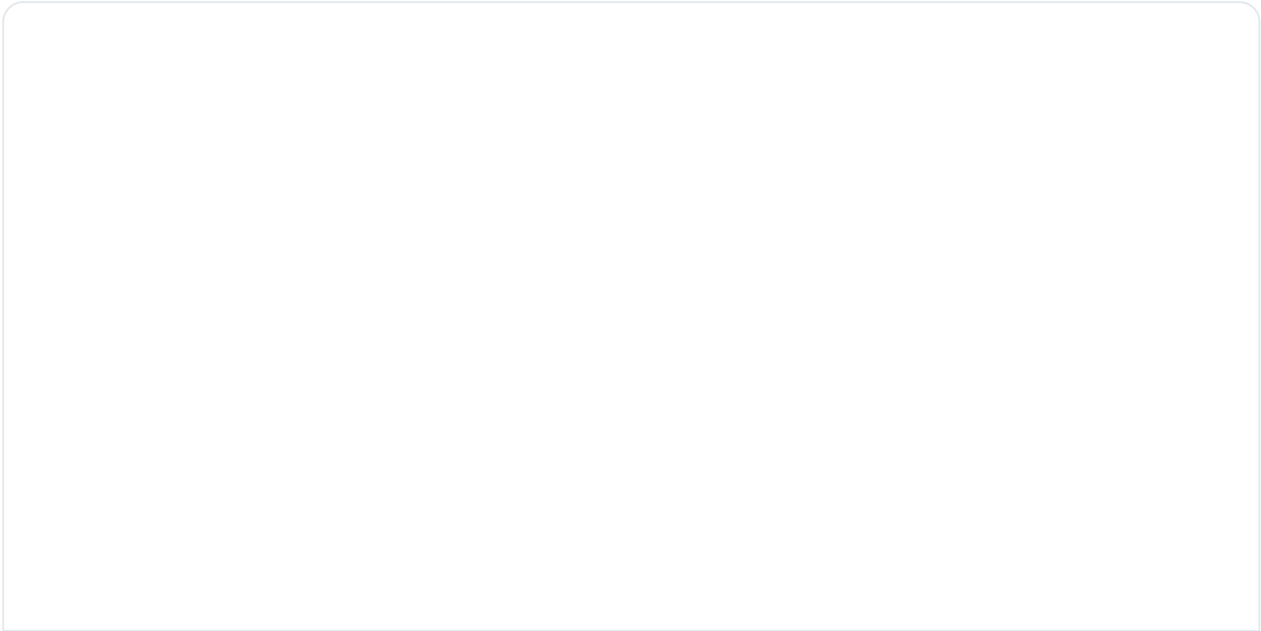
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