

Future firefighters get bird's-eye view of profession they one day hope to pursue

The firefighter always has been the icon of an American hero, and with good reason, as was demonstrated on 9/11.

Despite the risks, firefighting continues to be a popular career and is still the dream of many young men and women.

As a result, the Tempe Fire Department gets many requests from students who would like to volunteer

and gain experience in this competitive field.

To take advantage of this talent pool and improve the skills of aspiring fire fighters, Tempe has launched a volunteer cadet program in partnership with the Salt River

Fire Department and Mesa Community College to create program criterion and curriculum that will result in nine college-credit hours for those completing the program.

Cadets volunteer a minimum of eight hours per week and attend training sessions on most Saturday mornings. Training is provided by the Salt River, Tempe and Fountain Hills fire departments.

Ten Tempe recruits started Oct. 6 and will

work through May as service aides.

Included in the first class are Zachary Baldwin, Jose Coronel, Derek Felton, Rene Leon, Isaiah Moore, Justin Parsons, Eric Salgado, Joshua Sipes, Adam Stapley and Lindon Voglezon.



Recruits in the Tempe Fire Department's cadet program are, from left, Derek Felton, Lindon Voglezon, Adam Stapley, Joshua Sipes; bottom, James Basko and Isaiah Moore.