



For more information please contact:

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Camp Cinder Ignites Interest in Fire Service Careers for Young Women

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA —Approximately 30 high school students from across California will participate in **Camp Cinder**, a four-day firefighting camp held June 29–July 2, 2026, in San Luis Obispo. Designed to inspire the next generation of firefighters, Camp Cinder provides young women with hands-on experience and exposure to careers in the fire service.

Led by dedicated firefighters who volunteer their time and expertise, campers will participate in water rescue operations, CPR training, structural and wildland firefighting tactics, auto extrication, physical agility training, resume and interview preparation, and mental wellness activities.

Founded in 2014 by six female CAL FIRE firefighters, Camp Cinder's mission is to empower young women through a safe, challenging, and interactive environment that builds strength, confidence, leadership, and teamwork.

Camp activities take place at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo, CAL FIRE training facilities, and Avila Beach. Cal Poly San Luis Obispo partners with Camp Cinder by providing lodging, meals, and access to facilities for training.

Participating agencies include Cal Poly (professor), the California Highway Patrol, San Luis Ambulance, AMP Surf, the California Conservation Corps, California State Parks, Atascadero Fire Department, San Luis Obispo City Fire Department, Cambria Fire Department, Marina Fire Department, Santa Barbara County Fire Department, Paso Robles Fire and Emergency Services, Central Fire Protection District, and Sonoma Valley Fire District.

Upon completion of the camp, participants leave with valuable skills, lasting connections, and the confidence to pursue careers in firefighting and any profession they choose.

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