

Fire Management Career Ladders

	Operations	Aviation	Fuels	Dispatch	Notes
Early Career 1 - 5 Years	Firefighter <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine • Handcrew 				This table displays normal career paths in major career fields in Fire Management.
	Hotshot Crewmember	Helicopter Module	Fuels Crewmember	Dispatcher <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • GACC • NICC 	
Mid Career 6 - 10 Years	Squad Leader <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine • Handcrew 	Smokeyumper	Fuels Technician		This table does not reflect positions in the Incident Command System.
	Crew Supervisor <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Engine • Handcrew 	Helicopter Module Squad Leader	Prescribed Fire Manager	Assistant Center Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local 	
	Fire Operations Specialist	Smokeyumper Spotter	Fire Planner	Logistics Coordinator <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GACC • NICC 	
	Hotshot Crew Superintendent	Helicopter Manager		Intelligence and Predictive Services	
Later Career 10 - 25 Years	Assistant Fire Management Officer	Pilot			Other career tracks (with fewer positions than the major fields) exist in prevention, fire ecology, training, safety, and fire business specialties.
	Fire Management Officer	Unit Aviation Officer or Manager	State/Regional Prescribed Fire Manager	Emergency Operations Coordinator	
	Assistant Fire Staff Officer	Smokeyumper Base Manager		Intelligence and Predictive Services	
	Fire Staff Officer	State/Regional Aviation Officer or Manager	National Fuels Program Manager	Center Manager <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local • GACC • NICC 	

Most careers in fire management start with some experience as a firefighter.

