

Albany Herald

ASU, tech colleges team for fire services degree

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As of Wednesday, August 7, 2013



Albany State University President Dr. Everette J. Freeman, left, and Commissioner Ron Jackson of the Georgia Department of Technical and Adult Education shake hands after signing an articulation agreement creating a bachelor's degree in fire service administration on Tuesday.

ATLANTA — Firefighters throughout the state now have a seamless ladder leading to career advancement through a new academic program developed by Albany State University and the Technical College System of Georgia.

The collaborative agreement between ASU and TCSG, the first of its kind in the state, creates a bachelor's degree in fire services administration.

An articulation agreement, signed late Tuesday by ASU President Everette J. Freeman and TCSG Commissioner Ron Jackson, enables TCSG graduates who earn an associate of applied

science (AAS) degree in fire science technology to apply the credits toward a bachelor of applied science degree in fire services administration at ASU.

“Previously, there was no option for mid-level firefighters in management transitioning into a baccalaureate program until ASU created a fire science management program with our partner, Albany Technical College,” Freeman said. “Albany State is proud to be a part of the pipeline that will ultimately lead to the promotion of men and women in blue who risk their lives protecting property and saving the lives of others.”

The new bachelor’s degree in fire services is fine-tuned to the career path of firefighters. Before the partnership, academic progression for a firefighter with a fire science technology degree from a TCSG college meant completing a bachelor’s in public administration or a similar area, such as business administration.

“Fire science technology is an important program for the TCSG, and we’re very proud of our graduates who make it their career to save lives and protect property,” Jackson said. “Now, thanks to President Freeman and his faculty and staff at ASU, we have created an articulation agreement that provides an excellent opportunity for our graduates to obtain a specialized, four-year degree in their field from one of Georgia’s respected universities.

“This is another positive step toward our goal of creating more seamless education pathways for our students.”

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE FIRE SCIENCE DEGREE PROGRAM, [CLICK HERE](#).