



CALIFORNIA FIRE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

1851 Heritage Lane, Ste. 138 • Sacramento, CA 95815

Off: 916-923-9455 www.CalChiefs.org

Forging a Strong and Unified Voice for California's Fire Service

CalChiefs has served as the principal lobbying voice for the fire service for decades. With more than 800 fire agencies operating in the state of California, we provide networking and education opportunities, as well as advocacy services, on a range of fire and EMS delivery issues.

Today, local fire agencies face an increasingly risky and uncertain environment. Wildfires and floods threaten our communities like never before. Funding models for our agencies are outmoded and insufficient. Public policies have created confusion over our rights to provide emergency medical services to our residents. And, unfortunately, some state officials have taken positions that are not helpful to the fire service and even pose a threat to our agencies.

CalChiefs answered the call when action was needed

Several years ago, we became directly involved in litigation to clarify federal anti-trust laws for local fire agencies that provide EMS services. Last year, we formed a statewide coalition (Disaster Readiness for Safer Communities) with our partners in the labor community and local government to mount a lobbying, media and grassroots campaign to advocate for Mutual Aid funding for pre-positioning and technology improvements. We also took the unprecedented step of endorsing the candidacy of Governor Gavin Newsom.

With a significant investment by our members in lawyers, lobbyists and communications experts, these initiatives elevated CalChiefs' political profile and helped protect our interests. Some examples include the following:

- We assisted in securing a favorable ruling in the *AmeriCare* case from the Ninth Circuit Court, affirming federal anti-trust immunity for local fire agencies.
- We were successful in securing \$50 million in state budget funding over the last two years for local pre-positioning.
- We were successful in influencing actions taken by the wildfire conference committee last session.
- By fostering a strong working relationship with state legislators and the Newsom administration, we were able to secure another \$25 million investment for pre-positioning as reflected in Governor Newsom's proposed 2019-20 state budget.
- We have challenged CalEMSA's interpretation and implementation of the EMS Act by petitioning the Office of Administrative Law to rule that EMSA's guidelines and enforcement actions constitute unlawful "underground" regulations negatively impacting local fire agencies' ability to provide local emergency medical services to their residents.

"To strengthen and advocate for the California Fire Service through leadership, unity and collaboration."

The opportunity to do more is knocking on our doors

Emboldened by these successes, leaders of CalChiefs believe the time is right to ask our members to provide more resources so we can further professionalize our legal, lobbying and communications services. The simple fact is we need these resources to further enhance our organization's profile with state lawmakers and to take on critical issues within this changing and challenging environment (*e.g.*, wildfire resiliency, modernization of California's Mutual Aid system, a next-generation 9-1-1 system, local control of emergency services, strengthening Section .201 rights, and federal funding for medical transports). Additional resources for CalChiefs offers the most cost-efficient and impactful method for elevating the profile and influence of California's local fire chiefs. Instead of each fire agency needing to make significant investment to create a public policy function, CalChiefs enables our members to fully leverage our collective resources and act with one voice.

Our successes to date are a testament to the involvement and support of our dedicated fire chiefs and the willingness of our members to make the investments needed to increase our effectiveness in Sacramento.

Continued success in resolving complex policy issues will require building our membership with more of our fire chief brothers and sisters around California and increasing our organization's investment in core capabilities for effective legal, lobbying and communications services.

We are grateful for your support as we endeavor to achieve our vision of being "the voice of the California fire service." Without that support, we simply could not have accomplished these past successes. We look forward to partnering with you on the current and future efforts to achieve our mission to strengthen and advocate for the California Fire Service through leadership, unity, and collaboration.

(See table on page 3 for new membership dues structure effective for membership in Fiscal Year 2019/2020)



California Fire Chiefs Membership Dues

Effective for Membership in FY 2019/2020

Tier 1	1 – 15 Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 1 Group Member	\$400
Tier 2	16 – 50 Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 2 Group Members	\$960
Tier 3	51 – 100 Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 3 Group Members	\$1,200
Tier 4	101 – 150 Full-time employees	Fire Chief + 4 Group Members	\$1,600
Tier 5	151 – 200 Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 5 Group Members	\$2,240
Tier 6	201 – 300 Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 6 Group Members	\$2,750
Tier 7	301 – 400 Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 7 Group Members	\$3,200
Tier 8	400 + Full-time Employees	Fire Chief + 8 Group Members	\$4,000
Addtl. Group Member	Members in excess of Tier	Unlimited	\$120 Each
Volunteer Fire Chief	All volunteer agency	Fire Chief	\$120
Retired Member	Retired Member	One retired member	\$40
Associate Member	Vendor	One company	\$640
CalChiefs Section Presidents	Each Section President pays at the Tier 1 Level	Paid for by the Section	\$400