



FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE

March 3, 2024

Key Tower | Cleveland OH | ClimbCleveland.org

REQUIREMENTS

All Firefighter Challenge participants are timed during their climb at Key Tower and are to wear full, structural firefighting personal protective equipment which meets current NFPA standards. This includes boots, turnout coat with pant liners, helmet, gloves, and SCBA harness with air cylinder. SCBA facepieces and hoods do not need to be worn. Firefighters will not be on air. SCBA tanks are to be full. No axes or Halligans. Turnout gear and tanks must be clean, and gear may be inspected before your flight time. All firefighter participants competing in the Challenge must meet the gear requirements and be retired from or current firefighter who is volunteer, part-time, or full-time at their department.

AWARDS

Team awards will be given in two categories. Winning teams will receive the traveling trophy for their category. Winners will be announced after official times are reported and funds raised through Wednesday, April 3, 2024, are tallied.

Fastest Firefighter Team - (Note: This is not a relay.) Awarded to the team with the fastest team average time. The fastest Firefighter Team will be determined by taking the top three individual times from each team, no matter how large or small the team. Only team members participating in full structural gear will qualify for challenge times.

Top Fundraising Firefighter Team – Awarded to the team with the highest overall fundraising total, no matter how large or small the team. Remember each participant has a \$100 fundraising minimum requirement due to participate.

Individual Timing Awards – Please visit the Day of Event Details page at ClimbCleveland.org Event Week for the most current information on award categories for this year's event.

CHALLENGE FAQS

How many team members do we need? Each team must have at least 3 members to compete in the official Firefighter Challenge, but all are welcome to climb. Registration fee + \$100 minimum fundraising per individual to climb. All participants earn an official FFAC event day t-shirt.

Am I required to climb in gear? Only firefighters wishing to partake in the Fastest Firefighter Category must climb in full gear and will be verified on Climb Day. Those not climbing in full gear can still qualify for the Top Fundraising Firefighter Team Category.

Do I need to have a mask and oxygen tank? NFPA standards require a harness with an air cylinder. Facepieces and hoods do not need to be worn. While tanks need to be full, firefighters do not need to be on air while climbing.

Can our families/friends join our Firefighter Team? Yes! Family, friends, children over age 7 and other first responders can all climb on your team. They would join at a Climber on your team or a sub-team. Only firefighters are eligible to compete in the official Firefighter Challenge for the Fastest Firefighter, but all are welcome to climb.

REGISTER + LEARN MORE
www.ClimbCleveland.org



Chagrin Valley Fire – FFAC 2023 at Progressive Field

PAST FIREFIGHTER CHALLENGE WINNERS TO BEAT

2023 Cleveland Fire, Zach Lapuh - Progressive Field: 8:15

2022 Cleveland Fire, David VandeVelde - Progressive Field: 8:12.67

2021 Cleveland Fire, Zach Lapuh - Progressive Field: 8:27.12

2020 Lakewood Fire, Nate Boatman - Key Tower: 12:14.6

2019 Cleveland Fire, Zach Lapuh - Key Tower: 13:40.8

2018 Cleveland Fire, Zach Lapuh - Terminal Tower: 8:03.2



Key Tower 2020 - Top 10 Fastest Firefighters

1349 steps, 58 floors

1. Lakewood Fire, Nick Boatman 12:14.6 (age 24)
2. Cleveland Fire, Zach Lapuh 13:05.6 (age 23)
3. Lakewood Fire, Jeff Stoskus 14:24.8 (age 34)
4. Lakewood Fire, Robert Dean 14:41.8 (age 46)
5. Rocky River Fire, Zachary Wallenhorst 14:54.4 (age 31)
6. Rocky River Fire, Frank Schaefer 15:01.4 (age 51)
7. North Royalton Firefighters, Mark Baltakis (age 43)
8. Cleveland Fire, Mickey Franco 15:10.5 (age 33)
9. Cleveland Fire, Albert Mikes 15:12.5 (age 50)
10. North Royalton Firefighter, Isaiah Hernandez 15:16.9 (age 30)



Cleveland Fire – FFAC 2020 at Key Tower