



VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTER APPLICATION AND INFORMATION PACKET

Thank you for your interest in participating in the Thurston County Fire Protection District 8 volunteer application process. The following is a step-by-step outline on the examination process. Carefully read this information and keep for future reference of dates, times, locations, etc.

Important Dates:

Application Deadline:	TBA
Written Test and Physical Agility:	TBA
Oral Boards:	TBA

Application Procedures:

1. Prior to completing the application, read the minimum requirements to assure you meet the qualifications.
2. Return or mail your completed:
 - **Member Application**
 - **Authorization for Release of Information**
 - **Current Five year Driving Abstract (available from Dept. of Licensing)**
 - **Copy of your Drivers License**

To: Thurston County Fire Protection District 8
3506 Shincke Rd NE
Olympia, WA 98506.



South Bay Fire District 8

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VOLUNTEER JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Example of Duties: Drives or rides a fire vehicle in response to fire alarms; places equipment; lays and connects hose; operates high capacity pumps and directs water streams; raises and climbs ladders; uses fire extinguishers; and uses self-contained breathing apparatus. Participates in training drills, attends schools and department classes on firefighting, hydraulics, first aid, fire equipment and apparatus and safety education classes.

Essential functions of the position of Volunteer firefighter include the ability to:

- Physically perform all activities and tasks related to firefighting activities.
- Maintain minimum medical standards required for the safe operation of equipment and performance of emergency and life-saving tasks.
- Maintain mental alertness to perform all activities and tasks related to firefighter activities, including the capability to exercise reasonable and prudent judgement.
- Drive an emergency vehicle and operate emergency medical and firefighting equipment in a safe manner.
- Physically navigate rapidly, without jeopardizing the safety of others or self, on any conceivable surface, including but not limited to: slippery, uneven terrain, various building levels (roofs/stairs), high volume traffic areas and intersections.
- Climb ladders, perform duties at heights of 110 feet or more, and lift, move and/or carry a minimum of 180 lbs.
- Operate a variety of mechanical, motorized and hydraulic equipment and small tools, requiring, but not limited to: finger dexterity, ability to grasp, reach, push/pull, extend/flex, and operate foot control.
- Maintain capability to perform a wide variety of physical tasks, including: climbing, running, lift, carry or control heavy objects, bend, stoop, crouch, squat and crawl, and twist/turn.
- Endure performing duties in restrictive clothing and breathing apparatus, and in workspaces that are cramped, exposed to extreme temperatures, and contain a variety of toxins.
- Read, memorize and interpret geographical and technical information (in written and verbal form).
- Constantly communicate verbally to a wide variety of people in stressful, emergency and life-threatening situations, including operation of emergency two-way radio.
- Manage stress associated with emergency services and maintain composure in emergency situations.

- Effectively perform normal daily living functions in a dormitory, residence environment.
- Learn, understand and execute basic and algebraic calculations.

Knowledge/Skills/Abilities:

- Ability to learn and apply technical information pertaining to fire fighting.
- Ability to cope with emergency situations calmly and effectively and to react quickly to secure accurate precise information on the location, extent and nature of fires and emergency aid requests.
- Ability to acquire and maintain State, Federal and local certifications as required.
- Ability to analyze situations quickly and objectively and to determine proper courses of action, based upon training.
- Ability to understand and carry out verbal and written instructions.
- Ability to sustain heavy physical labor during periods of intense activity in emergency situations.
- Ability to work at varying heights above grade.
- Ability to acquire skill in first aid practices and in the use and maintenance of fire equipment/apparatus.
- Ability to work effectively as a team member.
- Ability to work with in a para-military organization and respond readily to command instructions.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors and the general public.

Special Requirements: Minimum age of eighteen (18) and have a High School Diploma or equivalent. Possession of a valid Washington State motor vehicle operator's license is required for appointment. All candidates must be an U. S. Citizen or a registered permanent resident alien with authorization to work in the United States.

Time Expectation: Initial training will include attending the firefighter academy or emergency medical technician course. Each course is scheduled two weeknights a week and one weekend a month for four months. Once completed with the initial training, you will need to be able to attend drill every Monday night. Volunteers are also placed on a shift rotation. The rotation is every nine days. If your shift lands on a week day, you will pull a 12 hour night shift; if it lands on a weekend day you will pull a 24 hour shift.



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New Member In-Processing Steps

The following matrix is included to help you understand the process of becoming a member.

<i>Step</i>	<i>Activity</i>
1	Application processing
2	Background & reference checks
3	Testing process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written test • Physical Agility Test
4	Oral Board (Personnel Review Board); candidates scored & ranked
5	Fire Chief & Management Team review of applicants; Fire Chief approval
6	Medical evaluation/examination
7	Issue required PPE & uniform items (including duty-dress uniform prior to graduation)
8	Filing of payroll information and addition to District Roster (includes enrollment in BVFF & District insurance coverage)
9	NET Health & Safety Orientation (4 each 2-hour sessions)
10	Candidate attends Thurston County Recruit Academy or Thurston County Medic One EMT School
11	Meet with & explain orientation process, role of Personnel Review Board, probationary status, disciplinary rules and present & explain <i>Orientation Workbook</i> : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assign & introduce Mentor • Workbook process & assignment of mentor • Administrative & payroll information, public education programs and picture for roster • District facilities & equipment briefing • Volunteer programs & opportunities • District philosophy, mission, values and strategy; access codes and alpha-numeric pager • Meet with Board at regular meeting
12	Probationary period: regular scheduled meetings with Mentor
13	Personnel Review Board review & recommendation to Fire Chief for acceptance as member
14	Appointment of Member
15	Enrollment of Member in BVFF pension plan



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PHYSICAL AGILITY EVALUATION CRITERIA

- 1. Dummy Drag:**
Applicant must drag a load of 180-pound rescue dummy around a cone without stopping.
- 2. Equipment Carry**
The applicant will carry two fire extinguishers.
- 3. Simulated Extension Ladder Exercise:**
The applicant will lift 45 lbs tied to a rope hand over hand and return it to the ground twice without losing control.
- 4. Charged 2-1/2 Inch Hose Drag:**
The Applicant will drag the nozzle end of a charged 2-1/2 inch hose line a distance of 150 feet without stopping forward progress.
- 5. Simulated Forcible Entry:**
The applicant will swing a sledge hammer 40 times.