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MCMINNVILLE FIRE DEPARTMENT

VOLUNTEER RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

Serving McMinnville since 1874



The Mission of this department is to promote a safe environment, preserve life, protect property, and provide other quality services for the public benefit.

Make a difference in your community

MCMINNVILLE VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Thank you for your interest in McMinnville Fire Department. We are very pleased to provide you with information about our department and our Volunteer possibilities.

Our Department serves the community with a combination staff of Career and Volunteers. Volunteers are an integral part of the department and our level of service that we provide to the community. Training will be provided for different opportunities for members of the department. As a Member you will learn suppression duties, respond to emergency medical incidents and assist in community training classes serving as support staff. It is a significant commitment of your time and energy, but can be very a rewarding experience.


Please feel free to stop by and we would be happy to show you our department. If you have any questions regarding volunteering, please do not hesitate to call.

Thank you again for your support and interest in McMinnville Fire Department.

Sincerely,

Rich Leipfert
Fire Chief

Benefits for members of McMinnville Volunteer Fire Department

The background of this section features a large, faint Maltese cross logo. The cross has a yellow border and contains the words 'PREVENTION' at the top, 'FIRE DEPARTMENT' in the center, and 'RESCUE' at the bottom. In the center of the cross is a circular seal with a blue background, showing a mountain, a river, and a sun. The seal also contains the text 'City of McMinnville' and 'ESTABLISHED 1874'.

Length of Service Program
Free baby sitting for meetings
Great Family Events
Training in suppression
CPR and 1st aid training
FireMed membership

Purpose:

The purpose of this guideline is to establish a process for individuals interested in becoming volunteers with the McMinnville Fire Department. It is the policy of the McMinnville Fire Department to assist all qualified applicants with obtaining membership into the fire department.

Guideline:

There are two primary avenues for individuals to become volunteer firefighters with the McMinnville Fire Department. One is designed for those individuals who have prior experience with the McMinnville Fire Department or with another fire department and have completed DPSSST requirements for Firefighter 1 or higher.

It is not a requirement of the department that new members have prior fire fighting experience. The McMinnville Fire Department will provide for all new volunteers the necessary training to operate as a volunteer firefighter. The training academies for Firefighter 1 classes are held in the Spring of each year, it will be our practice to accept new volunteer firefighters (without prior experience) two months prior to the start of the firefighter academy. In the event that we have a sufficient number of new members needing the academy, we may choose to hold our own academy prior to the county wide classes. In this event, new candidates will be notified prior to the start of the academy. The following procedures will be followed for new members getting into the department.

Individuals without experience

1. An individual completes a volunteer application with the McMinnville Fire Department and turns it into the front office. The application will be given to the Operations Chief.
2. The Operations Chief will review the application. If the candidate has no prior experience, the application will be retained until the next academy. A phone call will be made to the candidate explaining when the next academy will take place.
3. Prior to the academy starting, the Operations Chief will pull all applications for new members and conduct a criminal history and driving records check on all the applicants. Those candidates with past criminal convictions involving crimes against persons, or property within the previous 5 years or past felony convictions will not be considered for membership. Additionally, driving records with DUI convictions within the past 3 years or current revocations or suspensions of their driving privileges, will not be considered for membership.
4. After the criminal history and driving records checks are completed, the Operations Chief will then schedule the physical ability test. The test consists of physical exercises to include lifting, running, dragging, pulling, navigating stairwells, handling ladders, hoses, etc and following directions in stressful situations. This is a timed event. The applicant must complete 100% of the exercise within the time limit. The Training Officer or their appointee will be responsible for determining a passing test.
5. After successful completion of the physical ability test, the candidate will be scheduled for an oral interview. The interview committee will make a recommendation to the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief will make the final decision.
6. New members will be required to attend an orientation class prior to the academy starting.
7. During the Orientation class, new members will be required to fill out appropriate paperwork, be assigned badge numbers, and be given an agenda of the training requirements of the basic firefighting academy. In addition, they will be given a detailed account of the expectations and requirements of a McMinnville Volunteer Firefighter.
8. While attending the recruit training academy, the new recruit will be assigned to the "Recruit Training Company" and follow those guidelines as specified in department **SOG 6.1010**
9. All new members are on probation for a period of one year. All probationary volunteer firefighters are subject to the same rules of conduct as all other members. All probationary volunteer firefighters are expected to attend 100% of the scheduled Wednesday night drills during the probationary period. All unexcused absences will be taken into account as to the long-term status of the probationary firefighter. If a probationary firefighter quits the program prior to completing the probationary period, they forfeit all rights to the department and must begin the probationary period and training at the beginning if they return.

Individuals with Experience

Some individuals come to us interested in becoming a volunteer and have prior experience within the fire service. For these individuals it will not be necessary to wait until the next training academy starts in order to become a member, they may join under the lateral entry method, individuals must meet the minimum training and the experience requirements listed below.

Minimum training and experience requirements:

1. Provide a current NFPA Firefighter I certificate
Or
Must provide proof of completion of the NFPA Firefighter 1 training requirements, from an accredited Fire Department or training association.
Or
Other state or military training may be considered by Fire Chief or Training Officer.

The intent of the lateral entry option is to fast track those individuals who meet the minimum entry requirements so they may become involved sooner. Individuals with prior experience, but do not meet all of the minimum entry requirements, will not be eligible for the lateral entry option and must go through the training academy. Once an individual has provided proof of the minimum entry requirements for the lateral entry option, then the following steps will be followed.

1. An individual completes a volunteer application with the McMinnville Fire Department and turns it into the front office. The application will then be given to the Operations Chief.
2. The Operations Chief will review the application with the Training Officer and ascertain which of the minimum training requirements have been met. If they have, then the Operations Chief will conduct a criminal history and driving records check on the applicant(s). Those candidates with past criminal convictions involving crimes against persons, or property within the previous 5 years will not be considered for membership. Additionally, driving records with DUII convictions within the past 3 years or current revocations or suspensions of their driving privileges will not be considered for membership.
3. After the criminal history and driving records checks are completed, the Operations Chief will then schedule the physical ability test with each of the candidates. The test consists of physical exercises to include lifting, running, dragging, pulling, navigating stairwells, handling ladders, hoses, etc and following directions in stressful situations. This is a timed event. The applicant must complete 100% of the exercise within the time limit. The Training Officer or their appointee will be responsible for determining a passing test.
4. After successful completion of the physical ability test the candidate will be scheduled for an oral interview. The interview committee will make a recommendation to the Fire Chief. The Fire Chief will make the final decision.
5. New members will be required to attend an orientation class prior to the academy starting.
6. During the Orientation class, new members will be required to fill out appropriate paperwork, be assigned badge numbers, assigned to an engine company for training and assigned to a Field Training Officer. Members must complete the Field Training manual prior to being released to respond on emergencies. Documentation of prior training will be considered when completing the field-training manual.

7. The new recruit will be assigned to the “Recruit Training Company” and follow those guidelines as specified in department **SOG 6.1010**. At the discretion of the Assistant Chief and the training officer, a new recruit may be assigned to the recruit training company at an advanced level depending on their experience and training.
8. All new members are on probation for a period of one year. All probationary volunteer firefighters are subject to the same rules of conduct as all other members. All probationary volunteer firefighters are expected to attend 100% of the scheduled Wednesday night drills during the probationary period. All unexcused absences will be taken into account as to the long-term status of the probationary firefighter. If a probationary firefighter quits the program prior to completing the probationary period, they forfeit all rights to the department and must begin the probationary period and training at the beginning if they return.



Volunteer Opportunities with McMinnville Fire Department

Fire Suppression ♦ Fire & Life Safety Education
EMS Volunteer ♦ Chaplain Services
Special Projects/Events
Please call if you are
interested in any other
capacity other than those listed.