

Cowlitz 2

FIRE & RESCUE

Frequently Asked Questions about becoming a Volunteer:

What do I need to do to become a volunteer?

First thing you need to do is fill out a volunteer application. When you turn in your application you must include a copy of your complete 5 year driving abstract, a copy of your high school diploma or GED and a copy of your valid driver's license.

What's next?

Once your initial application packet is accepted, all volunteer applicants must be willing to submit to and pass a physical (paid for by the department), drug screen (paid for by the department), background check (paid for by the department), complete driver's license abstract for the last 5 years (no more than two violations allowed – applicant's responsibility to get copy), TB & Hepatitis B series tests (paid for by the department), successful completion of a work abilities test (after completion of the Recruit Academy).

Do you accept applications all-year round?

Yes. We will contact you a couple of months prior to the next Recruit Academy, verify you are still interested, and then proceed with the information above this question.

What are the requirements to become a volunteer?

Become enrolled and successfully complete a county-wide Recruit Academy held twice each year, once during the spring and once during the fall; **or** have within the past year successfully completed a Recruit Academy elsewhere with written proof of such; **or** active within the last 18 months in a fire department elsewhere; **and** be able to demonstrate competency in the basic evolutions found in the WSP FFI Modules I and II.

What is the time commitment for the Recruit Academy?

180 hours total, which are held on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Do I have to be certified or have a degree?

No. Once you have successfully completed the Recruit Academy you will be able to participate as a volunteer.

Do you provide an EMT certification course?

No.

What is the requirement once I become a volunteer?

To remain in good standing, each volunteer must attend 50% of the drills (which occur on Monday evenings) and respond to 20% of 911 calls out of your station.

When do volunteers do their training (drills)?

Volunteers get together on Monday nights from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. for training.

What fire station will I volunteer out of?

Volunteers are assigned to a station depending on where they live.