



Forest Grove Fire & Rescue

1919 Ash Street Forest Grove, Oregon 97116
503-992-3240 Office Phone 503-992-3243 Office Fax

FOREST GROVE FIREFIGHTERS ASSOCIATION VOLUNTEER APPLICATION PACKAGE



FOREST GROVE FIRE & RESCUE MISSION STATEMENT

To provide life safety and emergency services along with fire protection and preventive education to all citizens of the City and District. These services will be provided in a manner and at a level citizens are willing to support while keeping our personnel as safe as possible. A secondary objective is to mitigate damage when a fire or other emergency occurs.

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Thank you for your interest in the Forest Grove Firefighters Association.

If one group could do it all alone, the Forest Grove Fire Department wouldn't need volunteers. We need and appreciate the involvement of all community members in our daily delivery of emergency services.

Forest Grove Fire & Rescue is a City department that contracts fire protection services to the Forest Grove Rural Fire Protection District. We are a combination department with both volunteer and career personnel. We rely on all members to be involved and active.

In order to deliver our vital services, we

- Train all personnel to perform as team members with proficiency
- Require all new members to attend our New Recruit Basic Firefighter Training Academy (week-ends), regardless of past training and experience
- Encourage activity in community events

While there are department requirements, there are also huge bonuses for those who wish to become a volunteer with Forest Grove Fire & Rescue. These include but are not limited to the following:

- The knowledge and acknowledgement that you are a vital part of the fire and emergency response team in your community.
- Earning a partial expense reimbursement, based upon drill attendance and incident responses.
- Becoming a State of Oregon Certified First Responder.
- Attaining progressively higher skill set certification, such as Fire Fighter I, Fire Fighter II, or Pump Operator, fully paid by the department.
- Obtaining new and specialized skills through in-house training, area-wide training and possible attendance at the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland.
- Participating in specialized department programs, including fire prevention and rural signage.
- Leadership training for qualified individuals as training program instructors and officers.

Step-by-Step Membership Procedure

Please read all of the information contained in this packet. It is designed to answer many of your questions and give you an idea of what to expect as a volunteer member of the Forest Grove Firefighters Association.

The Forest Grove Firefighters Association Membership Application

- This application form must be filled out completely and returned to us. It must be signed and dated.
- If accepted into the Forest Grove Firefighters Association a physicians' release must be obtained prior to participating in the new recruit training. *After training, all department members must pass a department physical fitness test that approximates the physical exertions encountered on the fire ground.*
- Once received, this application will be kept on file for one (1) year. It will be your responsibility to update as necessary.

Background Investigation

Background information will be obtained by checking:

- 1) Driving history through the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles
- 2) Criminal history through appropriate police agencies
- 3) References

Volunteer Firefighter Interviews

After the background investigation is completed and satisfactory the Interview Committee will interview you at the fire station. We will ask you questions to get to know you better, and you will be able to ask questions of us. This interview will last approximately twenty minutes.

Acceptance as a Forest Grove Volunteer Firefighter

Upon successful completion of the above three items you will be contacted by letter and asked to pick up your training materials and be fitted for a complete set of appropriate firefighting apparel (turnouts). After your successful attendance at the new recruit Basic Firefighter Training Academy, you will be given a pager and will be encouraged and welcomed to respond to fire incidents with our team. You will also be expected to attend Monday night drills.

- Please retain this packet for your future reference.

Commonly Asked Questions

Q. What is the cost of required training?

A. Training and equipment is provided free of charge to all volunteers.

Q. Can I specialize in ambulance work only?

A. It is the Fire Departments' policy that all personnel are to be firefighters. You may wish to be more heavily involved in Emergency Medical Services (EMS). However, all personnel are expected to continue training as firefighters to remain proficient.

Q. How long is probation?

A. The probation period is twelve (12) months. During probation, you will be evaluated on:

- 1) Your training performance
- 2) Your fire ground performance and your temperament during emergencies.

You can be dismissed during this time. There is no right of appeal.

Q. Is there a website?

A. Yes. The Forest Grove Firefighters Association volunteer website is at www.fgfr.org. Please view or call 503-992-3240.

Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician Position Description

The duties of this position include fire fighting, fire prevention, emergency rescue and emergency medical services. The position requires a high level of training for fire fighting activities.

Volunteers are required to learn and participate in the operation of equipment and apparatus, and the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions, which may require strenuous exertion in environments involving smoke, fire, heat and cramped surroundings. Primary duties also include participation in drills and classes studying techniques and procedures for fire fighting emergency rescue, emergency medical response and response to hazardous materials incidents.

The duties of this position are performed under the general supervisor of the Fire Chief or other officers of the Fire Department.

The Demands are Great...The Possibilities are Great

The fire service of today is one of the most diverse and challenging professions known. It is this great diversity that inspires most men and women to enter the fire service, both as volunteer and career employees.

Being a volunteer firefighter requires certain physical and mental capabilities. It is not for the meek or timid or for those who lose control of their emotions in time of crisis. The firefighter needs more than just a desire to help others. He also needs

- Courage
- Dedication
- Assertiveness
- Willingness to learn new skills
- Willingness to face new challenges
- Willingness to work as a team member

This is a job that can test the individual's diplomacy and psychological skills to the limit. Your ability to size up a situation and deal with it occurs at every call to the fire station and at times in your public and family life. Your positive public image is a reflection of your calm and mature attitude. Constant training and skill practice is mandatory for proficiency in the profession of firefighting.

Training is primarily held on Monday evenings. The new recruit Firefighter Training Academy is held on weekends. During the recruit phase of training, attendance at all drills is encouraged.



Extrication Drill

**Forest Grove Firefighters Association
Pre-Membership Agreement Application**

Authorization to Release Information

READ BEFORE SIGNING: If you have questions regarding any part of this application, criminal history, or this statement please ask before signing.

I certify that the information given by me to the Forest Grove Firefighters Association is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that, if I am asked to be a volunteer, discovery that I gave false or misleading information may result in immediate dismissal.

In order for the Forest Grove Firefighters Association to thoroughly investigate my employment background and personal history, I authorize the Association to contact any and all references who could provide information as to my work history and character. I hereby release all parties and persons connected with any such requests for information from all claims, liabilities, and damages for any reason arising out of the furnishing of such information.

I understand that my DMV record will be reviewed and my membership with the Forest Grove Firefighters Association is contingent upon satisfactory investigation of my background.

By signing this application, I am verifying that I have read, understand and agree to the above information. Further, I agree that I will support the Mission and Goals of Forest Grove Fire & Rescue and adhere to all policies and procedures regarding volunteering with the department.

Print Name

Applicant's Signature

_____/_____/_____
Date

Note: A photocopy of this request shall be for all intents and purposes as valid as the original. This release will expire one (1) year after the date signed.



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FOREST GROVE VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS' ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____
FIRST MIDDLE PHONE LAST

EMPLOYER _____ OCCUPATION _____

EMPLOYER'S ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

WORKING HOURS _____ SOCIAL SECURITY # _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ DRIVERS LICENSE # _____ STATE _____

List currently valid licenses, certificates or special skills relevant to this position

REFERENCES

NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE #

I hereby make application to Forest Grove Firefighters Association. If accepted, I will in all respects, conform to the requirements and regulations of the Constitution and By-Laws of the department and Association.

SIGNED _____ DATE _____

RECOMMENDED BY _____