

## THE ORAL INTERVIEW

Candidates who pass the Physical Agility Test are invited to an oral interview with a panel of Chief Officers. This is your opportunity to sell yourself. The oral interview panel is interested in any education or experience you may have, as well as your reasons for seeking a career in the Fire Service.

## BACKGROUND CHECK & MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Following the development of the hiring (eligible) list, offers of employment are then made to successful Trainee Program candidates with the condition that candidates pass an in-depth background check and comprehensive medical examination. The Chief of the Bureau has final authority to hire candidates for this program.

## NEXT STEPS

During the Trainee Program, candidates will undergo extensive training and testing in firefighting and emergency medical services skills. Before a Trainee can advance from the "earn while you learn" program to the position of a probationary firefighter, he or she must successfully complete all aspects of the Firefighter Trainee Program including:

- Pass all ongoing written and practical examinations and the final written test.
- Gain certification with the State of Oregon Health Division as an Emergency Medical Technician Basic.
- Complete the Physical Agility Test within PF&R's time standard of 8 minutes 2 seconds.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

For more information, contact PF&R's Recruiting Officer at (503) 823-3811.



## PORTLAND FIRE & RESCUE AT A GLANCE

### PF&R FAST FACTS

- \$92,391,092 FY 2010-11 Operating and Capital Budget
- 764 Employees
- 579,745 Residents in the City of Portland
- 151.6 Square Miles Served
- 30 fire stations
- 30 engine companies
- 9 truck companies
- 1 heavy rescue company
- 1 light rescue company
- 3 fireboats
- 1 HazMat company
- 2 heavy squads which are dedicated to Chemical and Biological, Radiological/Nuclear and Explosive (CBRNE) response
- Various support and auxiliary equipment (e.g. brush units, air and rehab units, water rescue craft (wave runners), ATVs, water tender, foam unit, etc.)

### SPECIALTY TEAMS

- Surface Water Rescue
- Dive Rescue
- Trench Rescue
- Confined Space Rescue
- High Angle Rope Rescue
- HazMat Team
- Marine Unit (water-based & land-based)
- Fire Investigations Unit
- SERT Team Paramedics

*This brochure is intended to provide helpful information and the contents are subject to change without prior notification.*

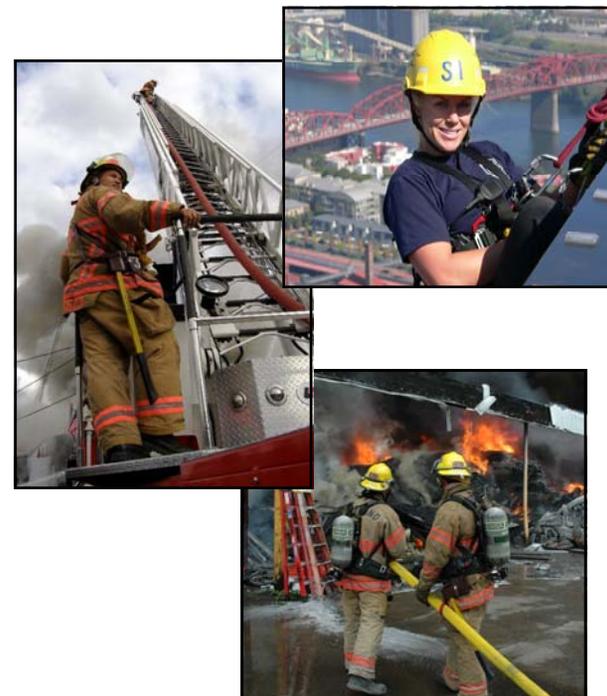
*This brochure is not an employment contract.*

*PF&R is an Equal Opportunity Employer.  
Women and Minorities are encouraged to apply.*

Updated: 12/30/10

## FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE

## PICTURE YOUR FUTURE WITH PORTLAND FIRE & RESCUE



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# Portland Fire & Rescue—Firefighter Trainee Recruitment Brochure

## LOOKING FOR A REWARDING CAREER WHERE YOU CAN CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITY?

Consider a career in the fire service with the Portland Fire & Rescue (PF&R). PF&R has created an “earn while you learn” Trainee Program to attract people with little to no firefighting experience. Although the work is challenging, firefighting is a highly rewarding career that provides a vital service to the community. Professional firefighters work as a team to protect life and property during all types of emergencies, including fires, medical response, and heavy rescue.

You must be in excellent physical condition to meet the demands of the job. Firefighters work quickly, while handling heavy equipment for long periods of time and wearing special protective gear in hot and hazardous environments. If you can meet the challenge of strenuous work, and like the idea of helping people, consider applying for the position of Firefighter Trainee.

The Firefighter Trainee Program consists of a comprehensive eight-week training program where candidates will receive hand-on experience with the tools of the trade, and advance to the strenuous physical fitness level required of a firefighter. During this program, Firefighter Trainees work a 40-hour work schedule. Trainee Candidates who do not possess an Emergency Medical Technician - Basic (EMT-B) certification will be paid to go through a six-week certification program.

After completion of the program, successful Firefighter Trainees are sworn in and then advance to the Firefighter Recruit Academy.

## JOB RESPONSIBILITIES

- Ability to perform effectively as part of a diverse team.
- Ability to maintain acceptable scores on all ongoing written and practical tests, and performance evaluations.
- Ability to be trained as, and pass the test for certification as, an EMT-B with the State of Oregon.
- Ability to perform all physical demands of the job including completing the Physical Agility Test within 8 minutes and 2 seconds.
- Ability to work with a positive attitude.

## GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 18 years of age when job offer is extended
- Excellent health, free from any medical or physical conditions which would interfere with effective performance on the job
- Possession of a high school diploma or GED
- Possession of a valid drivers license
- Ability to pass an in-depth background investigation
- Ability to pass a medical evaluation
- Certification as an Emergency Medical Technician Basic with the State of Oregon Health Division before an offer of employment can be made

## SALARY (FISCAL YEAR 2009-10)

The current annual firefighter salary is \$45,011—\$74,131.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The City of Portland does not take applications in advance of an open recruitment. Applications are only available during the active recruitment process. When you apply, take great care in completing the application, as this is your way of introducing yourself to PF&R management.

To receive email notification of when the application process will be opened, you should sign up on the “Firefighter Recruitment Notification List.” You can find the list at <http://www.portlandonline.com/fire>. Click on the “Firefighting” tab, and locate the list in the left column.

The City entrance examination for FIREFIGHTER TRAINEE consists of multiple phases; the number and order of phases are subject to change without prior notice. For each examination process, the examination phases will be listed on the official job announcement. Only those applicants who pass each phase of the examination will be invited to continue in the process. The test process includes a written examination, a physical agility test, and an oral interview.

## THE WRITTEN EXAM

This is a multiple-choice test that is designed to assess your knowledge, skills, and abilities to be a firefighter.

There are four components to the testing system. The first is study material provided by PF&R three months prior to the written exam. The following three components are general knowledge and no study material is provided; this includes a mechanical aptitude test, math test, and reading ability test. Candidates who score highest on all components of the written test are invited to subsequent phases of the examination process.

## THE PHYSICAL AGILITY TEST

In the Physical Agility Test, candidates are asked to perform several tasks similar to those performed by firefighters on the job. These tasks are designed to test strength, stamina, endurance, agility and ability to work at heights.

Candidates must complete the Physical Agility Test within PF&R’s time standard of 8 minutes and 2 seconds. The events in this test are as follows\*:

### Simulated Ladder Rack:

Lift a 24-foot aluminum extension ladder by the rungs off the brackets, remove and place of the ground, then back on the brackets. Repeat event for a total of two times.

### Hose Carry:

Carry a 50-foot 2-1/2" hose bundle, with a nozzle attached, to the fifth floor and return it to the starting point at ground level.

### Electric Fan:

Lift a ventilation fan to a height of 7 feet, hang it in a simulated doorway, and return it to the ground.

### Fan Placement:

Lift a gas fan facsimile off of its two-foot high platform and carry the fan for 75 feet around a safety cone and place it back on its platform.

### Ladder Raise:

Raise a 25-foot straight ladder from the ground to the building twice.

### Ladder Halyard:

Raise and lower the halyard of a 35-foot ladder twice.

### Body Drag:

Grasp the nylon straps attached to the shoulder of a 165 pound hose mannequin and drag it around a drum and back to the start of the station for a total of 70 feet.

### Foam Bucket Carry:

Carry two filled 5-gallon foam containers (45 pounds each) 400 feet.

### Simulated Hose Pull:

Pull a 125 pound sled attached to a 2-1/2" hose and nozzle 100 feet. The nozzle must be placed over shoulder.

### Truck Ladder Climb:

Climb 80 feet to the top of an extended truck ladder and back without pausing. *The ladder climb is not timed.*

*\*The events may be subject to change and other requirements may be added. This portion of the test is pass/fail.*