



# LANE FIRE AUTHORITY

## *Prospective Volunteer Firefighter Guide*

### Propose

This document aims to provide individuals with information on what it takes to be a volunteer firefighter regarding opportunities, expectations, and available resources.

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## LFA's Volunteer Firefighters

Lane Fire Authority provides fire, safety, and emergency medical services (EMS) to 45,000 residents in 282 square miles. With such a large fire district, we rely on volunteers to help us respond to emergency calls. We have 100 career and volunteer personnel who responded to approximately 7,090 calls last year; 81% were EMS.

Lane Fire operates 16 fire stations, three of which are staffed 24/7. As a volunteer, you will be working alongside career firefighters and EMS personnel. You will be responding to fires, traffic accidents, forces of nature like flooding and snowstorms, and all types of medical emergencies. The work can be physical, stressful, and emotionally challenging. However, the rewards of helping others in their moment of need are plentiful.

To prepare and train our volunteers, we conduct two Recruit Academies a year: one in the spring starting around March and one in the fall starting around September. Application submission opens in December for the Spring Academy and June for the Fall Academy.





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## Basic Requirements

- Minimum 18 years of age
- Able to complete the application process
- Able to complete a physical agility test
- Able to commit scheduled time for shift/training hours
- No conviction of a criminal offense



## Application process

1. Make an appointment with the Recruitment/Retention Coordinator (RRC)
2. Complete a 3-minute scripted video interview on an iPad.
3. Complete the application and return it before the deadline.
4. Evaluation of application, references, driving records, and criminal background check.
5. Complete an oral interview in front of a hiring panel.
6. Complete a written assessment consisting of reading comprehension and diagrammatic reasoning questions.
7. Complete the physical agility test.

## Responsibilities

- Respond to fire and other emergency calls for help with assigned company.
- Responsible for the cleanliness and maintenance of their station and apparatus.
- Demonstrates continuous effort to improve operations, decrease turnaround times, streamline work processes, and work cooperatively and jointly to provide quality seamless customer service.
- Conducts tours of station houses for scout, civic and other interested groups.
- Participates in fire drills and attends classes in firefighting, EMS and related duties.
- Administers emergency medical services to injured persons per protocol as qualified.
- Assist in the inspection and preplanning of all commercial buildings in his/her fire management area.

## Our mission

Lane Fire Authority is dedicated to the safety and well-being of those we serve, through fire suppression, emergency services, and prevention.

## Our Vision

We strive to provide the highest level of services that improve the quality of life, health, and safety of all we meet.

## Our Motto

"Dedicated to Service"





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## *Did you know?*

NFPA estimates there were an estimated 1,080,800 career and volunteer firefighters in the United States in 2019. Of the total number of firefighters 722,800 (67%) were volunteer firefighters.

## *Did you know?*

In 2019, 88,800 firefighters were female (8%). Of the career firefighters, 14,900 were female and 73,900 volunteer firefighters who were female.



## FAQs

### *What's recruit academy like?*

Recruit Academy meets on Sundays from 0700 hours to 1700 hours and has some full 8-hour Saturday and Sunday classes. The academy training includes health and fitness, fire hose and water streams, vertical and horizontal ventilation, ground and aerial ladders, mobile water supply and hydrants, ropes and knots, extinguishers and forcible entry, victim search, and removal, communications, personal protective gear (PPE), self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), hazardous materials, CPR, communications and team building, wildland fires, rescue and EMS. Training will also include live fire days with both structural and vehicle fires.

In addition to the weekend classes, there are chapters of required reading in the textbook "Essentials of Fire Fighting and Fire Department Operations," including passing online chapter quizzes and chapter tests each week. You also must complete a required weekly online response log about each chapter.

### *What can I expect my first year?*

For those who complete all the requirements of the Recruit Academy, congratulations, you will become a Probationary Firefighter and be assigned to a 24hr shift every 6th day at one of the two 24/7 staffed stations. We excuse volunteers for work and/or school but expect them to be at the station ready to respond to emergency calls for the remainder of the 24hrs.

During the first year of Probationary Firefighter service, you must also complete:

- Wildland Classes S-130/190 L180 - 24 hours
- Regular Drill Training - 144 hours
- Specialized Training - 32 hours average



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## *Are most volunteers men?*

Although many volunteers are men, 22% of our members are female, more than double the national average. Anyone with the courage, commitment, and compassion to serve are welcome to take our training and become part of our team.

## *Can a volunteer position lead to a career in firefighting?*

Yes. Volunteering is one of the best ways to get the necessary training and experience to be an attractive candidate for a career firefighting position. Many volunteer firefighters achieve other careers, as first responder life skills become significant assets to many professions inside and outside emergency services.

## Take the next step

*Make Your Appointment Today!*

### Mark Boren

Recruitment/Retention Coordinator

**T** 541-935-2226 ext. 225

**E** [markboren@lanefire.org](mailto:markboren@lanefire.org)

## Lane Fire Authority

**A** 88050 Territorial HWY, Veneta, Oregon 97487

**T** 541-935-2226

**W** [www.lanefire.org](http://www.lanefire.org)

## *Did you know?*

Nationwide 38% of fire departments provided no emergency medical services, 46% provided basic life support (BLS), and 17% provided advanced life support (ALS).

