

WALLA WALLA COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT #4
2251 S. HOWARD STREET
WALLA WALLA, WA 99362-4554
(509) 529-1282

INTRODUCTION

Thank you for considering becoming part of our team at Walla Walla County Fire District #4. This packet is intended to briefly explain our program, the application process, and the benefits offered by the Fire District. We hope this will help you make the decision to join our team.

DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

Walla Walla County Fire District #4 provides a range of services designed to protect lives and property in Walla Walla County from adverse effects of fires, sudden medical emergencies, or exposure to dangerous conditions created by man or nature. We work hard to promote a positive image in the community towards the department.

Fire District #4 protects an area of approximately 125 square miles surrounding the cities of Walla Walla and College Place, serving a population of about 9,250 people. Located within our District are heavily populated residential areas, commercial and industrial complexes, educational facilities, as well as agricultural and wildland areas. To provide adequate service to this diverse area, we currently have six (6) fire stations strategically placed to provide the best protection to all.

Our career staff consists of the Fire Chief, a Lieutenant/Training Officer, three Lieutenant/EMT's, two Firefighter/EMT's, three Firefighter/Paramedic's, Firefighter/Mechanic, and an Administrative Secretary. The remaining members of the department are people, like yourself, who are volunteer firefighters, officers, EMT's, First Responders, and support personnel. Our entire operation utilizes approximately 70 people.

The District is governed by a three-member elected Board of Commissioners. This Board meets twice a month and is the final authority on all actions performed by the District and its members.

Safety and training are high priorities throughout the District. Training and meetings are held on the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th Monday evenings each month. District personnel are required to attend a minimum of 75% of all trainings and 50% of the incidents at their assigned station.

REQUIREMENTS TO APPLY

To apply, you must meet the following minimum requirements:

1. Be at least 18 years of age.
2. Have a valid State Drivers License.
3. Have no felony convictions within the last seven (7) years that could interfere with your work as a firefighter.
4. Have an insurable driving record.
5. Be able to read and write the English language.
6. Reside within five (5) miles of a District fire station.
7. Pass a medical exam by a department approved physician.
8. Be capable of sustained arduous work.
9. Be capable of passing the Physical Ability Test.

APPLICATION PROCESS

The following is a step-by-step process that will be followed from the time you pick up your application until you are allowed to respond as a member of our department. After receiving this application, you will:

1. Complete the application and return it to the District office.
2. The Fire Chief or his/her designee will review the application for completeness and determine which applicants will be called for entry testing. This depends upon where the applicant lives and what area of the District is in need of personnel.
3. Driving and criminal records checks will be conducted.
4. If you pass both record checks you will be notified to come to the Department office for a Physical Ability Test.
5. Upon successful completion of the Physical Ability Test, an appointment for an interview with a panel of fire department members will be scheduled.
6. Upon passing this you will be instructed to schedule an appointment with a Department approved physician for a medical exam.
7. You will return the results of the medical exam to the Administrative Secretary.
8. The results of all the tests and records will be reviewed by the Fire Chief who will make a recommendation for approval or denial to the Board of Commissioners at their next regular meeting. The Commissioners decision will be final.
9. After approval from the Board, you will be able to schedule a time to come to the District office and complete the necessary paperwork and be issued your turnout gear.
10. You will be assigned to a recruit training program which lasts approximately 10 weeks.
11. Following successful completion of the recruit training program you will be assigned to the appropriate station.
12. You will not be allowed to participate in active firefighting until after you have been trained in basic firefighting and safety procedures.

BENEFITS

Besides being involved in exciting and challenging volunteer work, listed below are some of the benefits that are either offered or provided by the District.

1. Volunteer Firefighters Pension Fund – *Offered (cost split 50/50 with District).*
2. Medical, death, and disability insurance in addition to that provided through the State Board for Volunteer Firefighters – *Provided.*
3. Additional \$15,000 life insurance – *Provided after 1 year of service.*
4. Partial reimbursement for EMT or First Responder training – *Provided.*
5. Training Classes – *Provided.*

In addition, our volunteers receive reimbursement for expenses incurred during responses and training. A member is currently reimbursed \$15.60 for every response or training session.

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

The District is an equal employment opportunity employer. The District employs, retains, promotes, terminates, and otherwise treats all employees and job applicants on the basis of merit, qualifications, and competence. This policy shall be applied without regard to any individuals' sex, race, color, religion, national origin, pregnancy, age, marital status, medical condition, physical handicap or disability.

The District will not discriminate against applicants or employees with a sensory, physical or mental impairment, unless the impairment cannot be reasonably accommodated and prevents proper performance of an essential element of the job.

SEXUAL HARRASSMENT

It is the policy of Walla Walla County Fire District #4 that harassment on the basis of a members (or customer's) race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex, marital status, or the presence of a physical, sensory, or mental disability is a violation of Fire District policy. Prohibited harassment includes comments, slurs, jokes, innuendos, cartoons, pranks, physical harassment, etc., which are derogatory on the basis of the members protected class membership or which are promoted by the member's protected class membership. Harassment also includes negative actions based upon a member's participation in activities identified with, or promoting the interests of a protected group. Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature. A member has the right to use a language other than English, and to adhere to cultural and ethnic customs, without being subjected to harassment.

Members have the right to be free from such harassment on the job, either from co-workers, supervisors, or managers. Harassment is prohibited by State and Federal anti-discrimination laws where (1) submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of employment; (2) submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or (3) such conduct has the purpose or effect of interfering with an individuals work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive working environment. All members are prohibited from engaging in the harassment of any member.

CLOSING REMARKS

We hope that this information has helped you in your decision to join our organization. If you have any questions regarding the District or the application process, please call 529-1282.

Physical Ability Test

Applicant: _____

This test is designed to evaluate the physical ability of the firefighter applicant and determine if he/she is capable of performing tasks similar to those encountered in everyday firefighting operations. All portions of the test must be completed.

The applicant will wear complete structural firefighting protective clothing, including self-contained breathing apparatus. Tennis shoes may be worn in place of structural boots.

Blood Pressure _____ Pulse _____ Respirations _____

Simulated Rescue Pull Completed _____

The applicant will pull an approximately 125 lb railroad tie 100 feet, turn around and pull to the original starting point.

Sledge Hammer Sled Completed _____

The applicant will use a sledge hammer to drive a weighted metal box 10 feet. The applicant may not use the hammer to drag the metal box.

1³/₄" Hose Drag Completed _____

The applicant will pick up the nozzle end of a charged 100-foot section of 1³/₄" hose; carry it 75 feet to a traffic cone, spray water from the nozzle, and place the hose on the ground without dropping it.

2¹/₂" Hose Carry Completed _____

The applicant will pick up a 50-foot bundle of 2¹/₂" hose from the ground and carry the hose on their shoulder, without dragging it, up to the fourth floor of the drill tower and lower it to the ground.

2¹/₂" Hose Roll Pull Completed _____

The applicant will climb from the fourth floor of the drill tower to the roof and use a rope to pull one 50' section of 2¹/₂" hose up and onto the roof deck.

Blood Pressure _____ Pulse _____ Respirations _____

Time: _____ Pass ____ Fail ____

Evaluator: _____ Date: _____

WALLA WALLA COUNTY FIRE DISTRICT #4

WAIVER OF LIABILITY

I, the undersigned, hereby acknowledge that I am a candidate for a volunteer firefighter position with Walla Walla County Fire Protection District #4 and that I have been requested to participate in a Physical Ability Test to determine my physical condition.

I agree to take full responsibility for any injury or results of over-exertion incurred as a result of participating in these tests and hereby release Walla Walla County Fire District #4 from any and all liability, which might result from such.

I further affirm that I am in good physical condition and consider myself physically capable of enduring such physical exertion, which is necessary to do myself justice in these tests.

Dated this _____ day of _____, 20____

Applicant's Printed Name

Applicant's Signature

Please list references that we may contact:

1. Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

2. Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

List any previous firefighting or related experience: _____

List any identifying scars, tattoos, etc: _____

Person to notify in case of emergency:

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State/Zip _____

Relationship _____

I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge the above information is accurate and that I am in good health. I understand that a check will be made of my driving and criminal record and I give my approval for this.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

This application will be held for twelve months. If you have not been contacted within that time and are still interested in becoming a member of Fire District #4, it will be your responsibility to contact the Fire District, in person, to renew the application.

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Application Received _____ Date Called for Interview _____

Date of Physical Ability Test _____ Pass _____ Fail _____

Date of Review by Fire Commissioners _____

Accepted: Yes _____ No _____

Start Date: _____ Station Number: _____