

Terryville Volunteer Fire Department

Recruitment

How to become a member of the Terryville Fire Department

Some Important Facts to Consider

- Volunteering with the Terryville Fire Department requires a very significant time commitment on the applicant's part.
- The work is physically strenuous, emotionally challenging, and high stress. Fire service members must deal with extremely noisy, dirty, work environments and are exposed to unsightly, disturbing sights on a regular basis. The rewarding aspects of the fire service is the knowledge of a job well done, having the ability to help someone in need, and often having made a difference in someone's life. It is often a thankless job with few tangible rewards, a lot of training and little recognition. You need to ask yourself "if this is for me?"
- In the Terryville Fire Department, there is a meeting or training event every Monday night. There is a monthly company meeting. There are quarterly department meetings. A new firefighter is required to attend a state fire school resulting in the firefighter (FF) earning FF-1 certification. Then there are emergencies requiring the FF to respond to the emergency any day of the week, any time of day.
- We strongly encourage that the applicant think about the time commitment in terms of their families to ensure that they have their support and understanding.

Membership Qualifications

- According to the Terryville Fire Department Constitution and Bylaws, Article VI – Membership, Section A, page 15, Qualifications: “Any person having reached eighteen (18) years old and who is currently and has been a resident of the Town of Plymouth for a period of not less than six (6) months shall be eligible to petition for membership in the Department. Residence requirements may be waived by the Chief.”
- According to the Terryville Fire Department Constitution and Bylaws, Article VI – Membership, Section B, page 16, “Candidate Member: shall be a member who meets the basic qualifications for application to the department, but not the qualifications of a regular member. The Candidate Member shall retain this status for not less than six months or more than two years until he/she achieves the qualification stated for regular membership.”

The application process consists of the following:

- The completed TFD application is given to the Department Investigation Committee. The investigation committee will review the application, checking references, and doing a criminal background check.
- Next the applicant is interviewed by the Department Investigation Committee. The investigation committee will review with the applicant **How to become a member of the Terryville Fire Department.** The applicant’s references and background check will be reviewed with the applicant at this time.
- If the applicant is found to be favorable by the investigation committee, the applicant then meets with the company officers that he/she will be assigned to.
- If found favorable by the company officers, a final interview is held with the applicant, the investigation committee, the company officers, and a mentor.

- If found favorable during this final interview, a physical exam will be scheduled with the fire department physician. Part of the entry level physical examination will include a drug screening.
- To become a member of the Terryville Fire Department, the applicant must be cleared by the department physician as an interior attack firefighter.

The Membership Application

- The applicant must fill out the membership application completely and accurately.
- The applicant must provide valid phone numbers, addresses, and email addresses, if email addresses are available, for all employment and personal references.
- The applicant must possess a valid, current Connecticut Driver's License.
- Please note that the entire application process can be terminated if the applicant deliberately withholds information or provides erroneous information in an attempt to obscure the truth. Letters of recommendation will be accepted as a reference; however, contact information is still required.
- If the applicant has prior fire service experience, the applicant **MUST** provide the following: (1) documentation of prior fire training if applicable, (2) A letter of recommendation from the chief of the applicant's former fire department. The applicant must provide a valid and reliable means of contacting the chief officer of the applicant's previous fire department.

New Member Requirements

- **Training:** A new member must attend a state fire school and complete the FF-1 certification program. The new member must attend scheduled company level and department level training/drills.
- **Meetings:** A new member must attend monthly and/or special company meetings, in addition to attending quarterly and/or special department meetings.
- **Maintenance:** A new member will be assigned to check and become acquainted with the property on the apparatus belonging to the company he/she is assigned to. This will enable the FF to become familiar with the equipment on the apparatus, its location on the apparatus, and what the equipment is used for.
- A new member must attend scheduled company functions.
- A new member shall respond to fire calls and other related emergencies.

Effective date of this document: July 1, 2013