

Frequently Asked Questions

What are the minimum requirements to become a volunteer?

- Be at least 21 years of age
- Live within 2.5 miles of the city limits (some exceptions may apply)
- Be able to pass a criminal background check
- Be able to pass a full physical

How do I apply?

To apply to become a member, fill out the membership application provided, and submit.

How often will I need to volunteer?

We are a 24/7 volunteer department. We don't have minimum hour requirements, but we do meet as a department every Monday night, with the last Monday of the month being training.

The most time-consuming part of becoming a volunteer will be during your first two years.

You'll be expected to complete certain classes in a certain amount of time. Your first two years will likely be the most challenging part of your volunteer career, but also the most fun. During this time, you'll make new friends, grow personally and professionally, gain new skills and create some awesome memories.

Can I just be a firefighter?

Yes, our volunteer firefighters are not required to be an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

What do you look for in a volunteer?

When we recruit new volunteers, we're looking for a few key qualities: hard-working, dedicated, honest, empathetic, level-headed, personable and mature. Our volunteers work together closely and trust each other with their lives. Ensuring a candidate is a good fit for this line of work is an important part of our recruitment process.

What are the training requirements?

As a firefighter, you will be required to complete the following classes within two years of joining the station: Firefighter 1, and Hazmat Operations.

Do I need to buy my own gear?

We will provide you with all your personal protective equipment (PPE), including turnout gear, fire boots and gloves, coveralls, etc.

How old do I need to be?

You must be 21 to begin your official training as a volunteer firefighter.

What does the recruitment timeline look like?

Step 1: Fill out the application for membership. It'll take you about ten minutes to complete. Send application to fire@forestcityia.com.

Step 2: The department officers will review your application and get back to you within a week or so.

Step 3: After reviewing your application, we will give you confirmation that it has been received, if we feel you have met our requirements, we'll schedule a time for you to come in for an interview.

Step 4: At this point in the process, we've met you and you've met us. From here, the membership committee will decide whether we want to recommend you as a candidate for membership at our next company meeting.

Step 5: Final step! If the department officers decide you're a good candidate for membership, and you're ready to move forward in the process, they will recommend you as a candidate for membership, the department will then vote you in as a probationary member.