

FIREFIGHTER'S PROBATION

The probationary period for a firefighter is one year. During the first year, through on-the-job training, a probationer must gain a wide variety of knowledge. Subjects include: Math, building construction, private fire protection systems, fire prevention, disaster plans, fire equipment, fire suppression, chemistry, first aid, street locations, and many other topics. The firefighter must have a congenial personality and be able to perform under intense conditions that require close teamwork. The probationer will be closely supervised, observed and evaluated throughout the first year.

After probation, a 2½ year continuing training program is in place to assist the new firefighter in gaining knowledge and experience in their career.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

We encourage women and minorities to apply. For applications contact:

Human Resources Office
Yakima City Hall
129 N. 2nd Street
Yakima, WA 98901

509-575-6090

www.ci.yakima.wa.us/services/personnel



SAVE YOUR LIFE

Learn These Basic Fire Prevention Behaviors

- (A) Stop, Drop and Roll if Clothes Catch Fire.
- (B) Crawl Low In Smoke – Stay Low and Go to Get Out.
- (C) Call 911 to Report All Emergencies.
- (D) Plan and Practice Exit Drills In The Home.
- (E) Cool Minor Burns with Cool Tap Water Only.
- (F) Install and Maintain Smoke Detectors. Test Monthly.



Yakima Fire Department



*Fire Service
An Exciting Career*

**FOR INFORMATION CALL
509-575-6060**

(Equal Opportunity Employer)

FIREFIGHTER

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROFESSION

The profession of firefighter dates back to the era of Benjamin Franklin; he started the first volunteer fire brigade. Fire fighting as a paid profession was started in Boston at the turn of the century, and through the years has progressed to a nationwide service offered by most cities.

The first fire brigade consisted of nothing more than a line of concerned citizens passing buckets of water to the fire. Today, the equipment used to extinguish fires is as complex as the origins of fires have become.

The fire service offers job security, advancement, and multiple benefits, but there is much more to the fire service. The feeling of accomplishment, knowing that life has been saved and property protected from fire, by far surpasses a monthly paycheck.

The Fire Department is a public service organization that offers an exciting career. Firefighters are responsible for the protection of lives and property of the community from fire and disaster, as well as providing Emergency Medical Services.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

Prospective firefighters for the City of Yakima must possess a high school diploma or G.E.D., be in excellent physical condition, be able to pass a stringent and comprehensive medical exam, possess a Washington State driver's license, be 18 years of age or older at time of appointment, and have a good citizenship record.

COMPENSATION

Starting salary and fringe benefits are above average. Regular salary increases are provided for experience and progress to provide top pay after 3½ years on the job.

EXAM PROCESS

The exam process to enter the fire service with the City of Yakima includes a comprehensive, three-phase evaluation which includes a written Civil Service exam and a strength and agility test. The third phase includes an oral interview for those applicants who do well on the written and physical exams.

The written exam can include questions on understanding instruction, mechanical aptitude, reading comprehension, judgment and reasoning. The strength and agility test is designed to evaluate the candidate's physical condition, stamina and dexterity. The oral interview is designed to measure the individual's ability to express thoughts clearly and concisely.



REFERENCES FOR WRITTEN EXAM

Public libraries have material explaining how to take a Civil Service exam, and books on the oral interview process. In addition, pre-employment orientation classes will be provided to Fire Department applicants.

EXPLANATION OF STRENGTH & AGILITY TEST

- Task 1 **High Rise Stair Climb** – The candidate will start by carrying a high-rise shoulder load to the top of the Drill Tower.
- Task 2 **Hoist Evolution** – Candidate will, hand over hand, pull a section of 2½” hose up five (5) stories with a ¾” rope. Weight approx. 50 lbs.
- Task 3 **Forcible Entry Evolution** – Candidate shall drive a 200 lb. steel I-beam five feet by striking it with an 8 lb. sledge hammer.
- Task 4 **1¾” Hose Advance** – Candidate will take the nozzle end of a 50’ charged 1¾” line and advance it into a structure and out the other side.
- Task 5 **Victim Rescue Evolution** – Candidate will lift and drag a comatose 170 lb. victim a distance of 100 feet. A mannequin will be used for this evolution.

These five tasks are timed and done in succession. Applicants will wear full turnout gear and breathing apparatus for this part of the exam.

In addition to the timed Strength and Agility Test, the candidate will be tested in the following two areas:

1. Candidate will be tested for Acrophobia (fear of heights). PASS or FAIL.
2. Candidate will be tested for Claustrophobia (fear of enclosed spaces) by donning a “blacked out” self-contained breathing apparatus and entering a simulated fire situation. PASS or FAIL.