Minimum Qualifications for Probationary Firefighter for the
City of Athens Fire/Rescue

An applicant for fire fighter shall meet the following criteria in order to be considered for an entry-level position:

- Achieve a passing score of at least seventy (70) percent on the written examination;
- Successfully complete the physical ability test (described below);
- Pass a thorough background investigation which includes a polygraph examination;
- Successfully complete an oral interview; and,
- Successfully complete a post-job offer psychological examination and medical examination that includes a visual acuity test and physician certification that the applicant is not dependent on and does not use illegal drugs;
- Be at least eighteen (18) years of age and not more than thirty-five (35) years of age at the time of appointment;
- Have a valid Texas driver’s license at the date of hire; (Must be able to obtain a Class B Driver’s License from the Texas Department of Public Safety within six (6) months of the date of hire);
- Be a citizen of the United States by birth or naturalization;
- Be able to read, write, and speak the English language;
- Be of good moral character;
- Possess a certification as a basic firefighter, as established by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection or may become certified at time of appointment. At or before the time of entrance examination, applicants shall provide either (1) evidence of certification issued by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection, or (2) evidence of current enrollment in a basic recruit fire training academy approved by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection; and;
- Possess a certification from the Texas Department of State Health Services ("TDSHS") as an EMT-Basic or higher. At or before the time of entrance examination, applicants shall provide either (1) an EMT Certificate issued by the TDSHS, or (2) evidence of current enrollment in an EMT course approved by the TDSHS. (This certification will not be allowed to lapse during employment)
- Be a graduate of an accredited High School or have an equivalency certificate.

Physical ability for Athens Fire/Rescue:

Instructions:

Candidates will perform each event while wearing a firefighter coat, helmet, gloves, and self-contained breathing apparatus without mask.  
Candidates will walk between each station.  
Candidates will set down equipment after completing an event.
Each Candidate will be allowed 1 minute between each station.  
Candidates are encouraged to complete each event regardless of time.