



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

An applicant for fire fighter shall meet the following criteria 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 the 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 of 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:

All candidates will have to achieve the baseline vitals established by NFPA 1584 guidelines for clearance to perform the Physical Ability Test.

Blood Pressure:

<160 systolic
<100 diastolic

Hear Rate:

<100 beats per minute

Pulse Oximetry:

>94 percent

Candidates will perform each event while wearing a fire fighter 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 even regardless of time.