

Whatcom County Fire District No. 7
P.O. Box 1599 Ferndale, WA 98248
Phone: (360) 384-0303 Fax: (360) 384-4509

Prerequisites: 21-70 years old, Washington State Drivers License, live within a reasonable proximity to any of our 6 stations and have a negligible criminal history. Volunteers are put through a testing process to enter the department. This includes a written test, interview with the Fire Chief, a doctor physical, physical fitness test and finally the Whatcom County Fire Recruit Academy of approximately 184 hours of training over a couple of months time. The academy is set up for weekday evening classes and weekend day classes.

Pension: Volunteers receive one credit for each year of service with any Volunteer Fire Department. After 10 credits are obtained, the volunteer is then “Vested” and eligible to receive a determined amount of money upon retirement. That amount increases with every credit after the initial 10, up to 25 credits.

Reimbursements: Volunteers are reimbursed for every alarm and/or training they attend. That amount is currently \$9.00 for every alarm and \$9.00 for every approved training. You will also be reimbursed \$1.50 for your applicable recertification requirements.

Education: Volunteers are encouraged to attend medical courses. First Responder and Emergency Medical Technician courses are two most common. The Department will pay all costs of these courses. Other courses may be paid with approval of the Fire Chief.

Death Benefit: Currently the benefit for dying in the line of duty as a Volunteer is \$100,000 from the department insurance policy and approximately \$375,000 from other state and federal policies.

Travel Opportunities: Volunteers have opportunities to travel to classes within and outside the State of Washington. The Department will pay for approved classes and all expenses.

Thank you for your consideration to become an important part of your community. If you would like further information regarding becoming a Volunteer Firefighter, please contact Whatcom County Fire District No. 7 at your earliest convenience. Thank you.

**Monday through Friday – 8:00am to 4:00pm
(360) 384-0303**