

**Whatcom Co 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 Driver's 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, doctor's physical, physical fitness test, and finally the Whatcom County Fire Recruit Academy of approximately 90 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. The amount is currently \$9 for every alarm, and \$9 for every approved training.

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 for 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. Approved classes and all expenses will be paid for by the Department.

**Thank you for your time and consideration to become an important part of  
your community. If you would like to become a Volunteer Firefighter,  
please contact me at your earliest convenience.**

**Lieutenant Dean Crosswhite  
M-F 8am – 4pm 384-0303**