



City of Mesquite Firefighter Recruit Civil Service Entrance Exam

APPLY ONLINE AT WWW.CITYOFMESQUITE.COM

Exam Date: Saturday, April 18, 2009
Location: Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Drive, Mesquite, Texas 75149
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Deadline: 5:00 pm, Wednesday, April 1, 2009

All candidates must provide the required documentation **BEFORE** they are eligible to test. Required documentation includes: application submitted online, certified copy of college transcript(s), and certified copy of DD214 (if applicable).

Once applying online, you must bring your college transcript and DD214 (if applicable) in person or submit it via mail to:

City of Mesquite Human Resources
Attn: Fire Recruiting
1515 N. Galloway Avenue
Mesquite, TX 75149

All documentation must be submitted by 5:00pm on Wednesday, April 1, 2009 in order to sit for the exam.

All applications and documents must be submitted on or before Wednesday, April 1, 2009 to be eligible to test. NO late documents will be accepted. It is the applicant's responsibility to call the Human Resources office at 972-216-6218 to verify all documents have been received and you are eligible to take the exam. If you are unable to attend the exam after verifying eligibility, you must call before the exam to cancel your reservation. Failure to call and cancel your reservation **will** result as a "No Show" and count against future opportunities to test.

Exam Information

The Civil Service exam will be scantron format consisting of all multiple choice questions. There are 12 components of the exam including: verbal comprehension, verbal expression, problem sensitivity, deductive reasoning, inductive reasoning, information ordering, mathematical reasoning, numeric facility, firefighter orientation, stress tolerance, team orientation, and motivation/attitude. The exam is a two and one half hour timed event with 155 questions.

Candidates who pass the written exam with a 70% or higher will be subject to a physical agility test, polygraph exam, driver analysis, background check, and will be required to pass a qualifying medical exam, including drug testing, psychological exam, and any other job relevant investigations deemed necessary.

Math/reading assessment and placement testing is necessary to enter EMT and Paramedic School (held at UTSW Medical Center). The testing can be done at El Centro College and is required before employment.

Information on Physical Agility Test

As part of the selection standards for appointment to the Mesquite Fire Department, you will be required to pass a Physical Agility test, provided you have met all prior requirements. The top fifty (50) candidates who pass the Firefighter Entrance Exam will be invited to attend the Physical Agility test on Saturday, **May 16, 2009**. Practice tests will be available to the top fifty (50) candidates who pass the Firefighter Entrance Exam on Friday, May 8, 2009 and Saturday, May 9, 2009. The times of the Physical Agility test and practice tests will be announced in the future. The following information is provided for your assistance.

If you have any physical condition, which in the opinion of the Test Administrator, could present a greater than normal possibility of injury, you may be required to obtain a physician's statement to document your suitability for testing.

TEST COMPONENTS

The test consists of a fire suppression exercise. There will be no fire, but you will be required to perform several of the tasks inherent in combating fires in structures. This tests your endurance and requires you to perform a series of consecutive tasks without resting. **YOU MUST NOT RUN WHILE COMPLETING THIS EVENT. YOU WILL BE PENALIZED IF YOU RUN.**

The event begins with pulling 100 feet of charged 1 ¾ inch hose around obstacles. You must then climb a 35-foot extension ladder to the point that your feet are on the rung 24 feet above the surface and descend. You must then climb the stairs of the fire-training tower to the third floor. On the third floor, you must push a box weighted to 100 lbs. completely across the fire tower floor. You then descend the tower and proceed to a ventilation task. You are required to drive a 6-ft. section of railroad tie the required distance using a sledgehammer. The hammer weighs the same as the standard fire axe. This exercise tests your ability to chop ventilation holes in a structure during fire suppression. You must then remove a 14-foot roof ladder from the side of a fire engine, carry it around the engine and replace it in the ladder rack. You must then walk 30 feet and, using a fireman's drag, pull a 168-lb. dummy 30 feet. Timing of the event stops when the dummy completely crosses the marked line.

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. The test will be timed by two proctors using stopwatches. You will be awarded the faster of the two times.
2. You will be required to wear a firefighter's turnout coat, rubber boots, helmet, and air pack during completion of each event. These will be provided.
3. Passing or failing of the test will be based upon your overall time on the test.
4. You will be given an opportunity to examine all parts of the events, and conduct any practice you desire before the test. Proctors will be available to offer advice and to demonstrate the proper manner of completing each task. You are encouraged to ask questions and seek advice from the firefighters present.
5. If you run at any time during the test, a 10-second penalty will be assessed each time you run. Running is considered as moving beyond a steady walking pace. Jogging, loping and trotting will constitute running. The Test Administrator's judgment as to running and the imposition of penalties will be final.

Salary and Benefits

Salary Range:	\$51,060 per year starting \$53,616 per year after one year of service \$56,292 per year after two years of service \$59,112 per year after three years of service \$62,064 per year after four years of service \$65,172 per year after five years of service
Life Insurance:	Two times annual salary
Medical Insurance:	Coverage available to all full-time employees at group rates
Dental:	Coverage available to all full-time employees at group rates
Vacation:	15 days per year 20 days after 15 years of service 25 days after 25 years of service
Sick Leave:	15 days per year, may be accumulated without limits
Holidays:	9 per year
Retirement:	Texas Municipal Retirement System and Social Security • <i>Employees may retire after 20 years of service regardless of age</i>
Uniforms/Equipment	Furnished by the department. Uniforms cleaned at the department's expense
Longevity Pay:	Based on the number of continuous years of service
Assignment Pay:	May be offered to firefighters who perform specialized functions in their department. The city currently has authorized assignment pay of \$125 per month plus \$20 per 24-hour shift assigned to the ambulance for paramedics. The City also pays \$60 per employee assigned to perform the function of SCBA Technician by servicing self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) used by firefighters.
Education Incentive:	Available to eligible firefighters with one year or more of service
Certification Incentive:	Available to eligible firefighters with one year or more of service

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Minimum Qualifications

- Candidates must be not less than 21 years of age nor more than 35 years of age
- Candidates must have completed a minimum of either:
 - Sixty (60) semester hours of college credit in general subjects from an accredited college or university*
 - OR
 - Thirty (30) semester hours of college credit towards a degree in Fire Protection Technology from an accredited college or university*
 - OR
 - Two (2) years of active military service with an honorable discharge plus 30 semester hours of college credit in any subject from an accredited college or university*

College Credit Requirements:

- developmental/remedial courses not accepted
- grades lower than "C" not accepted
- letter grade of "P" will be accepted
- College credit for military experience, work experience, life experience, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) credit, credit for college entrance exams, high school advanced placement courses, or any credit from a non-accredited institution will not be accepted.

**An "accredited college or university" is an institution of higher education that is accredited or authorized by one of the following agencies:*

- Southern Association of Colleges and Schools
 - Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools
 - New England Association of Schools and Colleges
 - North Central Association of Colleges and Schools
 - Northwest Association of Schools and Colleges
 - Western Association of Schools and Colleges
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- Candidate's vision must be at least 20/100 uncorrected, correctable to 20/30 with no color blindness.
 - Candidates may not be certified as eligible if audiometric testing shows average hearing loss in their unaided better ear greater than 40 decibels (dB) at 500 Hz, 1000 Hz, and 2000 Hz when the audiometric device is calibrated to ANSI Z24.5.
 - Candidates must be mentally alert, have the ability to get along well with others, willing to perform assigned duties and responsibilities, be conscientious and dependable and in excellent physical condition.
 - Candidates must possess a valid Texas Class A or B Driver's License (upon assignment) and meet City driving requirements.
 - Candidates will be expected to participate in and pass a qualifying physical agility and medical examination, including drug testing. The following will be disqualifying: (1) any illegal use of a controlled substance other than marijuana or (2) any use of marijuana which exceeds very limited experimentation or any experimentation within the six months immediately prior to testing.

NOTE: Credit hours received to obtain certification in a fire academy in lieu of college do not substitute for the required college semester hours.