

**Job Title:** Probationary Firefighter

**Closing Date/Time:** Fri. 08/13/10 4:30 PM Eastern Time

**Salary:** \$16.40 - \$22.35 Hourly  
\$34,102.00 - \$46,484.00 Annually

**Job Type:** MERIT

**Location:** Various locations throughout Baltimore County, Maryland

**Department:** FIRE

## TO APPLY

To learn more about and apply for this position please go to our website at [www.baltimorecountymd.gov](http://www.baltimorecountymd.gov) and select JOBS

[Description](#) [Benefits](#) [Supplemental Questions](#)

Pay Schedule V, Grade PF, Regular Schedule: 40 hours per week

Vacancies exist in the Fire Department.

A **list of eligible applicants** will be established based on the examination as outlined below.

Current and future vacancies may be filled from the list of eligible applicants.

All interested **transfer** and **promotional** candidates must apply at this time.

List all **promotions** and changes in job duties due to **reclassification** as separate work experiences on your application. You must include the dates of the promotions and reclassifications.

**To apply for this position you MUST meet the following requirements before August 13, 2010:**

1. Have a high school diploma, GED, or an appropriate equivalent;
2. Be at least 18 years old;
3. **Have a valid non-provisional driver's license;**
4. Have less than 4 points on driving record; and
5. **NOT** have any felony convictions

You **MUST** successfully complete the following before you can be hired as a Probationary Firefighter:

1. Pass the written examination;
2. Pass the physical ability examination;
3. Pass the panel oral interview;
4. Complete a comprehensive background investigation; and
5. Pass a physical and medical examination, including a drug test.

**IMPORTANT TESTING INFORMATION BELOW!!!**

Make sure to read about the testing process outlined in the "**Qualifications**" section of this job posting.

Examples of Duties:

Under close supervision, receives Fire Rescue Academy and on-the-job training in fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency rescue and other related departmental functions.

- Attends and successfully completes the Fire Department Training Academy. Gains knowledge and skill necessary to respond to alarms, to perform general firefighting, fire extinguishing, and rescue operations, and to maintain apparatus and equipment.
- While assigned to a shift, follows Department rules, regulations, and procedures. Learns geography of district.
- Hears alarm and prepares for appropriate response. Drives or rides safely in departmental vehicles.
- Understands visual and spoken orders and takes appropriate action. Removes or leads persons from buildings or hazardous situations.
- Carries or drags hoses, ladders, and other equipment. Tests and maintains apparatus and associated equipment.
- Assists in mitigating dangerous and hazardous situations. Assists in the saving of lives and property and in extinguishing fires.
- Operates firefighting and rescue equipment and apparatus. Participates in drills and other training activities.
- Performs basic patient assessment and takes vital signs. Provides basic life support appropriate to patient's condition.
- Performs CPR and rescue breathing. Verbally communicates information regarding patient's condition to other medical staff. Handles or lifts patients.
- Drives departmental vehicles.

### **Examples of Other Duties**

Assists in maintenance of grounds, buildings, fire hydrants, and quarters. May perform clerical functions and other related duties as required.

(NOTE: The duties and responsibilities listed above are for the purpose of determining a common set of minimum qualifications for all positions in this class. They may not include all of the essential job functions of each position in the class. Each position may not be required to perform all of the essential job functions listed.)

Qualifications:

### **Required Qualifications**

You **MUST**:

- Have a high school diploma or an appropriate equivalent;
- Be at least 18 years of age **at the time of application**;

- Have a valid driver's license equivalent to a non-provisional, non-commercial, Class C Maryland driver's license is required **at the time of application**;
- Pass a written exam;
- Pass a physical ability test;
- Complete a comprehensive background investigation and a drug test; and
- Pass a physical examination

## **TESTING PROCESS**

### **Written Examination**

Applicants who meet the required job qualifications will be invited to take the written exam scheduled during the month of September.

Applicants will be notified of the test date, time, and location based on the contact preference (email or mail) indicated on your application.

The written examination consists of 100 multiple-choice questions in the following subject areas:  
 Reading Comprehension (20 questions);  
 Mechanical Ability (25 questions);  
 Basic Math (35 questions); and  
 Interpersonal Skills (20 questions)

You will be given 2 1/2 hours to complete the written exam. You will receive your test score in the mail during the month of September

**NOTE:** If you cannot take the written exam on your scheduled date and time, please contact the Office of Human Resources at 410-887-3135.

### ***Prepare for written examination***

A test preparation guide is available on the [Fire Department's web site](#) to assist you in preparing for the written examination. It contains test section instructions, sample questions, and test-taking tips.

### **Physical Ability Test**

Applicants who pass the written exam will be invited to participate in the physical ability testing. You will be contacted about the physical ability test date, time, and location by the Fire Department.

The Fire Department will hold practice sessions prior to the physical ability testing to help familiarize you with each station and the physical activity involved. Practice session dates and times will be e-mailed to applicants who pass the written examination.

You must have a Physical Ability Waiver signed by a physician in order to take the physical ability test. The Physical Ability Waiver and the Physical Ability Test Description Sheet can be found on [Fire Department's website](#). Be sure to allow enough time for your doctor to complete the Physical Ability Waiver.

Wear athletic clothing (e.g. sweatshirt and/or T-shirt and sweatpants and/or shorts) and tennis shoes on the day of your physical ability test.

The physical ability test includes:

- Ladder Climb;
- Mannequin Drag;
- Stair Climb;

Equipment Carry;  
Hose Drag;  
Equipment Raise; and  
Tunnel Crawl

The order and stations of this examination are subject to change prior to the physical ability test practice sessions.

### **The Fire Academy**

Upon successful completion of the background investigation and the physical and medical examinations, those given a conditional offer of employment will be considered for a future class of the Baltimore County Fire Department.

The Fire Academy is an 18 week academic, physical and practical training program, which introduces recruits to a career in emergency medical services.

If you have questions about the Probationary Firefighter testing process or would like more information about the Fire Academy, visit the [Fire Department's website](#).

Conditions of Employment:

Possession of a Firefighter II certificate and possession of a Maryland First Responder certificate are required upon completion of Fire Academy training.

### **Recruits who do not obtain the required certifications will be terminated.**

Employees in this classification may be assigned to work on either a rotating or fixed shift basis, which will include nights, evenings, weekends, and/or holidays. Employees in this classification are subject to call to duty in emergencies, and may be required to work overtime with little or no notice.

Employees must maintain required licenses and certifications throughout their employment.

### **Physical and Environmental Conditions**

The work of this classification entails the performance of heavy physical labor involving fire suppression, and emergency rescue operations. Work requires exposure to potentially hazardous public safety activities.

### **Medical Examination and Comprehensive Background Investigation**

Applicants selected for an appointment to a position in Baltimore County must successfully complete a physical examination, stress test, and drug screen, and a comprehensive background investigation which includes but is not limited to a criminal background check, driver's license check, and fingerprinting.