

2015 Fire Fighter Fact Sheet

Candidates should file only one application. The Civil Service Commission will automatically place candidates who pass the examination on the eligible list(s) based on residency and volunteer preference, if applicable. See below for examples.

Example #1 - You are a resident of Woodbridge Township. You will be placed on the lists for all three Woodbridge Township Fire Districts. If you are a volunteer in FD #01 and indicate this on your application, you will be awarded volunteer service credit points only in Fire District #01 if you are eligible for the points. If you are not a volunteer you will still be placed on the eligible lists for all three Fire Districts, but you will not be awarded any volunteer service credit points. (See Page 2 for information on volunteer service credit points.)

Example #2 - You are a resident of Newark. You will be placed on the Newark eligible list. You will also be placed on the lists for Clifton, Belleville, Bloomfield, Harrison, Kearny and Millburn because the residency preferences for those jurisdictions are open to Essex County, where Newark is located.

Merit System Jurisdictions with Full-Time Paid Fire Fighter Positions

Jurisdiction	Residency Preferences	Jurisdiction	Residency Preferences
Asbury Park City	Asbury Park City	Margate City	Margate City
Atlantic City	Atlantic City	Millburn Twp**	Union, Morris & Essex Counties
Bayonne City	Bayonne City	Millville City **	Millville City
Belleville Twp	Belleville Twp	Morristown Twp**	Morristown Town
Bergenfield Boro **	Bergen, Essex & Passaic Counties	Mount Laurel Twp *	Mount Laurel Twp
Bloomfield Twp **	Bloomfield Twp	New Brunswick City	New Brunswick City
Bordentown Twp*	Bordentown Twp	Newark City	Newark City
Bridgeton City **	Bridgeton City	North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue	State
Camden City	Camden City	North Wildwood City **	North Wildwood City
Cape May City **	Cape May City	Nutley Twp **	Nutley Twp
Carteret Boro **	Carteret Boro	Ocean City	Ocean City
Cinnaminson Twp *	Cinnaminson Twp	Orange City	Orange City
Clifton City	Passaic & Essex Counties	Passaic City	Passaic City
Deptford Twp *	Deptford Twp	Paterson City	Paterson City
Dover Town **	Dover Town	Pennsauken Twp **	Pennsauken Twp
East Orange City	East Orange City	Perth Amboy City **	Perth Amboy City
Edgewater Park Twp	Edgewater Park Twp	Plainfield City	Plainfield City
Elizabeth City	Elizabeth City	Pleasantville City	Pleasantville City
Ewing Twp **	Ewing Twp	Rahway City **	Rahway City
Florence Twp *	Florence Twp	Ridgewood Village**	Ridgewood Village
Gloucester City	Gloucester City	Roselle Boro **	Roselle Boro
Gloucester Twp *	Gloucester Twp	Runnemede Boro	Runnemede Boro
Hackensack City	Hackensack City	South Orange Twp	South Orange Twp
Hamilton Twp *	Hamilton Twp	Teaneck Twp	Teaneck Twp
Harrison Town	Essex & Hudson Counties	Trenton City	Trenton City
Hillside Twp	Hillside Twp	Union Twp **	Union Twp
Hoboken City	Hoboken City	Ventnor City	Ventnor City
Irvington Twp	Irvington Twp	Verona Twp **	Verona Twp
Jackson Twp *	Jackson Twp	Vineland City **	Vineland City
Jersey City	Jersey City	Voorhees Twp *	Voorhees Twp
Kearny Town	Kearny Town & Newark City	West Orange Twp	West Orange Twp
Lakewood Twp *	Lakewood Twp	Wildwood City **	Wildwood City
Lawrence Twp **	Lawrence Twp	Willingboro Twp **	Willingboro Twp
Linden City	Linden City	Winslow Twp *	Winslow Twp
Long Branch City **	Long Branch City	Woodbridge Twp *	Woodbridge Twp

Jurisdictions marked above with * are Fire Districts that use paid and volunteer Fire Fighters. Those marked with ** are Municipal Fire departments that use paid and volunteer Fire Fighters. Those without an asterisk are full-time paid Fire departments that use only paid Fire Fighters. If you are a volunteer Fire Fighter, you must complete the volunteer section of your application. If you are not a volunteer Fire Fighter, select "No" in response to this question in the volunteer section of your application.

Fire Districts

Bordentown Twp FD #01	Hamilton Twp FD #02	Jackson Twp FD #02
Bordentown Twp FD #02	Hamilton Twp FD #03	Jackson Twp FD #03
Cinnaminson Twp FD #01	Hamilton Twp FD #04	Jackson Twp FD #04
Deptford Twp FD #01	Hamilton Twp FD #05	Lakewood Twp FD #01
Florence Twp FD #01	Hamilton Twp FD #06	Mt. Laurel Twp FD #01
Gloucester Twp FD #02	Hamilton Twp FD #07	Winslow Twp FD #01
Gloucester Twp FD #04	Hamilton Twp FD #08	Woodbridge Twp FD #01
Gloucester Twp FD #05	Hamilton Twp FD #09	Woodbridge Twp FD #02
Gloucester Twp FD #06		Woodbridge Twp FD #07

Volunteer Fire Fighter Service Credit

The Appellate Division of the New Jersey Superior Court made a determination on December 19, 2002 that interprets the preference provided to volunteer Fire Fighters in merit system jurisdictions by State Law *N.J.S.A. 40A:14-45*. The law provides that volunteers with at least two years of continuous volunteer service are eligible for three to ten service credits (points) which shall be added to their passing score on the exam. Please note this service must immediately precede the closing date for filing applications.

In order to receive volunteer points, you must have participated in at least 50% of the active fire alarms AND fire drills/training for which a volunteer presence was requested over the course of a year. Fire Chiefs from each volunteer jurisdiction will be asked to verify that candidates indicating volunteer service have met this requirement before points are awarded. Candidates identified as having intentionally falsified this information may be disqualified from the test process in accordance with *N.J.A.C. 4A:4-6.1*.

The service credit points are calculated by adding one point to the years of service. For example, three points are added for two years of service, four points are added for three years of service and so on up to ten points maximum. Any service time in excess of nine years shall be awarded the ten point maximum. The service credit is calculated as of the closing date for filing applications listed on the examination announcement.

NOTE FOR VOLUNTEERS - In order to be awarded service credit points you must complete the volunteer service portion of the application for the fire district or part-paid municipal fire department where you currently volunteer.

Child of a Paid Fire Fighter Killed in the Line of Duty

N.J.S.A. 40A:14-10.1(a) grants hiring preference to children of paid Fire Fighters killed in the line of duty. The law gives them preference over non-veterans, but not over veterans. Applicants claiming this preference will be required to provide acceptable documentation. Please visit <http://www.state.nj.us/csc/authorities/faq/safety> for information regarding acceptable documentation.

Maximum Hiring Age Requirement

Non-volunteer candidates over age 35 (one is considered to be over 35 on the day after his or her 35th birthday) as of the **closing date** for filing applications (**August 31, 2015**) are not eligible for appointment to a Fire Fighter position. A non-volunteer candidate who turns age 35 while on an eligible list remains eligible for appointment to a Fire Fighter position for the life of the eligible list.

However, there are two exceptions to the above:

Exception #1 - Volunteer Fire Fighters, who are over age 35, but not over age 40, are eligible for appointment to a Fire Fighter position. Once a volunteer is over age 40 he/she cannot be appointed to a Fire Fighter position even if the eligible list he/she is on has not expired.

Exception #2 - Non-volunteer and volunteer Fire Fighter candidates may reduce their actual age by the amount of their military service during the periods, and under the conditions, specified in the Civil Service Act related to New Jersey Veterans Preference in order to meet the maximum hiring age requirement. Military service that does not fall within the periods, and under the conditions specified in the Act, cannot be deducted from one's actual age. The military service deduction is made as of the **closing date** for filing applications (**August 31, 2015**). Please visit www.state.nj.us/military/veterans/preference.html for the periods and conditions for Veterans Preference.

Residency Preference

Hiring jurisdictions may classify eligible candidates into the following tiers based on the candidates' legal residence: 1) Residents of the municipality; 2) Residents of the county in which the municipality is located; 3) Residents of the State; and 4) All other qualified candidates. Appointments shall be made in the order of their tiers; each tier must be exhausted before the next tier can be used.

Each candidate's residency is established as of the closing date for filing applications and cannot be changed after that date. In addition, in some jurisdictions the candidates must maintain continuous residency as of the appointment date. Since residency cannot be changed after the closing date, candidates should be aware that if they change their residence after the closing date, they may not be eligible for appointment because they failed to maintain continuous residency in a jurisdiction.

IMPORTANT: Here's an example of a problem that could occur by changing one's residence after the closing date:

Ewing and Trenton both have the hiring preference for their municipal residents. Also, they both require that applicants be municipal residents at the time of appointment to Fire Fighter ("continuous residency"). The announcement closing date is August 31, 2015. John, who lives in Ewing, files an application on that date and indicates residency code 1102 for Ewing. On September 30, 2015, John notifies the Civil Service Commission (CSC) that he moved to Trenton. CSC will change his address for mailing purposes only, but will not change his residency code, because his residency code reflects where John resided as of the closing date. Later, John's name is certified from the Ewing list due to his original Ewing residency code. However, Ewing will disqualify him because he no longer lives in Ewing. Even if he moves back to Ewing, he failed to maintain continuous residency in Ewing and, therefore, cannot be appointed. Similarly, John cannot be certified to Trenton because he did not live in Trenton as of August 31, 2015, the closing date for filing applications.