

## **Certified/Lateral Firefighters**

*Important Note: On your test date, if you are not 100% qualified as stated below, you will take the entry level test. If you become qualified as a certified firefighter based on ALL five criteria below before July 1 of the current year, you will be considered for hire as a certified firefighter rather than an entry level firefighter. All certified firefighter hires attend our mini academy rather than the entry level academy.*

## **Certified/Lateral Firefighter Requirements**

1. High school diploma or equivalent
2. Must have a valid driver's license
3. North Carolina certified firefighter applicants must have current NC Certified Firefighter I and II and Hazardous Materials Responder Level I. Out of state applicants must have a current equivalent to NC Certified Firefighter I and II and Hazardous Materials Responder Level I. **Equivalent certifications must be from an IFSAC or Pro Board accredited agency. You must bring COPIES of these certifications on your test date. These copies will not be returned.**
4. All certified firefighter applicants must have NC EMT-B certification or must be able to attain NC EMT-B certification through reciprocity. **You must bring a COPY of this certification on your test date. This copy will not be returned.**
5. As of July 1 of the current year, applicants must have been employed as a paid, full-time sworn firefighter by a municipal or Department of Defense fire department for at least two consecutive years with no more than a 3-month lapse in employment as a sworn firefighter

OR

applicants must have graduated from a municipal fire academy, the Durham Technical Community College Fire Academy, or other approved fire academy within the past two years (two years prior to 7/1 of the current year).

**Certified Firefighter applicants must bring proof of employment or graduation on their test date. Copies will not be returned.** (Note: government fire department/academy is defined as a city, town, or Department of Defense fire department.) If the certifications listed above show your employment and/or fire

academy affiliation, they will suffice for proof of employment and/or proof of graduation.

Proof of Employment could be a check stub or stubs, training certifications, and/or other pertinent documents. **While we are not strict with the items you must provide for verification, we will verify your information.**

Proof of Graduation could be a copy of your Certificate of Completion from the Fire Academy you attended. If you attended a municipal fire academy (such as Durham Fire Academy) and were employed while in the academy, please provide a copy of a check stub, training certifications, and/or other pertinent documents. **Please know that we will verify this information.**

Certified firefighter applicants will take a job knowledge test from the NFPA 4th Edition of Fundamentals of Fire Fighter Skills and Hazardous Materials Response by Jones & Bartlett. The test will last approximately 2 hours. Certified applicants who score 70 or higher may be scheduled to interview. Certified applicants who do not pass the job knowledge test with a minimum score of 70 are permitted to take the entry level test, but if chosen for hire, those applicants will be required to attend a full academy. The certified firefighter test is for applicants who already have the required FIRE certifications, two years of fire experience, or have graduated from an approved fire academy.

### **If Hired**

Certified applicants will attend a brief academy, lasting approximately 6 weeks.