

CLARK COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENT

Frequently Asked Questions

JoinCCFD.org

ELIGIBILITY & REQUIREMENTS

What is the entry-level firefighter position called?

The entry-level position at Clark County Fire Department is titled Firefighter I.

What are the minimum requirements to apply?

To apply for Firefighter I, you must meet all the following minimum requirements:

- High school diploma or GED equivalent
- At least 18 years of age
- Valid Class C Nevada driver's license
- No felony convictions
- Legally authorized to work in the United States

Note: Certifications such as EMT or Paramedic are not required to *apply* but are strongly encouraged. See the EMS certification question below for more detail.

Do I need an EMT or paramedic certification to apply?

No. Certifications such as EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic are not required to apply. However, the process is extremely competitive, and candidates with EMS credentials are significantly more likely to be selected for rookie school.

Important: To *become* a Clark County Firefighter, you must hold at minimum an Advanced EMT (AEMT) certification by the time you complete your rookie year. All CCFD firefighters are licensed at the AEMT level or higher.

EMS training is available through:

- [CSN](#)
- [Clark County EMT](#)
- [EMS Training Center](#)
- [NAR Education](#)

Do I need to be a U.S. citizen? What about a green card or right-to-work authorization?

You do not need to be a U.S. citizen. A right-to-work authorization (such as a green card) is accepted. You must be legally authorized to work in the United States at the time of hire.

Clark County does not provide H1B visa sponsorships or transfers for any employment positions. For questions specific to your immigration status, contact Clark County Human Resources directly.

THE APPLICATION PROCESS

When does CCFD recruit? When is the next opening?

Clark County Fire Department recruits for Firefighter I positions **once per year**. Recruitment dates and application windows are announced on our website when they become available.

To stay ahead of the process and be notified when recruitment opens:

- [Complete the Future Firefighter interest form](#)
- [Build your profile on GovernmentJobs.com](#)
- [Submit a CCFD Job Interest Card](#)

How do I apply?

Applications are accepted **once per year**. When the application window opens, candidates will be notified through our newsletter, job interest form, social media channels, and website announcements.

In the meantime, complete these four steps to get ready:

- **Step 1:** [Complete the Future Firefighter form](#)
- **Step 2:** [Build your profile on GovernmentJobs.com](#)
- **Step 3:** [Complete the CCFD Job Interest Card](#)
- **Step 4:** Prepare yourself (EMS certifications, physical fitness, study the IFSTA textbook)

For questions, email us at CCFDRecruitment@ClarkCountyNV.gov.

What written exam does CCFD use?

Clark County Fire Department uses the **PSA (Public Safety Answers)** written examination as part of the hiring process.

What are the steps in the hiring process?

The full Firefighter I hiring process includes the following steps:

- **Step 1:** Employment application via GovernmentJobs.com
- **Step 2:** PSA written examination
- **Step 3:** Candidate ability test (physical aptitude)
- **Step 4:** Background investigation
- **Step 5:** Suitability exam (psychological evaluation)
- **Step 6:** Pre-employment physical and drug screen
- **Step 7:** Conditional job offer
- **Step 8:** Recruit academy (~20 weeks)

Is a CPAT required?

A CPAT (Candidate Physical Ability Test) is not required for the CCFD hiring process. However, a Candidate Ability Test will be conducted as part of the process to assess physical readiness.

Is there a polygraph or psychological exam?

There is no polygraph exam. However, a suitability exam (psychological evaluation) is required as part of the pre-employment screening process.

THE ACADEMY & CAREER

How long is the recruit academy? Is it paid?

Recruit academies run approximately 20 weeks and recruits are paid during the academy. During this time, you will be trained on all aspects of becoming a successful Clark County Firefighter, including fire suppression, emergency medical services, and any required certifications.

Learn more about the recruit academy: [CCFD Recruit Academy](#)

What benefits does CCFD offer?

Clark County offers a comprehensive benefits package for Firefighter I employees. For full details on health, retirement, and other benefits, visit:

JoinCCFD.org

THE RECRUIT ELIGIBILITY LIST & YOUR STATUS

Where am I ranked on the list? What is my score?

We appreciate your dedication to the process! While we are unable to share specific scores or list rankings, rest assured that if your name advances, we will contact you directly with next steps.

In the meantime, use this time to strengthen your application by obtaining EMS certifications, gaining field experience, and maintaining your physical fitness.

When will I be called off the list?

When vacancies are approved, candidates are pulled directly from the eligible list and this can happen at any time throughout the year. If your name comes up, we will contact you right away with next steps.

Can I do a ride-along with CCFD?

Due to the high volume of requests we receive, general ride-along opportunities are limited. Ride-alongs are currently available to individuals who are:

- Affiliated with a recognized agency
- Enrolled in an EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic educational program
- Actively participating in the Clark County Fire Explorer Program

This policy ensures operational readiness, safety, and meaningful educational experiences. Questions? Email CCFDRecruitment@ClarkCountyNV.gov.

LATERAL TRANSFERS & PRIOR EXPERIENCE

I'm already a certified firefighter. Is there a lateral transfer or preferential hiring process?

Currently, CCFD does not offer a lateral or preferential hiring pathway. All candidates, regardless of prior fire service experience, are required to complete the standard recruitment, testing, and academy process as a Firefighter I.

Any exceptions are extremely rare and only occur when a specific lateral recruitment is formally announced. We encourage you to follow the standard process and complete the Future Firefighter interest form to stay informed of any future opportunities.

[Complete the Future Firefighter interest form](#)

GETTING PREPARED & GAINING EXPERIENCE

How do I make myself a competitive candidate?

Here is how to give yourself the best possible chance:

- EMS certifications: Pursue EMT, AEMT (minimum required by end of rookie year), and/or Paramedic. Training available through [CSN](#), [Clark County EMT](#), [EMS Training Center](#), and [NAR Education](#).
- Study the academy textbook: The current fire academy book is the [IFSTA 8th Edition Essentials of Fire Fighting](#) (subject to change).
- Gain field experience: Prior work with private ambulance, military, wildland firefighting, or other fire departments is highly valued.
- Stay physically fit: A candidate ability test is part of the hiring process. Train consistently year-round.

What programs can I join to gain experience?

The following programs can help you build experience and stand out as a candidate:

- [CCFD Explorer Program \(ages 16 to 21\)](#)
- CCFD Rural / Volunteer Division: Must hold NREMT certification to apply. Email ruralccfd@clarkcountynv.gov
- Private ambulance companies: Community Ambulance, GEMS, Medic West, AMR, and similar agencies provide valuable hands-on EMS experience.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

How can my school or organization partner with CCFD for a community event?

All community engagement and service requests must be submitted through our official request process. This allows us to fairly evaluate each request and coordinate resources appropriately.

[Submit a Community Engagement Service Request](#)