



For Immediate Release
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There are More Volunteer Opportunities with Local Fire Departments Than You Think!

Nashville, TN, September 20, 2017 So you want to volunteer with your local fire department, but don't see yourself climbing on a fire truck or handling a fire hose? Don't despair! There are several opportunities to serve your local community and help your firefighters that don't involve fighting fires. While your local department is always looking for operational volunteers who are willing to protect their community from the ravages of fire, there are many ways to serve and support the departments as a non-operational volunteer. Volunteers of all skill levels and abilities are needed to support local fire departments.

Experience not necessary! Training is provided for the position you desire to fill when you join your local department. Each department has specific requirements, such as a minimum age or background check. Chances are the skills that you have already have are needed! Are you a good writer/communicator? Love to manage special events? Have teaching skills? Know CPR? Maybe you cook a great pot of chili. The list is as endless as the volunteer opportunities available.

Besides the satisfaction of knowing that you are serving your community, benefits of becoming a volunteer are numerous. In most departments, you will receive free training and free uniforms. In most municipalities, volunteer firefighters are protected by workers' compensation. Some departments even offer personal property tax exemptions and live-in programs. The skills you acquire can be used in current and future jobs and will look great on your resume. Volunteerism is a bullet point that many employers look for when selecting new employees.

Do you have any of these skills? If so, your local fire department needs you!

- Accounting
- Administrative
- Business
- Computers
- Construction
- Education
- Fundraising
- Law Enforcement
- Marketing
- Mechanics
- Medicine
- Office Management

According to the Tennessee State Fire Marshal's office, every 68 seconds, someone places an emergency call. Every 62 minutes, a structure fire occurs. We need you!

Tennessee relies on brave men and women to volunteer their time to serve as volunteer firefighters to ensure that every call for help is answered. Men and women with almost every skill set are needed. There are volunteer opportunities at your local volunteer fire department for citizens willing to work hard. To learn more about becoming a volunteer firefighter and joining your local volunteer fire department, please visit www.VolunteerFireTN.org.

About the Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association, Inc. (TFCA)

The TFCA provides leadership to career and volunteer Fire Chiefs, Chief Fire Officers and managers of emergency service organizations throughout the State of Tennessee through vision, information, education, service and representation to enhance their knowledge, skills, and abilities. The TN Fire Chiefs Association (TFCA) also encourages the professional advancement of the fire service to ensure and maintain greater protection of life and property from fire and natural or man-made disasters. The TFCA's mission is to provide leadership to career and volunteer chiefs, chief fire officers, and managers of Emergency Service Organizations throughout the State of Tennessee through vision, information, education, service and representation to enhance their professionalism and capabilities. More information about the TFCA is located at www.tnfirechiefs.com .

About Volunteer Workforce Solutions (VWS)

The Tennessee Fire Chiefs Association was awarded a SAFER recruitment and retention grant in 2016 and partnered with the International Association of Fire Chiefs to identify recruitment and retention goals, strategies and marketing methodologies that would benefit not only participating departments, but all fire departments in the state. 19 departmental groups, consisting of 64 departments, were selected to participate in Phase I of the program. The VWS program is also operating in Virginia through the Virginia Fire Chiefs Association and Connecticut through the Connecticut Fire Chiefs Association. There is also currently a National VWS effort focusing on diversity and new trainings. More information about the Tennessee VWS can be found at www.VolunteerFireTN.org.