

PRIOR EXPERIENCE EVALUATION

A. Purpose:

This guideline is to evaluate the skills of applicants who have previous structural firefighting experience, and to consider a “fast track” towards full membership into the PVFD.

B. Scope:

This guideline applies to all who have a desire to become members of the PFD, and to evaluate their experience level.

The evaluation takes into consideration various subjective issues associated with all disciplines. The intent of the evaluation is to assure the individual’s capabilities to bypass certain recruit class requirements.

C. Guidelines:

1. An application package must be completed and provided to the fire chief. The fire chief will then pass the package to the training division for evaluation.
2. The training division will evaluate the application and pass to the office manager if approved for data input processing.
3. Any person seeking membership whose training is not current by more than two years will be required to attend the PFD academy in its entirety.
4. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide a copy of previous training including dates for the latest training listed.
5. Each applicant seeking a “fast track” approach must provide in writing a letter of recommendation from the applicant’s prior department Chief and Training Officer. This letter is to contain the following key points:
 - a. Applicant duration with previous department
 - b. Reasons for leaving the previous department
6. The candidate will first be given an oral interview.
7. If selected to continue past the oral interview the individual will be evaluated for knowledge and skills, based on those proficiency guidelines adopted by the training division at the time of application:

- a. Personal safety
 - b. PPE
 - c. Hose and nozzle handling
 - d. Ground ladders
 - e. Ventilation including use of appropriate tools and PPV
8. The knowledge and skills process will be a pass or fail.
9. A written test of about 50 questions will be provided to the applicant. A passing grade of 75% is required.
10. The training division will decide which of the additional specific recruit class courses will be necessary.
11. The training division will make the final recommendation to the Command Staff as appropriate for the specific individual.
12. If approved, the new individual will fall under the same guidelines as a standard fire recruit and must complete the PFD orientation class and other requirements as soon as feasible.
13. If approved, this member will remain as probationary status for nine months and then be approved by the Command Staff for full membership.