

# Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department Membership Application and Process

1. To be eligible to apply for membership in the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) you must:

- be at least 21 but not over 55 years of age.
- have lived, or worked forty hours a week in Ferndale for at least six months.
- be willing to attend meetings, drills, new member training sessions (all of these are on Thursday evenings), other activities and respond to calls day and night.

2. Complete the FVFD Membership Application, and submit it to an officer of the fire department or mail it to PO Box 485, Ferndale, CA 95536.

3. You may be invited to apply in person at an Officer's Meeting. These are held on the Monday evening before the first Thursday of the month. If the Officers agree to continue the application process, you will need to complete the following:

- Obtain and submit a DMV printout. (The short version, \$5.00 from DMV)
- A physical exam is required, at the Department's expense to be arranged with a health care provider appointed by the Department.
- A background check will be conducted.

When these steps have been completed the Chief may notify you that you have been approved to begin the probationary process which is usually at least six months.

4. If you accept, you will be added to our roster as a probationary member.

5. You are expected to attend every meeting and drill during your probation and also to participate in new member training sessions, company drills and other activities as scheduled.

6. Do not respond to calls until authorized to do so by a chief officer. You must be listed on our insurance policy before you may participate in any way.

7. You will be issued personal protective equipment, a pager and other gear worth approximately \$3,500.00. It is your responsibility to take care of this equipment and return it when you leave the department.

8. Once invited to respond to calls, initially respond to the radio room to observe how calls are handled by FVFD personnel, and to learn radio protocols. A chief officer or designee will invite you to ride on the apparatus as appropriate situations arise.

9. During your probationary period you will also be expected to secure your class B or B-Fire learner's permit or driver's license, and to begin medical training at the First Aid, First Responder or EMT level.

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Being a volunteer firefighter can be a rewarding, as well as a time consuming responsibility. It involves a lot of training and a lot of time away from home. It's something that each applicant should consider carefully before making the decision to become a volunteer. We suggest that you discuss this commitment thoroughly with the significant people in your life. Please weigh all of your other personal and professional obligations before making a decision. If, after careful consideration, you are still committed to becoming a volunteer, we welcome and encourage you in this endeavor.

\_\_\_\_\_, an active member of the Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department and in good standing, does nominate for membership:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Valid Driver's License? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ State \_\_\_ # \_\_\_\_\_ Class \_\_\_\_\_  
Endorsements: Air brakes \_\_\_\_\_ Tanker \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information: Home \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency contact: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Personal reference: Name \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Employer \_\_\_\_\_

Work days/hours \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived or worked in Ferndale?  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you do not live in Ferndale, your employer must complete the following:

I do hereby signify that this application is made with my knowledge, and I give my consent for the applicant to respond to fire calls during work hours.

Employer's signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

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Hours of the day and night that you are available to respond to calls:

Briefly describe your previous fire and/or medical training and experience:

What other skills or experience do you have that would be of benefit to the Department?

Have you ever been convicted of a criminal offense (other than a minor traffic violation), or are there any criminal charges pending against you? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

## AGREEMENT

By applying for membership, I agree, whenever possible, to attend meetings held by the Department, answer all alarms, and assist in fund raising activities or other duties that benefit the Department and the community. I agree to abide by the by-laws and to make myself aware of the standard operational guidelines of the Department to insure the safety and well-being of myself and other members. I certify that the facts in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that omissions and false or misleading statements on this application can be considered sufficient cause for disqualification. I authorize Ferndale Volunteer Fire Department (FVFD) to make any investigation of my personal, driving or employment history and authorize any former employer, person, firm, corporation, credit agency, or government agency to provide any relevant information about me. I also consent to a drug test now or in the future.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_