

2022 Fire Fighter Fact Sheet

Candidates should file only one application. The Civil Service Commission will automatically place candidates who pass the examination on the eligible list(s) based on residency and volunteer preference, if applicable. See below for examples.

Example #1 - You are a resident of Woodbridge Township. You will be placed on the lists for all Woodbridge Township Fire Districts. If you are a volunteer in FD #01 and indicate this on your application, you will be awarded volunteer service credit points only in Fire District #01 if you are eligible for the points. If you are not a volunteer you will still be placed on the eligible lists for all three Fire Districts, but you will not be awarded any volunteer service credit points. (See Page 2 for information on volunteer service credit points.)

Example #2 - You are a resident of Newark. You will be placed on the Newark eligible list. You will also be placed on the lists for Clifton, Belleville, Bergenfield, Harrison, Kearny, Millburn and North Hudson because those jurisdictions are opened to Essex County, or to Newark specifically.

Merit System Jurisdictions with Full-Time Paid Fire Fighter Positions

| Jurisdiction | Residency Preferences | Jurisdiction | Residency Preferences |
|--------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Atlantic City | Atlantic City | Long Branch City** | Long Branch City |
| Asbury Park City | Asbury Park City | Margate City | Margate City |
| Bayonne City | Bayonne City | Millburn Twp | Union, Morris & Essex Counties |
| Belleville Twp | Belleville Twp | Millville City ** | Millville City |
| Bergenfield Boro** | Bergenfield Boro | Morristown Town** | Morristown Town |
| Bloomfield Twp ** | Bloomfield Twp | Mount Laurel Twp * | Mount Laurel Twp |
| Bordentown Twp* | Bordentown Twp | New Brunswick City | New Brunswick City |
| Burlington Twp* | Burlington Twp | Newark City | Newark City |
| Bridgeton City | Bridgeton City | North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue | #See Below |
| Camden City | Camden City | North Wildwood City ** | North Wildwood City |
| Cape May City ** | Cape May City | Nutley Twp ** | Nutley Twp |
| Carteret Boro ** | Carteret Boro | Ocean City | Ocean City |
| Cinnaminson Twp * | Cinnaminson Twp | Orange City | Orange City |
| Clifton City | Passaic & Essex Counties | Passaic City | Passaic City |
| Delran* | Delran Twp | Paterson City | Paterson City |
| Deptford Twp * | Deptford Twp | Pennsauken Twp ** | Pennsauken Twp |
| Dover Town ** | Dover Town | Perth Amboy City ** | Perth Amboy City |
| East Orange City | East Orange City | Plainfield City | Plainfield City |
| Edgewater Park Twp | Edgewater Park Twp | Pleasantville City | Pleasantville City |
| Elizabeth City | Elizabeth City | Rahway City | Rahway City |
| Ewing Twp ** | Ewing Twp | Ridgewood Village** | Ridgewood Village |
| Florence Twp * | Florence Twp | Roselle Boro ** | Roselle Boro |
| Gloucester City** | Gloucester City | Runnemede Boro | Runnemede Boro |
| Gloucester Twp * | Gloucester Twp | South Orange Twp*** | South Orange Twp |
| Hackensack City | Hackensack City | Teaneck Twp | Teaneck Twp |
| Hamilton Twp ** | Hamilton Twp | Trenton City | Trenton City |
| Harrison Town | Essex & Hudson Counties | Union Twp | Union Twp |
| Hillside Twp | Hillside Twp | Ventnor City | Ventnor City |
| Hoboken City | Hoboken City | Vineland City ** | Vineland City |
| Irvington Twp | Irvington Twp | Voorhees Twp ** | Voorhees Twp |
| Jackson Twp * | Jackson Twp | West Orange Twp | West Orange Twp |
| Jersey City | Jersey City | Wildwood City ** | Wildwood City |
| Kearny Town | Kearny Town & Newark City | Willingboro Twp ** | Willingboro Twp |
| Lakewood Twp * | Lakewood Twp | Winslow Twp * | Winslow Twp |
| Lawrence Twp ** | Lawrence Twp | Woodbridge Twp * | Woodbridge Twp |
| Linden City | Linden City | | |

#Residency Preference for North Hudson Regional Fire & Rescue only: Guttenberg, North Bergen, Union City, Weehawken, West New York

Jurisdictions marked with * are **Fire Districts** that use paid and volunteer Fire Fighters. Those marked with ** are **Municipal Fire departments** that use paid and volunteer Fire Fighters. Those without an asterisk are full-time paid Fire departments that use only paid Fire Fighters. If you are a volunteer Fire Fighter, you must complete the volunteer section of your application. If you are not a volunteer Fire Fighter, select “No” in response to this question in the volunteer section of your application. ***Please note that there is a proposed merger between the fire departments in South Orange Township and Maplewood Township that may result in preference for residents of both municipalities.

Fire Districts

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Bordentown Twp FD #01 | Lakewood Twp FD #01 |
| Bordentown Twp FD #02 | Mt. Laurel Twp FD #01 |
| Burlington Twp FD #01 | Winslow Twp FD #01 |
| Cinnaminson Twp FD #01 | Woodbridge Twp FD #01 |
| Delran Twp FD #01 | Woodbridge Twp FD #02 |
| Deptford Twp FD #01 | Woodbridge Twp FD #04 |
| Florence Twp FD #01 | Woodbridge Twp FD #05 |
| Gloucester Twp FD #02 | Woodbridge Twp FD #07 |
| Gloucester Twp FD #04 | Woodbridge Twp FD #08 |
| Gloucester Twp FD #05 | Woodbridge Twp FD #11 |
| Gloucester Twp FD #06 | Woodbridge Twp FD #12 |
| Jackson Twp FD #02 | |
| Jackson Twp FD #03 | |
| Jackson Twp FD #04 | |

Volunteer Fire Fighter Service Credit

The Appellate Division of the New Jersey Superior Court made a determination on December 19, 2002 that interprets the preference provided to volunteer Fire Fighters in merit system jurisdictions by State Law *N.J.S.A. 40A:14-45*. The law provides that volunteers with at least two years of continuous volunteer service are eligible for three to ten service credits (points) which shall be added to their passing score on the exam. Please note this service must immediately precede the closing date for filing applications.

The service credit points are calculated by adding one point to the years of service. For example, three points are added for two years of service, four points are added for three years of service and so on up to ten points maximum. Any service time in excess of nine years shall be awarded the ten-point maximum. The service credit is calculated as of the closing date for filing applications listed on the examination announcement. There is no absolute volunteer Fire Fighter preference, so there will not be separate volunteer eligible lists and municipal eligible lists. There will be one list for each jurisdiction which will include both volunteers and non-volunteers.

NOTE FOR VOLUNTEERS - To be awarded service credit points you must complete the volunteer service portion of the application for the fire district or part-paid municipal fire department where you currently volunteer. Only volunteer service in recognized jurisdictions/districts will be awarded service credits. Your volunteer service will be verified with the department where you volunteer.

Child of a Fire Fighter Killed in the Line of Duty

N.J.S.A. 40A:14-10.1a grants hiring preference to children of a member of any paid fire department or paid member of any part-paid fire department killed in the line of duty. The law gives them preference over non-veterans, but not over veterans. Applicants claiming this preference will be required to provide acceptable documentation. Please visit <https://www.state.nj.us/csc/authorities/faq/safety/firefighters.html> for information regarding acceptable documentation.

Maximum Hiring Age Requirement

Non-volunteer candidates over age 35 (one is considered to be over 35 on the day after his or her 35th birthday) as of the closing date (**August 31, 2022**) for filing applications are not eligible for appointment to a Fire Fighter position. A non-volunteer candidate who turns age 35 while on an eligible list remains eligible for appointment to a Fire Fighter position for the life of the eligible list.

However, there are two exceptions to the above:

Exception #1 - Volunteer Fire Fighters, who are over age 35, but not over age 40, are eligible for appointment to a Fire Fighter position. Once a volunteer is over age 40 they cannot be appointed to a Fire Fighter position even if the eligible list they are on has not expired.

Exception #2 - Non-volunteer and volunteer Fire Fighter candidates may reduce their actual age by the amount of their military service during the periods, and under the conditions, specified in the Civil Service Act related to New Jersey Veterans Preference in order to meet the maximum hiring age requirement. Military service that does not fall within the periods, and under the conditions specified in the Act, cannot be deducted from one's actual age. The military service deduction is made as of the **closing date** for filing applications (**August 31, 2022**). Please visit www.nj.gov/military/veterans/civil-service-preference for the periods and conditions for Veterans Preference.

Residency Preference

The jurisdiction where a candidate claims residency is where they maintain their single legal residence, i.e., the place where they permanently, physically live.

Hiring jurisdictions may classify eligible candidates into the following tiers based on the candidates' legal residence: 1) Residents of the municipality; 2) Residents of the county in which the municipality is located; 3) Residents of the State; and 4) All other qualified candidates. Appointments shall be made in the order of their tiers; each tier must be exhausted before the next tier can be used. Please note that if a hiring jurisdiction adopts an ordinance or resolution to modify its current residency preference, the change may result in re-ranking of eligible candidates on the existing eligible list.

Each candidate's residency is established as of the closing date for filing applications and cannot be changed after that date. In addition, in some jurisdictions the candidates must maintain continuous residency as of the appointment date. Since residency cannot be changed after the closing date, candidates should be aware that if they change their residence after the closing date, they may not be eligible for appointment because they failed to maintain continuous residency in a jurisdiction.

IMPORTANT: Here's an example of a problem that could occur by changing one's residence after the closing date:

Ewing and Trenton both have the hiring preference for their municipal residents. Also, they both require that applicants be municipal residents at the time of appointment to Fire Fighter ("continuous residency"). The announcement closing date is **August 31, 2022**. John, who lives in Ewing, files an application on that date and indicates residency code 1102 for Ewing. On **September 30, 2022**, John notifies the Civil Service Commission (CSC) that he moved to Trenton. CSC will change his address for mailing purposes only, but will not change his residency code, because his residency code reflects where John resided as of the closing date. Later, John's name is certified from the Ewing eligible list due to his original Ewing residency code. However, Ewing will disqualify him because he no longer lives in Ewing. Even if he moves back to Ewing, he failed to maintain continuous residency in Ewing and, therefore, cannot be appointed. Similarly, John cannot be certified to Trenton because he did not live in Trenton as of **August 31, 2022**, the closing date for filing applications.