



Van Volunteer Fire Department  
PO Box 519  
Van, TX 75790  
(903)963-7744 Office  
(903)963-7241 Fax

Dear Applicant;

Thank you for your interest in joining the Van Volunteer Fire Department! The Van FD covers approximately 150 square miles of primary response area, with mutual aid to over 350 square miles. We provide fire suppression, rescue and fire prevention activities.

Submission of this application is proof of your understanding of the commitment we require of our members. New members serve a 6 month probationary period during which they must meet certain training requirements, as outlined in the attached application. During the initial 6 months, probationary firefighters are restricted from driving apparatus. This probationary period allows both the Department and the Applicant to evaluate the Applicant's available time to serve the Department. Some find the demands too time consuming. If so, the Department or the Applicant may choose to terminate the Applicant's membership without rancor.

After successful completion of the 6 month probationary period, the Applicant has an additional 12 months to complete the SFFMA Basic Firefighter certification. This training will be provided by certified instructors at no expense to the Applicant. We also require that the Applicant obtain a Class B exempt driver's license no later than one year after joining.

Firefighting is a dangerous, strenuous activity, often performed with inadequate lighting, footing, and in cumbersome equipment. We reserve the right to subject applicants to an agility test to determine their ability to perform firefighting tasks.

Firefighter are public servants. As representatives of the Van taxpayers we reserve the right to exclude applicants who have a history of DWI, drug or drug paraphernalia possession, violent crimes against persons, theft, or sexual assault. Your application authorizes us to run a criminal background check.

Please fill out the attached application and return it to one of the members of the department. Due to the personal information included, please do not leave your application at the station unattended.

Thanks You ,

Jeff Hudgens  
Fire Chief, Van Fire Department

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Protection through service

**APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP  
TO THE VAN FIRE DEPARTMENT**

<b>PERSONAL INFORMATION</b>			
Name (Last, First): _____		Married (Y/N): _____	
Physical Address: _____			
Mailing Address: _____			
Social Security #: _____		Date of Birth: _____	
Home Phone: _____		DL #: _____	
Cell Phone: _____		State: _____	Class: _____
Any DL restrictions? If so, what?: _____			
<b>EMERGENCY CONTACTS</b>			
Name: _____	Relationship: _____	Number: _____	
Name: _____	Relationship: _____	Number: _____	
Name: _____	Relationship: _____	Number: _____	
<b>CRIMINAL HISTORY</b>			
Have you ever been convicted of or placed on probation for a criminal offense?:			
If so, list date and type of conviction:			
Date: _____			
Date: _____			
Date: _____			
Date: _____			
<b>EMPLOYMENT HISTORY</b>			
Employer: _____			
From: _____	To: _____	Position: _____	
Contact Name and Number: _____			
Employer: _____			
From: _____	To: _____	Position: _____	
Contact Name and Number: _____			
Employer: _____			
From: _____	To: _____	Position: _____	
Contact Name and Number: _____			

## EDUCATION

High School: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

College: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_

Certifications Held:

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## PERSONAL REFERENCES

Someone other than firemen or employers

Name: _____	Number: _____
Name: _____	Number: _____
Name: _____	Number: _____
Name: _____	Number: _____

## PERSONAL INTERESTS

Why do you want to join the Fire Department?

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I, the undersigned, certify that the information provided is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that in submitting this application that it becomes the property of the Van Volunteer Fire Department, and will not be returned. I further understand that if I am considered for the position I authorize the Van Volunteer Fire Department to conduct a thorough background investigation at any time during my membership. I consent to random drug screening and I understand that I may be required to take a work fitness agility test prior to membership. I understand that I will be on a minimum probation for six months, and in the reserve status. Any violations of the By-Laws, SOP's, or misconduct in the department or community, or any willful false statements in this application will be sufficient ground for termination from the Van Volunteer Fire Department.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Fire Department Application Training Agreement

Once placed before the screening committee and accepted to the Van Fire Department, the probationary firefighter will be required to complete training in certain topics by the end of his initial six month probationary period. The probationary firefighter will be given a check-off sheet that must be signed by the officer performing the training. Training will be verified through verbal exam and demonstration of skills. DOCUMENTED TRAINING WILL BE ACCEPTED IN PLACE OF THE TRAINING BELOW.

Prior to going on emergency responses, obtaining bunker gear or a pager, you must complete the following:

1. Van FD SOPs – Review with Officer
  - Incident Command System
  - Chain of Command
  - CO procedure
  - Spill procedure
  - Review of SOPs
2. FF Safety and Protective clothing (Section 23 1.3, 1.6, 1.7)
  - Describe the limits of personnel working in PPE
  - Identify procedures for inspecting and cleaning PPE
  - Describe techniques when trapped or disoriented in a fire situation

Prior to 6 month Probation deadline, must complete the following:

1. Must complete the Federally mandated NIMS (National Incident Management System) Training
  - IS 100
  - IS 700
2. SCBA (Section 27 1.1, 1.2, 1.4, 1.8)
  - Identify 4 hazardous respiratory environments
  - Demonstrate using an SCBA in obscured visibility
  - Don SCBA while wearing protective clothing
  - Demonstrate replacing an expended SCBA cylinder
3. Thermal Imager DVD
4. Review of Hydraulic Rescue Tool Safety with an Officer
5. Review of Ventilation Fan with Officer
6. Apparatus Familiarization
  - Complete Monthly Check sheets with an Officer, one for each unit

7. Hose Practices(1 hour minimum)
  - o Know how to open and close a nozzle
  - o Know water hammer
  - o Know how to back up the nozzle man
  
8. Fire Science (Section 15 - 1.1, 1.4)
  - o The firefighter shall define heat and fire
  - o The firefighters shall know the dangers of Flashover and Backdraft
  
9. Emergency Vehicle operations (Section 19 - 1.1, 1.2)
  - o The firefighter shall define department policy and procedures for emergency response
  - o The firefighter shall explain the authority and responsibility of the vehicle operator
  
10. The Probationary Firefighter, using either the booster tank or a hydrant, shall be able to put the pump in gear and produce a stream of water from a pre-connected nozzle. ( On each apparatus)

Must attend at least 75% of the in house training offered during the firefighter's probation period. Failure to do so will be evaluated by the screening committee on a case by case basis and may be grounds for dismissal at the end of the probation period. The screening committee will consider the firefighter's job and school obligations in their decision.

I agree to the above training commitments and would like my application to be considered for the Van Fire Department.

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Signature

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Date