

FAQ – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

FIRE FIGHTER TRAINEE / PARAMEDIC RECRUITMENT – 2023

APPLICATION PROCESS

Q: I am interested in becoming a Fire Fighter Trainee/Paramedic. How do I know if I qualify?

A: Minimum Qualifications are:

- **Fire Fighter Trainee/Paramedic requires a valid Paramedic license issued by the State of California or National Registry at the time of application.**
- Possession of a high school diploma or GED.
- Must possess and maintain a valid California Class C driver's license.
- Must possess a valid CAL-JAC Candidate Physical Ability Card (CPAT) issued by the Firefighter Candidate Testing Center (FCTC). CPAT must be issued no more than one (1) year prior to date of appointment.
- Must obtain a Fire Fighter endorsement from the California Department of Motor Vehicles within one (1) year of appointment.
- Must meet the physical standards and successfully complete a background investigation, which shall include a polygraph and psychological examination, a medical examination, and obtain a California Department of Justice fingerprint clearance.

Q: What if I don't currently possess a valid Paramedic license?

A: You will not qualify. The City of Stockton is requiring a Paramedic license for this specific recruitment.

Q: What if I am in the process of getting my Paramedic license, but do not currently possess the required license?

A: Possession of the Paramedic license is required at time of application. If you do not possess this require license or certification, you will not be eligible to move forward in this process for this specific recruitment.

Q: What is the process to get hired with the City of Stockton if I currently possess a valid Paramedic license?

A: The City of Stockton is partnering with the Firefighter Candidate Testing Center (FCTC) to assist with the testing process for individuals to become a Fire Fighter Trainee/Paramedic.

Interested candidates must be on the FCTC Statewide Eligibility List (SEL) by March 12, 2023.

Q: What if I am already on the FCTC SEL?

A: Candidates that are active on the FCTC SEL by 3/12/2023 and possess the required Paramedic license must complete an online application with the City of Stockton during the application filing period.

Q: How do I get on the FCTC SEL if I am not already on it?

A: Complete these steps prior to the application filing period:

- Register with the FCTC www.fctconline.org and submit the required Paramedic license and other documents required by FCTC for verification. Prior to placement on the SEL, FCTC will verify the validity of all required licenses. NOTE: It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all required documents (including current Drivers license) have been uploaded to their FCTC profile in order to be active after passing the written exam.
- Register online with FCTC to take their written examination. [Click here for FCTC Test Schedule](#). A passing score of 75% or higher must be dated 03/12/22 to 03/12/23.
- Obtain a valid California Firefighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee (CAL-JAC) Candidate Physical Ability Card (CPAT) issued by FCTC between 03/12/22 to 03/12/23. [Click here for information on the CPAT exam](#).

Q: Are their minimum requirements to be placed on the FCTC SEL?

A: Candidate on the FCTC SEL will have to meet the following criteria:

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Possess a high school diploma or equivalent
- Possess a valid driver's license
- Receive a passing score on the FCTC written exam
- Possess a valid CAL-JAC CPAT

Q: Is there a cost to get on the FCTC SEL?

A: FCTC charges the following fees:

- CPAT Practice \$50
- CPAT Test* \$150
- Written Test Preparation Course \$25
- Written Test* \$50

*Required to take and pass to be placed on the FCTC SEL

Q: Is there any financial assistance available to cover these fees?

A: FCTC offers individuals who prove a financial hardship the opportunity to apply for a grant through the California Fire Foundation. [Visit FCTC for more information](#). Applications are submitted to and approved through FCTC. The \$275 grant include fees for the CPAT and written test as listed below:

- (2) Orientations – CPAT *pre-test program*
- (2) Practices \$50 – CPAT *pre-test program*
- (1) CPAT Test \$150
- (1) Written Test Preparation Course \$25
- (1) Written Test \$50

Q: After I am placed on the FCTC SEL, what is the next step?

A: Interested candidates must submit an online application with the City of Stockton www.stocktonca.gov/jobs during the filing dates of 2/19/2023 (12:00a.m.) PST – 3/9/2023 (5:30p.m.) PST. Paper applications will not be accepted.

After the application filing period has closed, the City of Stockton will provide FCTC with the names and driver's license numbers of the candidates that submitted an online application and request the written exam scores of candidates that met the requirements to be placed on the SEL.

Successful candidates will be invited to participate in the oral interview process tentatively scheduled for the week of April 10, 2023. The written test scores combined with the scores from the oral panel interviews will be used to create the eligible list from which the Stockton Fire Department will hire candidates.

Q: How many positions are available?

A: The City intends to start an Academy on August 1, 2023 with approximately 20 trainees.

ELIGIBLE LIST

Q: What is an eligible list?

A: The written exam scores provided by FCTC will be combined with the oral interview scores to create the eligible list. The eligible list is presented in closed session to the Civil Service Commission. Successful candidates are listed in rank order based on their total score. Failing candidates are not listed. After the Civil Service Commission approves the eligible list, an email will be sent to all candidates advising of status (passing or failing), and overall score and rank for passing candidates.

Q: When do the lists expire?

A: List can be established for a minimum of 12 months and cannot exceed 36 months.

Q: When will this list be submitted to the Commission?

A: Tentatively, at the Commission meeting on April 20, 2023.

Q: Why is my rank on the list important?

A: The eligible list establishes the rank order of eligibles.

Q: Is the City of Stockton's eligible list the same as the FCTC SEL?

A: No, this eligible list pertains only to the City of Stockton.

VETERAN PREFERENCE POINTS

Q: Does the City grant preference to Veterans?

A: Yes, successful applicants who apply for Fire Fighter Trainee are eligible to receive five (5) Veteran's Preference Points for entrance into the Civil Service.

Q: How do I apply to receive Veteran's Preference Point?

A: If you believe you may qualify for Veteran's Preference Points, you will need to electronically attach a DD-214 Member-4 copy indicating at least 181 consecutive days of service with honorable discharge to your online application with the City of Stockton. *Note: Only the Member-4 copy will be accepted as it contains the required information.*

Q: When are Veteran's Preference Points applied?

A: You must complete all components of the process to be awarded the Veteran's points.

KEY DATES (Tentative)

Application Filing Period

- Fire Fighter Trainee – Paramedic: 2/19/2023 – 3/9/2023 LIMITED TO FIRST 50 APPLICANTS

Oral Interviews

- Week of April 10, 2023 (tentative)

Eligible Lists to Civil Service Commission for approval

- April 20, 2023 – notices emailed to candidates regarding rank on list

Selected candidates contacted by Department with conditional offer and notification to begin background process

- Week of April 24, 2023 (tentative)

Candidates begin background process which includes being available to complete the following:

- Background investigation
- CA Department of Justice Fingerprint
- Polygraph Examination
- Psychological Examination
- Medical Examination

Tentative Start Date for begin Fire Academy

- August 1, 2023

STILL HAVE QUESTIONS?

Email us at Firefightertrainee@stocktonca.gov