



Berrien Springs - Oronoko Fire Department

Dear applicant,

Thank you for your interest in Berrien Springs - Oronoko Fire Department. We welcome your desire and enthusiasm in serving your community. Berrien Springs - Oronoko Fire Department has a proud tradition and is highly respected in the community. Should you be accepted, you will be joining a long line of men and women who have demonstrated dedication, service, compassion, and integrity in the protection of life and property within the Village and Township.

Firefighting today is a very diverse and challenging endeavor. Imagine having to train and prepare to respond at a moment's notice to deal with a wide range of situations from structure fires, to serious motor vehicle collisions, to hazardous materials spills and just about every other emergency situation imaginable in between. To add to this challenge, you may be needed at any time of day or night, seven days a week, in any kind of weather and often under stressful or emotional circumstances.

Realistically, firefighting is not for everyone. You need more than just a desire to help people. A firefighter also needs dedication, courage, assertiveness and a willingness to learn and to face new challenges. Unlike what you may see in the movies, firefighting is often hot, dirty, and strenuous work, often in uncertain, unpleasant and hazardous environments.

However, the excitement, camaraderie, personal reward, sense of accomplishment, and satisfaction that comes with being involved in a firefighting team is often beyond description.

The Berrien Springs - Oronoko Fire Department covers over 36 square miles. Our 25 member department averages 180 - 220 incident responses per year. We conduct departmental training session on the second Monday of every month and the first Monday of every month during the winter. We also conduct a business/maintenance/training meeting the fourth Monday of every month. Other training is offered throughout the year and attendance is strongly encouraged. This training may be within the department or may be conducted in another location. Also, this training may be held on a Saturday and/or Sunday. Department members are **required** to attend 100% of all incident responses that they are physically able to and 100% of all business and training sessions that they are physically able to. If you miss more than three consecutive meetings, (training or business), you must show just cause to department management.

As a new recruit you will be **required** to complete the State's Firefighter II program within two years of joining the department, (we would prefer within the first year if it is

available). This training requires 290 hours of your time. This training is **required** by the State of Michigan and may require a Saturday and/or Sunday attendance.

The department holds four pancake breakfasts each year. We take part in community events such as parades, fireworks, etc. Some of our members are actively involved in the fire education of our community.

New members are required to pass a physical examination and background check before being allowed on duty. Hepatitis-B shots will be provided at no cost to members completing a probationary period of not less than one year. As a probationary firefighter, you will be reviewed and evaluated quarterly until achieving the status of Firefighter II. Fire department members are not allowed to wear beards or any other facial hair that may interfere with the sealing area of the self-contained breathing apparatus.

Our firefighters are paid \$15.50 per hour for each incident response, department and training meetings attended. In addition, outside approved training is also paid at the same rate. The cost of all department authorized training is paid for by the department. Firefighter pay is accrued on an annual basis and is paid in November for 10 months and January for two months.

As you can see, being a firefighter requires a lot of time. The pay is not great, but there is a great deal of satisfaction in serving your community. Our department standards are very high and we expect every member to meet those standards. On any given response, a life may be at risk and we will meet the challenges of protecting our community. Each member has earned the right to proudly state that he/she is a member of the Berrien Springs - Oronoko Fire Department.

Again, we thank you for your time and interest in joining our organization. Please complete the application and return it as soon as possible. We look forward to hearing from you.

Bruce A. Stover

Fire Chief

We prefer that completed applications are returned to the Fire Department in the Oronoko Public Safety Building in person. They may also be mailed to:

Berrien Springs Oronoko Fire Department
P.O. Box 214
4411 E. Snow Rd.
Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Berrien Springs – Oronoko Fire Department

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

The Civil Rights Act of 1964 and some state statutes prohibit discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin. The Age Discrimination Act of 1967 prohibits discrimination on the basis of age within certain limits. The following questions are designed to help determine your qualifications for membership without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, or age within the restrictions of federal and state laws.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name _____ 18 or older YES NO

Present Address _____

Years at above address _____ H. Phone _____ W. Phone _____

Cell _____ E-mail Address _____

Last Previous Address _____

How long do you plan to stay in the area? _____ Why? _____

Marital Status _____ Dependents _____ Name(s) _____

If married, have you discussed this application with your spouse? YES NO N/A

Does your spouse support this application? YES NO N/A

Have you ever been convicted of a crime, excluding misdemeanors and summary offenses, in the past ten years, which has not been annulled or expunged or sealed by a court? _____ If yes, describe in full

Have you ever been convicted of DWI (driving while intoxicated)? YES NO

If yes, when and where _____

Have you ever been convicted of reckless driving? YES NO

If yes, when and where _____

Has your driver's license ever been suspended or revoked? YES NO

If yes, when and why _____

What is your driver's license number? _____ State _____

Describe any past or present physical defects or disabilities including vision and hearing:

Have you had any serious illness, operations, or injuries? YES NO

If yes, please explain _____

Are you a member of any club or organizations? YES NO

If yes, list them here _____

If you have a relative or friend on this Fire Department or another in the area, indicate name, department, and relationship _____

Are you legally eligible for employment in the USA? YES NO
(If yes, verification will be required)

Emergency Contact _____ Relationship _____

Address _____ Phone _____

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

EDUCATION	NAME/LOCATION	YRS ATTENDED	DATE GRADUATED
-----------	---------------	--------------	----------------

Elementary	_____		
------------	-------	--	--

High School or Vocational School	_____		
-------------------------------------	-------	--	--

College or Technical School	_____		
--------------------------------	-------	--	--

Special Schooling Trade, Night, Post Grad, or Business	_____		
--------------------------------------------------------------	-------	--	--

Mechanical experience or skilled trade? Please describe: _____

Special interests or hobbies? Please describe: _____

Have you ever trained or supervised others? Please describe: _____

Do you have any firefighting experience or training? YES NO If yes, please describe: _____

Do you have any emergency medical experience or training? YES NO If yes, please describe: _____

MILITARY SERVICE AND STATUS

If you have military service, what branch? _____

Entry Date _____ Discharge Date _____

If not honorable discharge, please explain: _____

Special training in military? _____

Present membership in National Guard or Reserve? YES NO If yes, unit and location: _____

EMPLOYMENT

Firm Name _____ Location _____

Position _____ Supervisor _____

Normal working hours _____

Have you discussed this application with your employer? YES NO

Would your employer consent to you leaving work to respond to fire and rescue calls?

YES _____ NO _____ WITH RESTRICTIONS _____

Would your employer object if you were late to work because of responding to calls?

YES NO

Are you available to respond 24 hours a day? YES NO If no, please explain: _____

GENERAL INFORMATION

Please state briefly why you desire to become a member of the Berrien Springs – Oronoko Fire

Department: _____

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

I understand that any false statements, omissions, or misrepresentations on this application may be considered sufficient cause for rejection or dismissal, no matter when discovered by the department. I authorize the department to investigate the statements in this application. I understand that the Berrien Springs – Oronoko Fire Department is involved in both fire and rescue service and that as a member I may be required to perform functions in either or both areas. I agree to take part in meetings and training sessions scheduled by the department. I understand that I have two years to become certified to Firefighter II level (MFFTC). I understand that filling out this form does not indicate there is a position open and does not obligate the department to accept me. If accepted, I agree to abide by all department rules, policies, and procedures in accordance with the department’s Standard Operating Guidelines along with policy set by the Berrien Springs – Oronoko Fire Board.

Date _____ Applicant’s Signature _____

FOR DEPARTMENT USE

Date received _____

Date interviewed _____

Action taken _____