**Employment Eligibility**

# **Munster Fire Department**

The Munster Fire Department is a paid-on call/part time department. We are an organization with goals, policies, and performance standards. This philosophy provides us the ability to protect the citizens, visitors and property of the Town of Munster.

A firefighter is a trained individual who promptly responds to mitigate a wide range and variety of emergency and non-emergency situations where life, property or the environment is at risk. A firefighter’s assignments vary based on training, experience and ability.

A firefighter’s duties include fire suppression (including structural, transportation and all other types of fires); fire prevention and public education; and may include emergency medical services, hazardous materials response and preparedness, technical rescues (extrication, water, high angle or confined space); urban search and rescue, disaster preparedness and mitigation; community service activities; and any activity related to public safety.

Eligibility requirements for the Munster Fire Department:

* 18 years of age and a high school graduate or GED equivalent.
* Residency within 1 mile of the Town of Munster or work solely within the Town of Munster.
* Must possess a valid driver’s license without record of suspension or revocation in any state and provide proof of insurance.
* No felony convictions or disqualifying criminal history within the past seven years.
* Attendance at the Fire Academy class; located in St. John. The class is for 6 months and there is no cost for you to attend**.**

 **OR**

* Possess a valid Firefighter I & II, Hazmat Awareness and Operations and Technical Rescue Awareness State Certifications.

**Training Requirements**

**What kind of training is required to become a Munster Firefighter?**

Your initial training is a time commitment from you as an individual and will also require support from your family. All equipment necessary for your training will be provided by your sponsoring department. Books are provided by the District 1 Training Council. Our candidates will attend the Lake County Fire Academy. The classes are located in St. John and/or the MAAC Training Center located in Valparaiso.

The academy is run by Firefighters from across the county from both careers, paid on call and volunteer departments. There are a core group of instructors and evaluators that will lead you through the necessary skill sets and education needed to perform your required duties.

**How long will I attend the Academy?**

The academy runs twice a year, known as the winter and summer session and lasts approximately 6 months. The classes meet as outlined below:

* Wednesday nights from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm (currently online)
* Thursday nights from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm
* Saturdays 8:00 am to 4:00 pm (skill days not all Saturday classes are 8 hours)

**Will there be tests administered?**

There are class tests and quizzes along with the key State Certification Tests that you must pass. Along with written tests you will be evaluated on skill sets both individually and as a team. These skill sets are key to your survival on the fire ground. Examples of some skills are:

* PPE/SCBA usage
* Ladders
* Hose Advancement
* Search and Rescue
* Water Supply

**What certifications will I receive?**

These are the key State Certifications that you will achieve.

* Firefighter Mandatory
* Firefighter I/II
* Haz-Mat Awareness and Operations
* Technical Rescue Awareness

Firefighting is the base curriculum for the start of your career. There are other classes such as Driver Operator, Strategy and Tactics, Technical Rescue, Fire Officer and EMA that can be taken. It is your decision on how far you want to advance your career. This is a career whether you stay with this department or move on to a full-time department.

**What training is required by the department?**

The department meets on Tuesday nights from 7:00 to 9:00. We meet for a total of 36 Tuesdays where you will continue your training, meeting state requirements and department requirements.

There are also 4 Saturday drills that are scheduled throughout the year along with numerous opportunities for classes outside of the department.

**DEPARTMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**Drill Attendance**

All members **MUST** maintain a fifty percent (50%) drills for a 6-month period. Drills take place on Tuesday evenings from 7pm to 9pm. We schedule 18 drills per 6-month period.

**Emergency Call Response Requirements**

All members **MUST** maintain twenty percent (20%) of either daytime (6am – 6pm) or nighttime (6pm – 6am) calls during each 6-month period.

For additional information or to pick up an application contact:

Munster Fire Department

550 Fisher Street

219-836-6960

Chief Mark Hajduk

Deputy Chief David Strbjak

Battalion Chief Kevin Nowaczyk

Battalion Chief Chris Spolnik