

*Brookings
Volunteer
Fire
Department*



**607 20th Avenue
Brookings, SD
57006**

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DEAR APPLICANT:

Attached is an application for membership in the Brookings Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Inc. in which you have expressed an interest in becoming a member.

The history of the present volunteer organization dates back to 1888 when it consisted of twenty members. On September 7, 1979, the present organization was incorporated as a non-profit corporation which has as its primary function the providing of fire protection to the residents of the Brookings Community and the surrounding rural areas. This organization is comprised of a maximum of forty-five volunteer members who are responsible for responding to all fire calls under the direction of a paid Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief employed by the City of Brookings.

The Volunteer Fire Fighter's Association also provides a service to the community by maintaining a rescue unit that responds when called to assist in emergency evacuations and other live-saving operations.

Membership in the Brookings Volunteer Fire Fighters Association, Inc. demands a great deal of time and energy and careful consideration of this fact should be given by you prior to submitting your application. The following will be required of you as a firefighter:

1. Physical fitness and strength requirements necessary to allow you to perform as a competent firefighter, ensuring not only your own safety, but also the safety of your fellow firefighters.
2. You will be on call twenty-four (24) hours a day, seven (7) days a week.
3. All members are required to obtain permission from their respective employers to be allowed to leave their place of employment and respond to the fire call. The application contains a section where your employer, if applicable, must sign authorizing you to leave your place of employment
4. You will be required to complete the South Dakota State Certified Firefighter Course.
5. In addition to attendance at monthly meetings, all members are required to attend regular and special training provided to the membership in

order to continually enhance and improve the fire fighting and rescue abilities of the Association. You are required to attend a minimum of fifty percent (50%) of fire calls and other required functions combined. Regularly scheduled functions are as follows:

- a. Membership meeting and supper the first Tuesday of each month.
- b. Brookings Fire Department (BFD) Rescue Squad training the second Tuesday of each month.
- c. General fire department training the third Tuesday of each month.
- d. County search and rescue training the fourth Tuesday of each month.
- e. One 2-day all department school held one weekend in March each year.
- f. Two nights of ticket sales in October for fund raising.

Attendance at the membership meeting and supper the first Tuesday of each month is required, along with the general fire training the third Tuesday of each month. The rescue training is only required if you choose to be on the Rescue Squad.

6. The probationary period encompasses a total of one (1) year. At the end your one (1) year probationary period your membership will be voted on again.
7. You will be a firefighter in training (red hat) until you have completed your one (1) year probationary period and the certified firefighter course. This is a training period and you will not be allowed to drive to fire or don self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and enter working fire.
8. All things seen and heard at fires, training, work nights, and meetings are considered confidential and will not be shared with anyone outside the department.
9. You will get back as little or as much as you are willing to put in. There are many other additional training opportunities available throughout the year that you are strongly advised to attend.

All applications will be considered in the order received. Please note, however, that as the Association is limited to forty-five members, new members will not be considered until there is a vacancy and in most cases, there will be a substantial waiting period before your application will be considered. Consequently, it is extremely important that you continue to update your application if there are any changes in address, contact information, or employment. You must obtain from any subsequent employers their authorization as required by the application and have that authorization made a part of your original application. **Failure to update your application as required may result in your application being cancelled or otherwise not considered.**

Thank you for your interest.

BROOKINGS VOLUNTEER FIRE FIGHTERS ASSOCIATION, INC.