



Firefighter/Paramedic Live-in Internship Program

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INTERNSHIP INFORMATION

Internships have always been used as a stepping stone to help individuals get an edge in their chosen career. In today's fire service, Emergency Medical Service (EMS) has become an integral part of the firefighter's job requirements. The Western Lakes Fire District offers both fire and EMS experience up to the Paramedic level. Our interns will have the ability to achieve their Paramedic Certification as well as their Associate's Degree in Fire Science and Paramedicine.



The Western Lakes Fire District is accepting applications for a live-in internship program. While completion of EMT-Basic and Wisconsin State Firefighter I certification are preferred, the WLFD will provide the initial training courses to a qualified candidate. Accepted applicants will serve as members of our exciting team for a one to three year term.

Our intern firefighter/EMTs will also experience the camaraderie of living in a fire station and performing assigned duties as a team. Once selected, internships will last for a total of one to three years. During that time, interns will complete their Paramedic Certification within the first two years and/or dual Associate's Degree program. During their internship, interns will receive a bi-weekly stipend, housing, and tuition for their Associate's Degree(s). Our District offers a wide array of training and experiences to keep our staff trained for today's ever changing emergency situations.

WHAT DOES THE INTERNSHIP INCLUDE?

All applicants who are accepted into our live-in internship program can expect to receive the following:

- Free housing at one of our four fire stations.
- Paid stipends for scheduled internship hours – starting at \$140/week

One Year Internship Programs also include:

- EMT-Paramedic Certification course **OR** two semesters toward fire service related Associate's Degree (paid for by the Western Lakes Fire District) through one of the approved technical colleges which include: Waukesha County Technical College, Gateway Technical College, Milwaukee Area Technical College, or Madison Area Technical College

Two Year Internship Programs also include:

- EMT-Paramedic Certification course paid for by the Western Lakes Fire District
- Two semesters toward fire service related Associate's Degree through one of the approved technical colleges

Three Year Internship Programs also include:

- EMT-Paramedic Certification course paid for by the Western Lakes Fire District
- Fire Protection Technician Associate's Degree through one of the approved technical colleges
- Option to earn a second Fire/Medic Associate's Degree



About the District

The Western Lakes Fire District operates and staffs four stations which provide fire suppression, rescue operations, community education/outreach, and emergency medical services at the paramedic level to ten communities in Waukesha, Dodge and Jefferson Counties. Communities served by the District include the Town of Ashippun, Town of Concord, Village of Dousman, Village of Lac La Belle, City of Oconomowoc, Town of Oconomowoc, Town of Ottawa, Town of Sullivan, Village of Sullivan, and the Village of Summit. Covering approximately 158 square miles, the Western Lakes Fire District's service area is a diverse mix of suburban, rural, and wild land-urban interface with a population of approximately 34,000. Included in the Fire District's coverage area are a State Forest, Level 2 Trauma Center, several miles of Interstate 94, a large behavioral/mental health hospital, four large elderly living facilities, and several schools.

The District is a combination department comprised of 10 full-time, approximately 145 part time/paid-on-call personnel, and will eventually include up to 12 interns. The daily staffing for the District is 12 to 15 personnel between the four stations. This staffing provides a duty chief and four ambulances that are also cross staffed with either an engine/quint/rescue. Additional staffing from paid on call personnel ensure adequate staffing for all fire, rescue, and motor vehicle incidents. The District's annual call volume is over 3,800 calls per year including a mix of fire, emergency medical, and high acuity incidents which continue to increase every year.



The District participates in several joint special service teams in the region including Western Waukesha Rapid Intervention Team, Western Waukesha Dive Team, Western Waukesha Search and Rescue and a regional Rescue Task Force. The District is part of both MABAS Division 106 and Division 118 due to the communities served by the District. Automatic and mutual aid responses are an important part of District operations and are taken seriously. In addition to the special teams, the District also maintains an Emergency Rehabilitation Unit that responds to large scale incidents throughout the region.

Three Year Internship Qualifications

The Western Lakes Fire District is an equal opportunity organization.

QUALIFICATIONS/REQUIREMENTS:

- be a United States citizen
- high school diploma/GED
- be at least 18 years of age
- possess a valid Wisconsin driver's license
- must be of good mental and physical health
- pass a hiring, interview, and background check process
- pass a pre-employment medical/drug screening
- EMT-Basic license preferred



Additional Minimum Qualifications:

One Year Program:

- must be certified as a State of Wisconsin Firefighter I
- must possess an Associate's Degree in a fire related field **OR** must be a licensed WI EMT-Paramedic

Two Year Program:

- must be certified as a State of Wisconsin Firefighter I
- must have one year toward an Associate's Degree in a fire related field **OR** must be a licensed WI EMT-Paramedic

QUALITIES DESIRABLE IN A FIREFIGHTER/EMT:

- motivation to serve
- effective communication skills
- good physical, mental, emotional health
- ability to exercise sound judgment
- strong sense of responsibility
- compassion in all situations
- ability to work as team member
- honesty and integrity
- good problem-solving skills
- desire to work hard
- sense of humor



To obtain an application, please send an email to: internship@westernlakesfd.org