

Do you want to help keep Columbia strong? Firefighting is a career where people work at what they are passionate for and to achieve on-going professional skills, knowledge and abilities.

A career with the Columbia Fire Department can be rewarding by proudly serving the residents of Columbia with honor, tradition and excellence. Columbia firefighters receive the gratitude and appreciation of our residents, in addition to working in a position of respect and being valued for the unique skills they possess.

The City of Columbia does not establish a “hard” closing date for applications to begin a career as a firefighter. We encourage minorities, women and men to apply and as the need to fill a position becomes apparent, we review the applicants we have at the time the need arises to move forward with the selection process. An eligibility list for applicants who possess the EMT certification will be maintained until the need to establish a new eligibility list occurs.

We strongly encourage those interested in a fire service career to further their education and medical training. Although it may be surprising to some, most individuals find the academics of the training academy to be more challenging than the physical requirements.

The City of Columbia currently uses the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) as the physical test to be admitted as a fire recruit. The CPAT Candidate Preparation Guide contains cardiovascular, strength building and stretching exercises designed to help you prepare for the CPAT.

We would like to express our appreciation for your interest in pursuing a career as a firefighter for the City of Columbia.