



**PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND
FIRE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER**

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| General Order Number: 11-20 | Effective Date: January 26, 2024 |
| Division: Personnel Management | |
| Chapter: Volunteer Training Standards | |
| By Order of the County Fire Chief: Tiffany D. Green | Revision Date: N/A |

POLICY

This General Order shall establish the volunteer training standards for all classes of volunteer members of designated organizations.

SCOPE

This General Order shall apply to any volunteer member who actively engages in firefighting, rescue operations, or emergency medical services with the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department.

DEFINITIONS

Emergency Medical Service (EMS) – Providing first aid or applying other developed medical techniques and treatments to save lives and stabilize the medical condition of victims in trauma, medical crisis, or otherwise medical circumstances.

Junior Volunteer Firefighter – A member of a designated organization between the ages of 16 and 18 years old.

Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI) – The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) of the University of Maryland is the State's comprehensive training and education system for emergency services. The Institute plans, researches, develops, and delivers quality programs to enhance the ability of emergency services providers to protect life, the environment, and property.

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS) is a state regulatory agency that oversees the certification/licensure of EMS clinicians.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) – Developers of the fire protection standards.

Qualifications Review Board (QRB) - Established by Subtitle 11, Division 7 – Code of Ordinances to evaluate and make recommendations concerning the volunteer training standards for the Fire/EMS Department.

Standards – Industry's best practices for firefighting, fire officers, rescue, and emergency medical services, developed by the National Fire Protection Association.

Volunteer Member – Any member of any designated organization at least 18 years of age



PROCEDURES

I. Minimum Training Standards

- A. The purpose of this General Order is to prescribe minimum qualifications in policy and procedure for volunteer firefighters and volunteer EMS Clinicians, to establish appropriate standards of training for volunteer firefighters and volunteer EMS Clinicians, and to enhance the standards and quality of service provided by the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department.
- B. All certification requirements shall be consistent with the applicable standards by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) and/or the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems (MIEMSS). All eligibility and professional development requirements shall be consistent with the Career and Volunteer Professional Development guide and are listed in this General Order. Any revision to this General Order shall be consistent with the applicable standards governing the certification requirements or shall be approved by the County Council via resolution.
- C. All Volunteer Minimum Training requirements shall be listed in the Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide as an attachment to this General Order.
- D. Only by the following can this General Order be modified, changed, or updated:
 - 1. By direction of the Fire Chief to the QRB.
 - 2. By the QRB as described in Section V of this General Order on a triannual basis.
- E. This General Order shall be construed and applied to promote the policies and procedures of the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department.

MEMBER CLASSIFICATION AND ELIGIBILITY

I. Classifications of Volunteer Members

- A. The classification of volunteer suppression members is as follows:
 - 1. Junior Volunteer Firefighter
 - 2. Volunteer Firefighter
 - 3. Senior Volunteer Firefighter – *effective July 1, 2024*
 - 4. Volunteer Fire Sergeant
 - 5. Volunteer Fire Lieutenant
 - 6. Volunteer Fire Captain
 - 7. Volunteer “B” Chief
 - 8. Volunteer “A” Chief
 - 9. Volunteer Company Fire Chief



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- B. The classification of volunteer EMS members is as follows:
 - 1. Junior Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Clinician
 - 2. Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)-B
 - 3. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Sergeant
 - 4. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Lieutenant
 - 5. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Captain
 - 6. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Deputy/Assistant Fire Chief
 - 7. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Chief

- C. All volunteer members shall only fulfill the positions they are qualified for. Volunteer officers may only assume the rank to which they are certified by the Qualifications Review Board (QRB) and approved by the County Fire Chief through General Order 11-28 (Volunteer Certification Approval Process). N

II. Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide

- A. All Volunteer position eligibility, professional development, and continuing education for all volunteer personnel shall be listed in the Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide. Only the following provisions can modify, change, or update the Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide:
 - 1. By direction of the Fire Chief to the QRB.
 - 2. By the QRB as described in Section V of this General Order on a triannual basis.

RESPONSIBILITIES

I. Volunteer Corporation

- A. Each volunteer corporation leadership shall ensure all applicants and members abide by this General Order to be an operational Fire/EMS Department member.
- B. Manage all its members' records and ensure all training records are entered into the Fire/EMS Learning Management System (LMS).

II. Volunteer Services Office (VSO)

- A. The VSO is responsible for liaising with the Office of the Fire Chief, the Fire Commission, and the volunteer corporations.
- B. The VSO will maintain the the qualified members list to include all classifications of volunteer officers.

III. Qualifications Review Board

- A. Appointment



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1. A Qualifications Review Board (QRB) shall be appointed per Subtitle 11, Division 7, Code of Ordinances. The QRB shall monitor the development of appropriate qualifications and standards of training for volunteer firefighters and EMS clinicians.
2. The QRB shall consist of five (5) members who shall be designated by the following:
 - a) One (1) member shall be designated by the Fire Commission, which member shall constitute and serve as Chairman of the Qualifications Review Board.
 - b) The Fire Chief shall designate two (2) members from the Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department, one of which members shall be sworn to the rank of Assistant Fire Chief and the other shall be appointed to the position of Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief.
 - c) One (1) member shall be designated by the President of the Prince George's County Volunteer Fire and Rescue Association, Inc.
 - d) One (1) member shall be designated by the Volunteer Fire Chief's Council Chair.
3. Each member of the Qualifications Review Board shall serve indefinitely and be subject to the pleasure of the person or association to whom they were assigned.

B. Duties

1. The Qualifications Review Board shall promulgate its own rules and regulations as may be necessary and appropriate to execute its responsibilities.
2. The Qualifications Review Board shall have the specific authorities and responsibilities as follows:
 - a) To evaluate and make recommendations concerning any dispute made subject to determination by the Fire Commission according to the provisions listed in Subtitle 11, Division 7 of the Prince George's County Code of Ordinances, including, without limitation, any dispute concerning the issuance or failure to issue any certificate provided following the purposes, provisions, and administration of the same subtitle.
 - b) To evaluate and develop recommendations concerning the qualification of any program, certification, or course as one which shall be deemed substantially related to firefighting or the provision of emergency medical services, or the operations and enforcement of the provisions of this Subtitle and shall constitute continuing education within the meaning outlined in Subtitle 11, Division 7.
 - c) To make such general studies, surveys, inquiries, and evaluations concerning the improvement of qualifications or training for active status; and
 - d) To report its recommendations, findings, and evaluations to the Fire Commission.

REFERENCES



PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY, MARYLAND FIRE/EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT GENERAL ORDER

Prince George's County Fire/EMS General Order 11-28 – Volunteer Certification Process
Prince George's County Fire/EMS Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development and Continuing Education Guide

Prince George's County Code of Ordinances, Subtitle 11, Division 7

NFPA 1001 – Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications

NFPA 1021 - Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications

NFPA 1026 – Incident Management Personal Professional Qualifications

FORMS / ATTACHMENTS

PGFD Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development and Continuing Education Guide

Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide





THE PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT
Fire/EMS Department
Office of the Fire Chief

January 26, 2024

Dear Volunteer Members,

The Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department has made tremendous strides in establishing the minimum training standards for volunteer members through the publication of the *Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide*. This document outlines the timeline and minimum qualifications for all Prince George's County Fire/EMS Department volunteer members. The rollout of the new minimum training standards for all volunteer members will occur in three phases. Phase 1 allows each volunteer firefighter and EMS member transitional time to get the training needed by continuing the current standards as outlined below.

On Monday, July 1, 2024, we will implement Phase 2, which will mandate all members riding as the Officer in Charge (OIC) of any suppression unit must have obtained at least Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (MFSPQB) Fire Officer I certification. The Fire/EMS Department will introduce the new Senior Volunteer Firefighter / EMT position. This creates a new level of supervision and accountability for personnel who are not volunteer officers but respond to calls for service as the officer in charge of suppression units throughout the county. The change brings a higher level of training requirements for those who ride in this capacity, but it also raises the training requirements for volunteer fire sergeants and volunteer fire lieutenants.

On Wednesday, January 1, 2025, we will implement Phase 3, which will mandate full deployment of General Order 11-20, *Volunteer Training Standards, Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide; Minimum Eligibility Requirements, III – Phase 3*, making all elevated certification changes effective for all volunteer officer ranks.

With a focus on enhancing the safety and professional growth of your volunteer corporations and the Fire/EMS Department, I urge all members to take the initiative to develop their knowledge, skills, and abilities, regardless of whether they seek volunteer leadership roles within your volunteer corporation or with the Fire/EMS Department. When you strive to improve as an individual, you improve the Department as a whole.

Sincerely,

Tiffany D. Green
Fire Chief

INTRODUCTION

Prince George's County is a diverse and multicultural community bordering the eastern edges of our Nation's Capital. Located in the heart of the Baltimore/Washington corridor, the County borders Washington, D.C., just 37 miles south of the City of Baltimore. Encompassing 499 square miles, the Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Department (PGFD) delivers services through a network of 45 fire stations strategically positioned throughout the County. In addition to the Department's sworn personnel, stations are staffed with approximately 1,000 operational volunteer members, which protect an estimated population of over 967,000 residents (2020 U.S. Census).

Prince George's County Fire/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department is an all-hazard response agency that provides fire suppression, Haz-Mat, water rescue, basic life support, advanced life support, and emergency medical care. It is responsible for all county fire prevention, inspection, investigations, community outreach, and public fire education.

The annual call volume for the Department in 2023 was approximately 167,000 incidents, with emergency medical responses accounting for nearly 85 percent of our services. The County has not yet achieved complete build-out, and the population is anticipated to continue to grow. Overall, call volume and support requirements will increase and become more challenging.

The range and scope of services for which the Department is responsible requires highly trained, knowledgeable members to provide these valuable services to our county's residents, businesses, and visitors. The Fire/EMS Department encourages its volunteer members to challenge their knowledge, skills, and abilities and to have the desire to advance through your volunteer corporation's rank structure to perform successfully. All of these factors contribute to the future of our Department, your volunteer corporation, and the future of the volunteer fire service in Prince George's County, Maryland.

DEFINITIONS

Anniversary Date – The date of membership with the department, determined by the Prince George’s County Fire Commission.

Emergency Medical Service Officer I - II – *Skills include Incident Pre-Planning, Emergency Communication, Conducting Size-up Activities, Establishing an EMS Incident Command System, and EMS Incident Tactical Considerations.*

Fire Fighter I – NFPA 1001. *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications.* The person in the first level of progression who has demonstrated the knowledge and skills to function as an integral member of a firefighting team under direct supervision in hazardous conditions.

Fire Fighter II – NFPA 1001. *Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications.* The person at the second level of progression who has demonstrated the skills and depth of knowledge to function under general supervision.

Fire Inspector I - III - NFPA 1031. *Standard for Professional Qualifications for Fire Inspector and Plan Examiner.* Identifies the professional levels of performance required for fire inspectors and plan examiners, explicitly identifying the job performance requirements necessary to perform as a fire inspector or a plan examiner.

Fire Officer I – IV – NFPA 1021. *Standard for Fire Officer Professional Qualifications.* It identifies the performance requirements necessary to perform a fire officer's duties and explicitly identifies four progression levels.

Fire Service Instructor I - III – NFPA 1041. *Standard for Fire Service Instructor Professional Qualifications.* Identifies the performance requirements necessary to teach, develop teaching material, supervise the teaching staff and program, and manage, budget, and implement the program.

Hazardous Materials Technician – NFPA 472. *Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents.* An individual who has demonstrated the skills and knowledge necessary to respond to hazardous material emergencies.

Incident Command System (ICS) – A management system designed to enable effective and efficient on-scene incident management by integrating a combination of facilities, equipment, personnel, procedures, and communications operating within a typical organizational structure.

ICS-100 - Introduction to the Incident Command System – This independent study course introduces ICS and provides the foundation for higher-level ICS training. It describes the system's history, features, principles, and organizational structure. This course also explains the relationship between ICS and NIMS.

ICS-200 - ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents – This independent study course is designed to enable personnel to operate efficiently during an incident or event within the ICS. ICS-200 provides training and resources for personnel likely to assume a supervisory position within the ICS.

ICS-300 - Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents - ICS-300 provides training and resources for personnel requiring advanced knowledge and ICS application. This course expands upon information covered in the ICS-100 and ICS-200 courses.

ICS-400 - Advanced ICS - This course provides training and resources for personnel requiring advanced ICS application. This course expands upon information covered in ICS-100 through ICS-300.

IS-700 - NIMS, an Introduction - This independent study course introduces the NIMS concept. NIMS provides a consistent nationwide template to enable all government, private-sector, and non-governmental organizations to work together during domestic incidents.

IS-800 - National Response Framework (NRF), an Introduction - The course introduces participants to the concepts and principles of the NRF.

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities (KSAs) – Developing performance assessment techniques essential to a job analysis.

Maryland Fire Rescue Institute (MFRI) – The Maryland Fire and Rescue Institute (MFRI) of the University of Maryland is the State's comprehensive training and education system for emergency services. The Institute plans, researches, develops, and delivers quality programs to enhance the ability of emergency services providers to protect life, the environment, and property.

Maryland Fire Service Personnel Qualifications Board (MFSPQB), Inc. – Nationally accredited by the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (NBFSPQ), the MFSPQB reviews and certifies fire service training.

Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS) - The coordinated statewide network includes volunteer and career EMS providers, medical and nursing personnel, communications, transportation systems, trauma and specialty care centers, and emergency departments.

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) is a nonprofit educational and technical association devoted to protecting life and property from fire by developing fire protection standards and educating the public.

Safety Officer – NFPA 1521. *Standard for Fire Department Safety Officer*. This standard contains minimum requirements for the assignment, duties, and responsibilities of a health and safety officer (HSO) and an incident safety officer (ISO) for a fire department.

Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) is a program developed by the Prince George's County Fire and Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department for all volunteer members entering the department as volunteers.

Minimum Eligibility Requirements by Position

I. Phase 1 - EFFECTIVE – January 26, 2024

In the Phase 1 implementation, the existing training standards that were previously adopted in CB-82-1994 in Subtitle 11, Division 7 of the Prince George’s County Code of Ordinances will remain in place until the end of Phase 1. Effective on December 29, 2023, CB-83-2023 went into effect, which changed the period for volunteer members to obtain both Firefighter I and EMT to 36 months.

Phase 1 will end on June 30, 2024, as we transition into the Phase 2 implementation on July 1, 2024.

- **Junior Volunteer Firefighter** is an entry-level position engaged in the initial technical training, development, orientation, and probationary requirements to perform emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction. Junior members may **NOT** enter Immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) environments until deemed safe by the on-scene incident commander.
 - Must be at least 16 years old, no older than 18 years old.
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical using the Department’s authorized contractor.
 - 12 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained MFRI Firefighter I or equivalent or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
 - Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
 - Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).
- **Volunteer Firefighter** is an entry-level position engaged in the initial technical training, development, orientation, and probationary requirements to perform emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.
 - Must be at least 18 years old.
 - Must have a high school diploma or equivalent (GED).
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical using the Department’s authorized contractor.
 - 12 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained MFRI Firefighter I or equivalent or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
 - Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
 - Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).
- **Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is a complete performance level position performing emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.
 - Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Firefighter.

- No more than 36 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, every member must have completed MFRI Firefighter I (FFI) and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training for the State of Maryland.

NOTE: Any Volunteer Firefighter who has not obtained FFI and EMT within the above time parameters will be automatically moved to an administrative status and no longer be authorized to be an operational member of any designated organization within Prince George's County.

- **Volunteer Fire Sergeant** is a first-line supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, or program.
 - Must meet all requirements for Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
 - Must have been a volunteer firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for two (2) years after obtaining a fire department ID number from the fire commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 19 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Fighter II.
- **Volunteer Fire Lieutenant** is a first-line supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, or program.
 - Must meet all requirements for Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
 - Must have been a volunteer firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a fire department ID number from the fire commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 20 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Fighter II.
- **Volunteer Fire Captain** is a mid-level supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, shift, or program.
 - Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Sergeant/Lieutenant.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Fire Sergeant / Volunteer Fire Lieutenant for 12 months.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 21 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer I.
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 200; ICS 300.
- **Volunteer Deputy and Assistant Fire Chiefs** are senior-level supervisory and management-level positions. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
 - Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Captain.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Fire Captain for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for four (4) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 23 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 400.
 - Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

- **Volunteer Company Fire Chief** is an executive-level supervisory and management position. This position provides critical management, administrative, and technical support. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for overall daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
 - Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief or Volunteer Deputy Fire Chief.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Deputy/Assistant Fire Chief for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for five (5) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, but not less than three (3) years as a line officer or deputy or assistant fire chief.
 - Must have reached the age of 24 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
 - Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

- **Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – B**
 - Must be at least 18 years old.
 - High school diploma or equivalent (GED).
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical
 - Eighteen (18) months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all EMS Only volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
 - Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
 - Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).

- **Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Sergeant**
 - Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMT-B.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for two (2) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 19 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.

- **Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Lieutenant**
 - Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMT-B.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 20 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.

- **Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Captain**
 - Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMS Sergeant / Lieutenant.
 - Must have been a Volunteer EMS Sergeant / Lieutenant for 12 months.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years.
 - Must have reached the age of 21 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.

- **Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Assistant Chief/Deputy Chief**
 - Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMS Captain.
 - Must have been a Volunteer EMS Captain for 12 months.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for four (4) years.
 - Must have reached the age of 23 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer II / Fire Officer II.
 - Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

- **Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Chief**
 - Meet all requirements for Volunteer Assistant/Deputy EMS Chief.
 - Must have been a Volunteer EMS Captain for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for five (5) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, but not less than three (3) years as a line officer or deputy or assistant EMS chief.
 - Must have reached the age of 24 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer II / Fire Officer II.
 - Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

II. Phase 2 - EFFECTIVE – July 1, 2024

In the Phase 2 implementation, we will continue with all training requirements listed in Phase 1; however, we will be instituting the position of Senior Volunteer Firefighter/EMT, which will become effective on this date. The position was created to appoint senior volunteer firefighters to a lead-level position as the unit officer of any suppression unit. The Senior Volunteer Firefighter/EMT will have the authority, responsibility, and accountability to manage a suppression crew safely. Additionally, volunteer members holding the rank of volunteer sergeant and volunteer lieutenant must have obtained Fire Officer I certification to maintain this operational rank.

Phase 2 will remain in place until December 31, 2024, as we transition into Phase 3, effective January 1, 2025.

1. **Junior Volunteer Firefighter** is an entry-level position engaged in the initial technical training, development, orientation, and probationary requirements to perform emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction. Junior members may **NOT** enter Immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH) environments until deemed safe by the on-scene incident commander.
 - Must be at least 16 years old, no older than 18 years old.
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical using the Department’s authorized contractor.
 - 12 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained MFRI Firefighter I or equivalent or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
 - Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
 - Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).
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2. **Volunteer Firefighter** is an entry-level position engaged in the initial technical training, development, orientation, and probationary requirements to perform emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.
 - Must be at least 18 years old.
 - Must have a high school diploma or equivalent (GED).
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical using the Department’s authorized contractor.
 - 12 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained MFRI Firefighter I or equivalent or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
 - Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
 - Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).

3. **Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is a complete performance level position performing emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.
 - Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Firefighter.
 - No more than 36 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, every member must have completed MFRI Firefighter I (FFI) and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training for the State of Maryland.

NOTE: Any Volunteer Firefighter who has not obtained FFI and EMT within the above time parameters will be automatically moved to an administrative status and no longer be authorized to be an operational member of any designated organization within Prince George’s County.

4. **Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** – is a lead-level position charged with the responsibility of leading volunteer firefighters and volunteer firefighter/EMT positions who are engaged in the advanced performance of emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction. Any person fulfilling this position will be considered an acting volunteer line officer as a first-line supervisor.
 - Must meet all Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) requirements.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Firefighter or Volunteer Firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for 30 months after being assigned a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer I.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB Hazardous Materials – Operations.

NOTE: Waivers for Experienced Firefighters with previous verifiable experience can be obtained to elevate a Volunteer Firefighter / EMT to Senior Volunteer Firefighter / EMT.

5. **Volunteer Fire Sergeant** is a first-line supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, or program.
 - Must meet all requirements for Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
 - Must have been a volunteer firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for two (2) years after obtaining a fire department ID number from the fire commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 19 years old.

- Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer I.
6. **Volunteer Fire Lieutenant** is a first-line supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, or program.
- Must meet all requirements for Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
 - Must have been a volunteer firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a fire department ID number from the fire commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 20 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer I.
7. **Volunteer Fire Captain** is a mid-level supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, shift, or program.
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Sergeant/Lieutenant.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Fire Sergeant / Volunteer Fire Lieutenant for 12 months.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 21 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer I.
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 200; ICS 300.
8. **Volunteer Deputy and Assistant Fire Chiefs** are senior-level supervisory and management-level positions. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Captain.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Fire Captain for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for four (4) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have reached the age of 23 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 400.
 - Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.
9. **Volunteer Company Fire Chief** is an executive-level supervisory and management position. This position provides critical management, administrative, and technical support. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for overall daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief or Volunteer Deputy Fire Chief.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Deputy/Assistant Fire Chief for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for five (5) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, but not less than three (3) years as a line officer or deputy or assistant fire chief.
 - Must have reached the age of 24 years old.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
 - Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

10. Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – B

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- High school diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
- Must pass NFPA Physical
- Eighteen (18) months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all EMS Only volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
- Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
- Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
- Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).

11. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Sergeant

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMT-B.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for two (2) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
- Must have reached the age of 19 years old.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.

12. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Lieutenant

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMT-B.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
- Must have reached the age of 20 years old.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.

13. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Captain

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMS Sergeant / Lieutenant.
- Must have been a Volunteer EMS Sergeant / Lieutenant for 12 months.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years.
- Must have reached the age of 21 years old.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.
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14. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Assistant Chief/Deputy Chief

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMS Captain.
- Must have been a Volunteer EMS Captain for 12 months.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for four (4) years.
- Must have reached the age of 23 years old.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer II / Fire Officer II.
- Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

15. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Chief

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer Assistant/Deputy EMS Chief.
- Must have been a Volunteer EMS Captain for 12 months.
- Must have been a member of a designated organization for five (5) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, but not less than three (3) years as a line officer or

deputy or assistant EMS chief.

- Must have reached the age of 24 years old.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer II / Fire Officer II.
- Must have obtained 12 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

III. Phase 3 - EFFECTIVE – January 1, 2025

In the Phase 3 implementation, all parts of the Volunteer Position Eligibility, Professional Development, and Continuing Education Guide become effective. During this transitional period, we have raised the bar for volunteer members who ride as the officer in charge of any suppression unit to become Senior Volunteer Firefighter / EMT. In Phase 3, we now raise the bar for our junior line and volunteer chief officers. Creating an educational path for success in each volunteer corporation is paramount for the department overall.

With higher levels of training and education, officers are better equipped to handle complex situations and make informed decisions quickly, which can ultimately save lives. They can also stay updated with the latest technologies and techniques in the industry, which can improve the department's readiness and response time. Additionally, highly trained officers can serve as mentors and trainers for newer and less experienced members, enhancing the entire department's overall skill level. Investing in higher officer training can lead to a more effective and successful Fire/EMS department.

1. **Junior Volunteer Firefighter** is an entry-level position engaged in the initial technical training, development, orientation, and probationary requirements to perform emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.
 - Must be at least 16 years old, no older than 18 years old.
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical using the Department's authorized contractor.
 - Twelve (12) months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained MFRI Firefighter I or equivalent or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
 - Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
 - Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).
2. **Volunteer Firefighter** is an entry-level position engaged in the initial technical training, development, orientation, and probationary requirements to perform emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.
 - Must be at least 18 years old.
 - Must have a high school diploma or equivalent (GED).
 - Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
 - Must pass NFPA Physical using the Department's authorized contractor.
 - Twelve (12) months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained MFRI Firefighter I or equivalent or Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
 - Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.

- Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
- Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).

3. **Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is a complete performance level position performing emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction.

- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Firefighter.
- No more than 36 months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, every member must have completed MFRI Firefighter I (FFI) and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training for the State of Maryland.

NOTE: Any Volunteer Firefighter who has not obtained FFI and EMT within the above time parameters will be automatically moved to an administrative status and no longer be authorized to be an operational member of any designated organization within Prince George’s County.

4. **Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is a lead-level position charged with the responsibility of leading volunteer firefighters and volunteer firefighter/EMT positions who are engaged in the advanced performance of emergency and non-emergency tasks in fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and community risk reduction. Any person fulfilling this position will be considered an acting volunteer line officer as a first-line supervisor.

- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).
- Must have been a Volunteer Firefighter or Volunteer Firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for 30 months after being assigned a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer I.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB Hazardous Materials – Operations.

NOTE: Waivers for Experienced Firefighters with previous verifiable experience can be obtained to elevate a Volunteer Firefighter / EMT to Senior Volunteer Firefighter / EMT through the Qualification Review Board.

5. **Volunteer Fire Sergeant** is a first-line supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, or program.

- Must meet all requirements for Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Must have been a Volunteer Firefighter, Volunteer Firefighter/EMT, or Senior Volunteer Firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for four (4) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB - Fire Instructor I.

6. **Volunteer Fire Lieutenant** is a first-line supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, or program.

- Must meet all requirements for Senior Volunteer Firefighter / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
- Must have been a Volunteer Firefighter, Volunteer Firefighter/EMT, or Senior Volunteer Firefighter/EMT of a designated organization for four (4) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Instructor I.

7. **Volunteer Fire Captain** is a mid-level supervisory position responsible for the administrative and operational functions of an assigned station, office, unit, shift, or program.
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Sergeant/Lieutenant.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Fire Sergeant / Volunteer Fire Lieutenant for 12 months.
 - Have been a member of a designated organization for five (5) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer II.
 - *If acting as a Chief Officer, the Volunteer Fire Captain must have obtained Fire Officer III and 24 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.*
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 200; ICS 300.
 - MFSPQB – Fire Inspector I – *Recommended.*
8. **Volunteer “B” Chief** is a senior-level supervisory and management-level position. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Captain.
 - Must have been a Volunteer Fire Captain for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for six (6) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer III.
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 400.
 - Must have obtained 24 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.
 - MFSPQB Incident Safety Officer- *Recommended.*
9. **Volunteer “A” Chief** is a senior-level supervisory and management-level position. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Fire Captain.
 - Must have been a volunteer fire captain for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for six (6) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
 - Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer III.
 - Must have obtained FEMA – ICS 400.
 - Must have obtained 24 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.
 - MFSPQB Incident Safety Officer- *Recommended.*
10. **Volunteer Company Fire Chief** is an executive-level supervisory and management position. This position provides critical management, administrative, and technical support. In this position, incumbents are typically responsible for overall daily operations and managing members of their designated organization to ensure operational readiness. Incumbents can respond to emergency calls for service in line with General Order 01-03 (Chain of Command).
- Must meet all requirements for Volunteer Assistant Fire Chief or Volunteer Deputy Fire Chief.
 - Must have been a Volunteer “A” Fire Chief or Volunteer “B” Chief for 12 months.
 - Must have been a member of a designated organization for seven (7) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.

- Must have obtained MFSPQB – Fire Officer IV.
- Must have obtained 24 hours of continuing education in any fire department instructor lead training.

11. Volunteer Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – B

- Must be at least 18 years old.
- High school diploma or equivalent (GED).
- Must pass background investigation or other required examinations.
- Must pass NFPA Physical
- Eighteen (18) months after receiving the Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission, all EMS Only volunteers must have completed Volunteer Recruit School (VRS) and obtained an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) for the State of Maryland.
- Must have obtained FEMA IS – 700.
- Must have obtained FEMA ICS – 100.
- Must have obtained CPR (AHA or ASHI).

12. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Sergeant / Lieutenant

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMT-B.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for three (3) years after obtaining a Fire Department ID number from the Fire Commission.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer I / Fire Officer I.

13. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Captain

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMS Sergeant / Lieutenant.
- Must have been a Volunteer EMS Sergeant / Lieutenant for 12 months.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for four (4) years.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer II / Fire Officer II.

14. Volunteer Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Assistant Chief/Deputy Chief/Chief

- Meet all requirements for Volunteer EMS Captain.
- Must have been a Volunteer EMS Captain for 12 months.
- Have been a member of a designated organization for six (6) years.
- Must have obtained MFSPQB – EMS Officer II / Fire Officer II.

I. Minimum Eligibility Requirements by Position

1. Junior Volunteer Firefighters and Junior EMS Care Providers

- A. Before appointment to the capacity of a Junior Volunteer Firefighter or Junior EMS Care Provider, each applicant to it shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:
- (1) **Age.** Such applicant shall have attained an age of not less than sixteen (16) years.
 - (2) **Compliance with specific qualifications and training.** Such applicant shall establish complete compliance with the provisions for minimum qualifications and training requirements outlined in this Section, saving and except to the extent such minimum qualifications may otherwise require the attainment of any age.

2. Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer EMS Care Providers

- A. Except as otherwise provided herein, before appointment to the capacity of a volunteer firefighter or EMS care provider, whether of the junior or active class designation, each applicant to it shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:
- (1) **Age.** Such applicant shall have attained an age of under eighteen (18) years.
 - (2) **Application.** Such applicant shall have furnished a completed application form as prescribed from time to time by the Fire Commission, which application form shall require the recordation of such information as is reasonably necessary to demonstrate that the applicant possesses the qualifications required by this Section.
 - (3) **Medical standards.** Such applicant shall meet or exceed such medical standards as are established by the Fire Commission, which medical standards shall be based upon reasonable tests and examinations necessary to ascertain that the applicant's physical and mental health is adequate to ensure that the applicant can perform in firefighting or rescue operations without the threat of injury to self, other firefighters or EMS care providers, or members of the general public.
 - (4) **Background investigation.** Such applicant shall have authorized the conduct of and completed a background investigation as may be determined, required, and administered by the applicable designated organization, which may include an investigation of the applicant's character, including an examination of the applicant's criminal history.
- B. Upon appointment to the capacity of junior or active firefighter, each such person appointed shall comply with each of the several training requirements set forth below; and any failure thereafter of any person to meet such requirements shall result in automatic termination of active status until such time as the same requirements shall be satisfied.
- (1) Not later than twelve (12) months after the month of appointment, each junior or active firefighter shall either enroll in the Maryland Emergency Medical Technician course or the Firefighter I certification course conducted by NFPA Standard 1001 or any equivalent course of study.
 - (2) Not later than thirty-six (36) months after the month of appointment, each junior or active firefighter shall have satisfactorily completed the Maryland Emergency

Medical Technician course and obtained the Firefighter I certification in accordance with Standard 1001, or any equivalent course of study.

- (3) For purposes of this Section, in the case of any volunteer firefighter who may attain the active class designation by operation of the conversion from the junior class by the provisions of the Section, the month of appointment shall be determined and deemed to be the month during which they were first appointed to such junior class designation.

C. Upon appointment to the capacity of Active Volunteer EMS Care Provider, each such person appointed shall comply with each of the several training requirements set forth below, and any failure after that of any person to meet such requirements shall result in automatic termination of active status until the exact requirements shall be satisfied.

- (1) Not later than eighteen (18) months after the month of appointment, each Active Volunteer EMS Care Provider shall have completed and obtained a Maryland Emergency Medical Technician course certification or any equivalent course of study.
- (2) For purposes of this Section, in the case of any Volunteer EMS Care Provider who may attain the active class designation by operation of the conversion from the junior class by the provisions of the Section, the month of appointment shall be determined and deemed to be the month during which they were first appointed to such junior class designation.

3. Volunteer Fire Line Officers

A. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer Fire Line Officer, each eligible member of any designated organization shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:

- (1) **Age.** Such member shall have attained an age not less than the number of years determined according to the following schedule:

| RANK | YEARS OF AGE |
|------------|--------------|
| Sergeant | 19 |
| Lieutenant | 20 |
| Captain | 21 |

- (2) **Experience.** Such member shall have cumulated a minimum number of years active experience in the capacity of a firefighter, such minimum number of years determined according to the following schedule:

| RANK | YEARS OF EXPERIENCE |
|------------|---------------------|
| Sergeant | 2 |
| Lieutenant | 3 |
| Captain | 3 |

(3) **Certification.** Such member shall have obtained a Department of Transportation First Responder course certification or any equivalent course of study.

B. Prior to any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer Fire Line Officer at the rank of Sergeant or Lieutenant, each candidate therefor shall have satisfactorily completed and obtained the Firefighter II certification in accordance with Standard 1001, or any equivalent course of study.

C. Prior to any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer Fire Line Officer at the rank of Captain, each candidate therefor shall have satisfactorily completed and obtained the Fire Officer I certification in accordance with Standard 1021, or any equivalent course of study.

4. Deputy and Assistant Volunteer Fire Chiefs

A. Prior to any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Deputy or Assistant Volunteer Fire Chief, each eligible member of any designated organization shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:

(1) **Age.** Such member shall have attained an age not less than twenty-three (23) years.

(2) **Experience.** Such member shall have cumulated not less than four (4) years County experience in the capacity of a firefighter; provided, not less than two (2) years of such County experience shall be cumulated in the capacity of a fire line officer, and not less than one (1) year of such County experience shall be cumulated at the rank of Captain.

(3) **Certification.** Such member shall have obtained a Department of Transportation First Responder course certification or any equivalent course of study.

(4) Such member shall have satisfactorily completed and obtained the Fire Officer II certification per Standard 1021 or any equivalent course of study.

B. Not less than twelve (12) months before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Deputy or Assistant Volunteer Fire Chief at the interim rank of "A Chief" shall first complete one or more programs of continuing education which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours; and, in addition, on an annual basis commencing upon appointment to the capacity of Deputy or Assistant Fire Chief, whether at the interim rank of "A Chief" or "B Chief," each such person appointed shall complete one or more programs of continuing education

which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours.

5. Volunteer Fire Chiefs

- A. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of Volunteer Fire Chief, each eligible member of any designated organization shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:
 - (1) **Age.** Such members shall have attained an age not less than twenty-four (24) years.
 - (2) **Experience.** Such member shall have cumulated not less than five (5) years of County experience in the capacity of a firefighter, provided not less than three (3) years of such County experience shall be cumulated in the capacity of a fire line officer or Deputy or Assistant Chief. Not less than one (1) year of such County experience shall be cumulated in the capacity of a Deputy or Assistant Chief.
 - (3) **Certification.** Such member shall have obtained a Department of Transportation First Responder course certification or any equivalent course of study.
 - (4) Such member shall have satisfactorily completed and obtained the Fire Officer II certification per Standard 1021 or any equivalent course of study.
 - (5) **Continuing education.** Not less than twelve (12) months before the month of appointment, such member shall have completed one or more programs of continuing education, which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours.

- B. On an annual basis commencing upon appointment to the capacity of Fire Chief, each such person appointed shall complete one or more programs of continuing education which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours.

6. Volunteer EMS Officers

- A. Prior to any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer EMS Officer, each eligible member of any designated organization shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:
 - (1) **Age.** Such member shall have attained an age not less than the number of years determined according to the following schedule:

| RANK | YEARS OF AGE |
|------------|--------------|
| Sergeant | 19 |
| Lieutenant | 20 |
| Captain | 21 |

- (2) **Experience.** Such member shall have cumulated a minimum number of years active experience in the capacity of an EMS Care Provider, such minimum number of years determined according to the following schedule:

| RANK | YEARS OF EXPERIENCE |
|------------|---------------------|
| Sergeant | 2 |
| Lieutenant | 3 |
| Captain | 3 |

- B. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer EMS Officer, each candidate therefore shall have satisfactorily completed the Prince George's County Volunteer Recruit School or any equivalent course of study.
- C. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer EMS Officer at the rank of Captain, each candidate, therefore, shall have satisfactorily completed the Fire Officer I certification per Standard 1021, or the EMS Officer I training course, or any equivalent course of study relating directly to the duties and operation of EMS officers.
- D. **Certification.** Before and during any appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer EMS Officer, each appointed officer shall maintain in current and good standing the Maryland Emergency Medical Technician certification or equivalent course of study.

7. Deputy and Assistant Volunteer EMS Chiefs

- A. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Deputy or Assistant Volunteer EMS Chief, each eligible member of any designated organization shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:
 - (1) **Age.** Such members shall have attained an age not less than twenty-three (23) years.
 - (2) **Experience.** Such member shall have cumulated not less than four (4) years of County experience in the capacity of an EMS care provider, provided not less than two (2) years of such County experience shall be cumulated in the capacity of an EMS officer, and not less than one (1) year of such County experience shall be cumulated at the rank of Captain.
- B. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of Deputy or Assistant Volunteer EMS Chief, each candidate shall have satisfactorily completed the Prince George's County Volunteer Recruit School or any equivalent course of study.
- C. **Training.** Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of Deputy or Assistant Volunteer EMS Chief, each candidate, therefore, shall have satisfactorily completed and obtained the Fire Officer II certification per NFPA Standard 1021, the EMS Officer II training course, or any equivalent course of study relating to the duties of EMS officers.
- D. **Certification.** Before and during any appointment to Deputy or Assistant Volunteer EMS Chief, each Deputy or Assistant Chief so appointed shall maintain the Maryland

Emergency Medical Technician certification or equivalent course of study in current and good standing.

- E. Not less than twelve (12) months before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Deputy or Assistant Volunteer EMS Chief at the interim rank of "A Chief" shall first complete one or more programs of continuing education which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours; and, in addition, on an annual basis commencing upon appointment to the capacity of Volunteer Deputy or Assistant EMS chief, whether at the interim rank of "A Chief" or "B Chief," each such person appointed shall complete one or more programs of continuing education which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours.

8. Volunteer EMS Chiefs

- A. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of a Volunteer EMS Chief, each eligible member of any designated organization shall establish compliance with the minimum qualifications as follows:
 - (1) **Age.** Such members shall have attained an age not less than twenty-four (24) years.
 - (2) **Experience.** Such member shall have cumulated not less than five (5) years of County experience as an EMS care provider, provided not less than three (3) years of such County experience shall be cumulated in the capacity of an EMS officer. Not less than one (1) year of such County experience shall be cumulated in the capacity of a deputy or assistant EMS chief.
 - (3) **Continuing education.** Not less than twelve (12) months before the month of appointment, such member shall have completed one or more programs of continuing education, which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours.
- B. Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of Volunteer EMS Chief, each candidate shall have satisfactorily completed the Prince George's County Volunteer Recruit School or any equivalent course of study.
- C. **Training.** Before any promotional appointment to the capacity of Volunteer EMS Chief, each candidate, therefore, shall have satisfactorily completed the Fire Officer II certification in accordance with Standard 1021, the EMS Officer II training course, or any equivalent course of study relating to the duties of EMS officers.
- D. **Certification.** Before and during any appointment to the capacity of Volunteer EMS Chief, each appointed chief shall maintain in current and good standing the Maryland Emergency Medical Technician certification, or equivalent course of study.
- E. On an annual basis commencing upon appointment to the capacity of Volunteer EMS Chief, each such person appointed shall complete one or more programs of continuing education which, in the aggregate, shall require a duration of instruction of not less than twelve (12) hours.