REFERENCE GUIDE

VOLUNTEER APPLICATION PROCESS, INITIAL TRAINING
REQUIREMENTS & MEMBERSHIP EXPECTATIONS

Purpose:
In order to provide depth and breadth to our career firefighter staffing the Whitefish Fire Department shall operate and maintain a group of volunteer firefighters. This guide is intended to layout the requirements for membership, the application process, and ongoing expectations of a volunteer firefighter for the City of Whitefish Fire Department.

Scope:
This Reference Guide is used as a tool to help potential candidates understand the process, requirements, and commitment they’re making should they decide to apply. This document does not supersede any rules, regulations, or policies of the City of Whitefish or the Whitefish Fire Department. If you have the DESIRE, the ABILITY, but most importantly the TIME we’d love to have you apply to volunteer as an Operational Reserve. Operational Reserves are volunteer firefighters who support our career Firefighter/EMS-Providers in any number of different job areas by responding to emergency calls and working as part of our team.

Benefits:
Free fire, hazmat, ICS, and wildland training with medical CE opportunities. Volunteer Firefighter Pension and the opportunity to serve the community. Limited per call reimbursement.

Standard abbreviations

AEMT  – Advanced Emergency Medical Technician
CIS   – Critical Incident Stress
CPAT  – Candidate Physical Agility Test
EMR   – Emergency Medical Responder
EMS   – Emergency Medical Services
EMT   – Emergency Medical Technician
IAFF  – International Association of Fire Fighters (the labor union)
IPAT  – Incumbent Physical Agility Test
NFPA  – National Fire Protection Agency
NWCG  – National Wildland Coordinating Group
PPE   – Personal Protective Equipment
SAP   – Standard Administrative Policies
SOG   – Standard Operational Guidelines

JPP-0524-2017
APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS {per Montana Code Annotated 7-33-4107 & the Whitefish FD}

___ 1. Must be a citizen of the United States;
___ 2. Must reside within the City of Whitefish or the surrounding Rural Fire Service Area; consideration may be given to applicants residing outside the Whitefish Fire Department response area based on the ability to meet the emergency response requirements.
___ 3. Must be 18-years of age or older;
___ 4. Must hold a valid high school diploma or GED;
___ 5. Must possess or be eligible for a valid Montana or out-of-state Driver’s License. A valid Montana Driver’s License must be obtained prior to completing probation;
___ 6. Must not have been convicted of a crime for which the applicant could have been imprisoned in a Federal or State penitentiary; and
___ 7. Shall be able to successfully complete the Whitefish Fire Department’s physical exam, appropriate CPAT (Candidate’s Physical Agility Test) and a comprehensive background check.

APPLICATION PROCESS

___ 1. Submit a completed Whitefish Fire Department’s Operational Reserve Application;
___ 2. Submit a completed Personal Physician’s Approval form;
___ 3. Submit a copy of your current driver’s license and driver’s history report;
___ 4. Submit a list of three references we can contact;
___ 5. Meet with either the Fire Chief, other Chief Officer, or a Captain to:
      ___ - review job requirements and expectations (emphasis on the TIME COMMITMENT);
      ___ - sign background check permission forms;
      ___ - sign confidentiality form;
      ___ - schedule a 7am to 7pm ride-along with each shift (A, B, and C); and
      ___ - tour facility / Q&A.

SELECTION PROCESS

___ 1. Applicant completes a 12-hour shift ride-along with A-shift;
___ 2. Applicant completes a 12-hour shift ride-along with B-shift;
___ 3. Applicant completes a 12-hour shift ride-along with C-shift;
___ 4. Applicant completes appropriate CPAT during any one of their ride-alongs;
___ 5. Officers meet and review; application, references, background check, and inputs from each shift ride-along. Selection is made.
___ 6. Applicant notified.
MEMBERSHIP CLASSIFICATION TERMS

Applicant: A person who has submitted a completed application and is active in the selection process.

Probationary Firefighter: AKA Probie. The first 6-month period of time allowing the volunteer to learn the position, demonstrate the time commitment needed to be successful, and for the Fire Department’s Officers to evaluate a volunteer’s potential and performance. During the probationary period the Fire Chief may terminate a volunteer with or without cause.

Candidate: A volunteer working towards completion of the initial training requirements for at least one of the volunteer firefighter job descriptions.

Rookie: A firefighter during their first year on the job. A fire service tradition where a new firefighter demonstrates their commitment to the job, this is NOT a hazing period. During this year the new firefighter builds the relationships needed to be a successful member of our highly effective team.

Operational: A firefighter who has met all the initial requirements and maintains the incumbent requirements for one or more of the specific volunteer firefighter job positions; Ambulance Driver, EMS-Provider, Exterior Firefighter, Interior Firefighter, Driver/Operator, or Commissioned Firefighter.

Commissioned Firefighter: A firefighter who has met all the requirements for the all encompassing job of a Firefighter/EMS-Provider for the City of Whitefish Fire Department. {Same requirements as our career Firefighter/EMS-Providers}

FIRE DEPARTMENT AND RELATED ORGANIZATIONS

Whitefish Fire Department: A department within the City of Whitefish that through an intergovernmental agreement also provides fire and rescue services to the surrounding Whitefish Fire Service Area and EMS to a portion of the county through an agreement with Flathead County EMS. We are a combination fire department with firefighters who are paid to do the job and those who volunteer to do the job.

Whitefish Fire Service Area: An area outside the City of Whitefish governed by an appointed Board of Trustees who contract with the City for fire protection.

Whitefish Professional Firefighters Association: The full time career Firefighters’ and Company Officers’ (Captains and Lieutenants) labor union; IAFF Local 3995.
Whitefish Firefighter Association, Inc.: A not-for-profit membership organization made up of all operational firefighters (Chief Officers and Firefighters: career, part-time, and volunteer) organized to support the mission of the Whitefish Fire Department.

Fire Department Relief Association of the City of Whitefish, Inc.: An organization that monitors and manages the volunteer firefighter pension funds. {Montana Code Annotated Title 19, Chapter 18}.

**FIRE DEPARTMENT POSITIONS**

**Fire Chief:** Shall have sole command and control over all persons connected with the fire department {Montana Code Annotated 7-33-4104}.

**Assistant Chief(s):** Shall assist the Fire Chief and in the Chief’s absence perform the Chief’s duties. The City Council shall determine the number of Assistant Fire Chiefs.

**Fire Marshal:** Assists the Fire Chief in providing fire prevention and investigation services for the City of Whitefish. This position may be combined with an Assistant Chief position.

**Captain:** One of three on-duty shift managers that run the day to day operations of the fire department during their shift. Captains are members of IAFF Local 3995.

**Lieutenant:** A layer of supervision that would assist the Captains, at this time the Whitefish Fire Department does not fill this position. Lieutenants would be members of IAFF Local 3995.

**Career Firefighters:** Are Commissioned Firefighters that are full time employees working for the City of Whitefish and members of IAFF Local 3995.

**Part-Time Firefighters:** Are Commissioned Firefighters that are unscheduled part-time employees of the City of Whitefish that respond to emergency incidents and may also fill a career slot per the City’s agreement with IAFF 3995. Part-time Firefighters are not represented by the union, IAFF 3995.

**Operational Reserve Firefighters:** Are volunteer Firefighters who fill one or more of the specific volunteer job positions in support of the fire department’s emergency response.

**Non-Operational Reserves:** Are volunteers who donate their time to assist the fire department in their area of expertise that does not include emergency response, for example; clerical, historian, chaplain, or other duties as agreed to by the Fire Chief.
INITIAL APPLICATION PAPERWORK CHECK-LIST:

___ - Completed application
___ - List of References we can contact
___ - Completed Physician Approval Form
___ - Copy of High School Diploma or GED
___ - Copy of Montana Driver’s License
___ - Copy of Driver’s History Report
___ - Copy of any Fire, EMS, Wildland or Rescue certifications
___ - Completed CPAT (Whitefish’s Candidate Physical Agility Test)
___ - Completed I-9
___ - Successful background check
___ - Completed Emergency Contact Sheet
___ - Signed Acknowledgement City’s Personnel Policy

INITIAL ISSUED PAPERWORK, PPE, UNIFORMS, ETC.

___ - Copy of the City of Whitefish Rules and Regulations;
___ - Copy of the Whitefish Fire Department’s SAPs and SOGs;
___ - Probationary Red Rookie tee shirt;
___ - Blue BDU pants provided by candidate;
___ - Black boots or shoes provided by candidate;
___ - PPE based on job position working towards, provided by the fire dept.;
___ - Gear locker space at station 21

INITIAL WHITEFISH FIRE DEPARTMENT ORIENTATION TRAINING

___ - Intro to the City of Whitefish Fire Department
___ - City Policy, FD’s SAPs and SOGs
___ - Chain of Command
___ - HIPAA
___ - Infection Control
___ - Paper Work (attendance, training, roster, 1st report of injury, etc.)
___ - HAZCOM / MSDS
___ - Lockout / Tagout
___ - CIS
___ - Respirator Training (N95 mask)

INITIAL WFD TRAINING, REQUIRED OF ALL OPERATIONAL POSITIONS

___ - American Heart Association’s CPR for the Professional Rescuer
___ - FEMA’s Incident Command IS-700, IS-100, and IS-200 (available online)
___ - Hazmat Awareness per NFPA 472

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INITIAL TRAINING FOR EACH VOLUNTEER OPERATIONAL POSITION
Operational reserves are volunteers who fill one or more of our Whitefish Fire Department job positions. A volunteer shall be classified as probationary for at least 6-months, and until they complete at least one of the operational reserve positions. Any probationary member failing to complete the requirements for at least one position within the year will automatically be dropped from the operational reserve rolls.

Initial Training for Operational Reserve **Ambulance Driver**
___ - Must have completed all the Initial FD Orientation Training (see above).
___ - Must hold a valid Montana EMR, EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic license.
___ - Successfully completed the Whitefish FD’s Emergency Vehicle Driver Course.
___ - Successfully complete the TIMs Traffic Management Course.
___ - Successfully complete the WFD’s Ambulance Driver Task Book with approval signatures from each shift Captain.

Initial Training for Operational Reserve **EMS Provider**
___ - Must have completed all the Initial FD Orientation Training (see above).
___ - Must hold a valid Montana EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic license.
___ - Successfully complete the WFD’s EMS-Provider Task Book with approval signatures from each shift Captain.
___ - Must obtain permission to operate from the Flathead County EMS Director

Initial Training for Operational Reserve **Exterior Firefighter** (non-SCBA use)
___ - Must have completed all the Initial FD Orientation Training (see above).
___ - Must complete the following portions of NFPA Firefighter 1
  - Fire Service History
  - NFPA 1500 Safety
  - Accountability
  - PPE
  - Communications
  - Fire Behavior
  - Building Construction
  - Scene lighting
  - Fire extinguishers
  - Rope webbing knots
  - Forcible entry
  - Ground ladders
  - Water Supply
  - Fire Hose
  - Public Education
  - Fire Inspection / preplanning
___ - May complete NWCG Wildland Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2)
Initial Training for Operational Reserve **Interior Firefighter**
___ - Must have completed all the Initial FD Orientation Training (see above).
___ - Must successfully complete NFPA’s Hazardous Materials Operations Level
___ - Must successfully complete NFPA’s Firefighter I and II
___ - Must successfully complete NWCG’s Wildland Firefighter Type 2 (FFT2)

Initial Training for Operational Reserve **Driver / Operator**
___ - Must have completed all the Initial FD Orientation Training (see above).
___ - Must successfully complete NFPA’s Hazardous Materials Awareness Level.
___ - Successfully completed the Whitefish FD’s Emergency Vehicle Driver Course.
___ - Successfully complete the TIMs Traffic Incident Management course.
___ - Successfully complete each of the WFD’s Driver Task Book with approval from each shift Captain for each vehicle category:
   - Brush trucks (type 6 engines)
   - Tenders
   - Rescue
   - Fire Engines (type 1 engines)
___ - May complete WFD’s Driver Task Books with Captains’ approval for:
   - UTV
   - Hover Craft
   - Fire Boat

Initial Training for an “Extra Board” position which would allow the volunteer to fill a vacancy in the on-duty staffing level when none of the career staff is available must have completed the following:
___ - Operational Reserve EMS-Provider
___ - Operational Reserve Interior Firefighter
___ - Operational Reserve Driver / Operator

**INCUMBENT MEMBERS’ REQUIREMENTS**
In order to truly meet the purpose of the WFD Volunteer Program our volunteers’ must respond to emergency calls and assist the career staff in meeting the operational duties of the Whitefish Fire Department. Emergency response is a PARTICIPATION team activity.

*As Chief Alan Brunacini says, “It’s all about who shows up and goes to work”.*

To be quite honest for those volunteers interested in the position of Ambulance Driver and/or EMS-Provider that means:

1. Spending time at the station where the Captain can assign you a position on our 1st out ambulance.
2. Being on-call where the Captain could contact you for our scheduled IFT (Inter-facility transfers).
3. Respond to the station whenever the 1st ambulance rolls to cover the 2nd out ambulance.

For those volunteers interested in assisting during fire and rescue situations you either need to be here to respond with the crew or be cleared to drive and operate our vehicles so when you respond you can bring equipment to the scene.

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INCUMBENT TRAINING REQUIREMENTS **Under development**

Once a volunteer is cleared to operate in one or more of the job positions they must maintain the position by meeting the MINIMUM requirements for each position listed below. Besides the training requirements placed upon us by governing agencies like OSHA, Montana’s Board of Medical Examiners, FEMA, NWCG, ISO, and the NFPA, to name a few, firefighting is a team sport and we must practice together as a team.

The world we operate in is always changing so we must maintain the knowledge and skills obtained during our initial training and develop new knowledge and skills to keep pace with our changing world. More important than an individual’s knowledge and skills is the synergy of our team, that can only be developed by training and working together. In the nut shell that means, “SHOW UP”.

Training for Operational Reserve **Ambulance Driver**

__ - Must maintain a valid Montana EMR, EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic license.
__ - Must attend a yearly driver safety training.

Training for Operational Reserve **EMS Provider**

__ - Must maintain a valid Montana EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic license.
__ - Must attend XX-hours of EMS training per year

Training for Operational Reserve **Exterior Firefighter** (non-SCBA use)

__ - Must attend XX-hours of Firefighter Training per year
__ - Must attend XX-hours of Hazmat Training per year
__ - Must attend XX-hours of Wildland Training per year

Training for Operational Reserve **Interior Firefighter**

__ - Must attend XX-hours of Firefighter Training per year
__ - Must attend XX-hours of smoke/live-fire training per year
__ - Must attend XX-hours of Hazmat Training per year
__ - Must attend XX-hours of Wildland Training per year

Training for Operational Reserve **Driver / Operator**

__ - Must attend a yearly driver safety training
__ - Must attend XX-hours of fire training per year

Training for an Extra Board position are required to maintain all of the following:

__ - Operational Reserve EMS-Provider
__ - Operational Reserve Interior Firefighter
__ - Operational Reserve Driver / Operator
OPERATIONAL RESERVE

Operational Reserves are volunteers who obtain training and certifications in order to respond to emergency calls and assist our career Firefighters during an emergency. Due to the pure number of different jobs performed by the all encompassing job of a FIREFIGHTER we have broken down the job into subsets to allow our volunteers to assist up to the level they can commit to. Please check as many boxes as you’d like to apply for:

- Ambulance Driver
- EMS Provider
- Exterior Firefighter
- Interior Firefighter
- Driver / Operator
- Extra Board (Full Firefighter/EMS-Provider)

NON-OPERATIONAL RESERVE

Non-Operational Reserves are volunteers with specific skills and talents who wish to make a commitment to share these talents to assist the Fire Department without responding to emergency scenes.

Please complete this application completely and legibly (PLEASE PRINT)

Name: ___________________________________________  ,  ___________________________________________  ,  ___________________________________________  (LAST)  (FIRST)  (M/I)

Physical Address: ___________________________________________

(If less than 5-years at this location please use a separate sheet to list all address for the past 5-years.)

E-MAIL Address: ___________________________________________

(If you don’t have an email address you need to get one. This is our primary form of communication.)
Current employer or school: ____________________________________________

Job position or area of study: _________________________________________

List three references (not family) we can call:

__________________________________________  -  __________  -  ______
__________________________________________  -  __________  -  ______
__________________________________________  -  __________  -  ______

Please list any service clubs, team sports, and/or civic activities (non required):

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

Please list any emergency services experiences (non required):

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________

_________________________________________________________________
The following documents are required as part of this application:

- Copy of your High School Diploma or GED
- Copy of your Montana Driver's License (Non-MT OK for application process)
- Driver's History report (you obtain from the Motor Vehicles Department)
- Your signed Physician's Approval form, required for any Operational positions
- Copy of any applicable certifications, licenses, and / or other diplomas.

The City of Whitefish Fire Department is a Combination Fire Department meaning we have Firefighters who are paid to do the job working along side those who volunteer to do the job. Our career staff are all members of IAFF Local 3995 and they are all Firefighter/EMS-Providers, most are Paramedics but all are at least Emergency Medical Technicians. Those who volunteer with the Whitefish Fire Department will fall into one of two basic job categories; Operational Reserves who when trained will respond to emergency calls and Non-Operational Reserves who will assist in non-response duties.

As a volunteer for the Whitefish Fire Department we want to make sure you know what is expected of you. The City of Whitefish Personnel Policy while written for the City's paid employees does contain expectations for volunteers too. Please read the following sections and initial and date that you understand and intend to comply with these policies.

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Whitefish Fire Department - Volunteer Application Packet sheet 3 of 5
Other Documents to be completed as part of the application process that do not need to accompany this application are:

- [ ] Candidate's Physician's Approval Form
- [ ] CPAT, Whitefish Fire Department's Candidate Physical Agility Test
- [ ] Emergency Contact Information
- [ ] IRS W-9

By signing below I authorize the City of Whitefish Fire Department to procure an investigative consumer report and understand that it may contain information about my employment, educational background, criminal history, credit, workers comp claims, mode of living, character, and personal reputation. In connection with this request, I authorize all former employers, credit agencies, educational institutions, law enforcement / criminal justice agencies, city, state, county, and federal courts, state motor vehicle bureaus and persons to release information they may have about me to the City of Whitefish Fire Department or their agent.

Applicant's Signature: ________________________________

Print Name: ________________________________

Date: ________________ Other names Used: ________________________________

SS #: ________________________________ DOB: ________________________________

Driver's License #: ________________________________ State: ________________

Current Address: __________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

Previous Address: __________________________________

____________________________________________________________________
The Whitefish Fire Department Volunteer Application Process includes the following steps:

1. This application is completed and submitted.
2. The applicant is scheduled for an interview.
3. The applicant turns in ALL required paperwork.
4. The applicant completes the CPAT (Candidate Physical Agility Test).
5. The applicant rides with each shift; A, B, and C.
6. The applicant is notified of our decision.
Academy Applicant Physician’s Approval

_________________________________ has applied to the Whitefish Fire Department for a spot in the upcoming Fire Academy leading to a volunteer position as a firefighter.

Part of the application process is a physical agility test (CPAT) and successful applicants will be entered into a yearlong training program including the Fire Academy, Emergency Vehicle Operations, and emergency call response with our career firefighters hopefully leading to acceptance as a Firefighter for the Whitefish Fire Department.

Firefighters respond to a variety of different emergency situations and they never know quite what duties they’ll need to perform until they arrive on scene. These emergency scenes can be dangerous and uncontrolled upon arrival. Each and every Firefighter must be prepared to perform any number of physical activities including: lift and carry heavy objects, climb ladders, crawl, use power tools, walk over rough and steep terrain, stand for long periods of time, and use a respirator, e.g., N95-mask or an SCBA, in a deadly environment, e.g., a burning building or other hazardous atmosphere. Firefighters must be able to perform these duties for long periods of time in all weather extremes seem here in Montana in addition to the heat of a burning building. As a combination fire department (career and volunteer firefighters) we never know just how many firefighters will respond to a given incident. It is these uncertainties that have driven us to prepare all our firefighters to obtain base level training and certifications in each of our major response disciplines, e.g., structural firefighting, emergency medical response, hazardous materials response, wildland firefighting, incident command, and various rescue operations. Firefighters who are unable to perform their duties not only put themselves at risk but also fellow firefighters and the public.
Our firefighters are our greatest resource and their health and safety is a top priority. Our initial medical screening for all applicants includes an approval by you (the candidate’s personal physician) for participation in the physical agility test and if accepted the Whitefish Fire Academy.

Unfortunately not everybody who wants to be a firefighter can meet the medical and physical requirements of the job. Candidates entering the Whitefish Fire Academy seeking membership as a firefighter must be able to perform all the duties of a firefighter without restrictions. Individuals with handicaps or disabilities will not be discriminated against, where the individual can, with or without reasonable accommodations, perform the essential functions of a firefighter without creating an undue hardship on the Whitefish Fire Department. Some medical conditions pose an unacceptable risk to the individual, fellow firefighters, and the public. Here are just a few examples of specific medical conditions that would preclude entry into the firefighting training program:

ASTHMA. Asthma and asthma-like conditions characterized by variable and often rapidly fluctuating airway obstruction triggered by conditions encountered by firefighters such as irritants, hot/cold air inhalation, and heavy exertion would preclude entry into the Whitefish Fire Academy. However, asthmatics with a stable history, as determined by you their personal physician, may not have attacks that are triggered by firefighting and would be eligible to continue the application process.

HEART HEALTH. Individuals with coronary artery disease, including a history of myocardial infarctions, angina pectoris, coronary artery bypass surgery, coronary angioplasty, and similar procedures including a cardiac pacemaker shall be precluded from entry into the Whitefish Fire Academy.

DIABETES. Insulin-dependent diabetics whose disease course is characterized by an absolute need for insulin with a tendency towards ketoacidosis or marked hyperglycemia and insulin-induced hypoglycemia is a major risk factor as these individuals could become hypoglycemic during firefighting activities. Due to the risk of placing themselves, fellow firefighters, or the public in danger these candidates shall be precluded from entry into the Whitefish Fire Academy.
HEARING. Hearing protocols include the ability to; understand spoken commands, both over the radio and while wearing an SCBA, hear alarms including buildings evacuation, low air alarm on the SCBA, and PASS alarms. In addition hearing and locating the source of calls for assistance from victims or fellow firefighters.

VISION. Vision protocols include the ability to read maps, hazmat placards, street signs, and MSDS sheets.

The above are just a few examples to help guide you, the applicant’s physician, to understand some of the job functions required of firefighters. Should you have any questions or concerns please contact Chief Joe Page by calling (406) 863-2491.

**Physician’s Approval:**

After reviewing the above information ________________________________ has medical approval to participate in the Whitefish Fire Department’s Physical Agility Test and Initial firefighting training with NO restrictions.

Physician’s Signature: ________________________________ Date: ______________

Physician’s Name (print): ________________________________ Phone: ______________

Address: __________________________________________________________________________

City: ________________________________ State: ________ Zip Code: ________________
CPAT

The Whitefish Fire Department uses a Candidate Physical Agility Test (CPAT) as one part of our initial screening process for all Whitefish Fire Academy applicants. The course is comprised of a series of firefighter skills or simulated skills that all firefighters are expected to be able to safely perform. The course is set up at our station 21 at 275 Flathead Avenue in Whitefish, Montana.

Prior to running the course, actually no running is allowed, applicants must provide a signed physician’s approval form to participate, walk the course with an instructor, and be fitted with some firefighter equipment.

The 8-stage course is run wearing whatever workout cloths the applicant wishes plus a firefighter’s turnout coat, helmet, gloves, and an SCBA backpack. The candidate will not be required to breathe SCBA air. There is no running during the course. Successful completion requires the applicant to properly complete each of the 8-stages at a steady pace without stopping. If an applicant fails any station or stops the entire course must be rerun.

1. Ladder Climb
2. Stair Climb
3. Rope Hoist and Lower
4. Crawl
5. Hose Drag
6. Fan Carry
7. Simulated Ceiling Pull
8. Dummy Drag
**Ladder Climb {1}:**
The ladder climb stage starts when the applicant starts up the ladder. Climbing ladders is a firefighter task used to gain access to upper levels for such tasks as: fire attack, search, rescue, and ventilation. One of Whitefish’s ladders will be setup against the wall in the Chief’s bay and tied off.

At this stage the applicant shall climb the ladder, maintaining 3-points of contact with the ladder at all times, to the top and touch the top rung then proceed back down. The applicant must not skip any rungs or slide down the rails. Once back down the applicant proceeds to the next stage.

**Stair Climb {2}:**
The applicant shall pick-up a “high-rise pack (just like ones carried on Whitefish’s type-1 engines) made up of 100-foot of 1-3/4-hose and a nozzle. The applicant must carry the high-rise pack down one level then back up to the top level then back to the main level while stepping on each stair going up and coming down. Once back to the main level the high-rise pack can be dropped and the applicant proceeds to the next stage.

**Rope Hoist and Lower {3}:**
There will be a 50-foot roll of 2-1/2 hose tied to a rope that will go up through a pulley. This station simulates the applicant’s ability to firmly grasp a rope for lifting and lowering objects plus simulates the ability to raise and lower the extension section of a ladder. Whitefish carries both 24-foot and 35-foot extension ladders and at times hoist tools to upper levels or the roof.

At this stage the applicant shall raise the hose roll until it hits the pulley at the top then slowly lower the hose roll using the hand over hand technique. The rope must not slide through the applicant’s hands. Once the hose roll is back on the ground the applicant proceed to the next stage.
Crawl {4}:
Firefighters working in smoky and hot conditions within a burning structure often have to stay low to improve visibility and avoid high heat conditions. The ability to crawl while advancing hose lines or performing search operations is a vital part of firefighting.

At this stage the applicant shall crawl from the hoist and lower station over to the hose drag station.

Hose Drag {5}:
Most structural firefighting is done using either a 1-3/4 inch or a 2-1/2 inch hose line. Advancing a charged 1-3/4 inch hose line is often a single firefighter operation. For this station a 1-3/4 inch hose line will be charged to 140-psi at the pump panel, laid out in an accordion fashion with the nozzle placed behind the starting line.

At this stage the applicant shall pickup the nozzle and drag the charged hose line 75-feet and place the nozzle on the ground beyond the finish line. Once the nozzle is placed on the ground the applicant proceeds to the next stage.

Fan Carry {6}:
The electric fan is just one of many pieces of equipment that a single firefighter is expected to carry on the fire ground. Our pickup truck (202) is the primary vehicle used to haul equipment back from an incident. While the height of the pickup’s tail gate is not the highest point equipment is stored on Whitefish apparatus this does represent the height a single firefighter is expected to be able to load equipment.

The fan will be placed at the finish line of the hose drag and the pickup truck 75-feet away near the start of the hose drag. The candidate shall carry the fan 75-feet and place it on the tailgate of the pickup and proceed to the next stage.
Simulated Ceiling Pull {7}:
During fire attack, overhaul operations, and some rescue situations firefighters are expected to work with tools held over their head, typically pulling sheetrock ceilings. For this stage we use our heavy TNT tool to simulate the effort needed to pull sheetrock. This simulation doesn’t truly simulate the required strength needed to pull ceilings nor does it work the entire muscle groups used.

At this stage the applicant shall pick up the TNT tool from the tailgate of the pickup, hold the tool vertically with the handle up then raise and lower the head of the tool from waist to face then back to waist 25-times. After 25 repetitions the candidate shall place the tool back on the pick-up and proceed to the last station.

Dummy Drag {8}:
Dragging victims or downed firefighters to safety is another task a single firefighter is expected to perform. For this stage we use a commercially made rescue dummy weighing about 185-pounds. To assist the candidate we have placed webbing around the dummy to provide a good spot to grab. Applicants are encouraged to review and adjust the webbing to their liking prior to starting the course. The dummy is not to be completely picked up, during the drag the dummy must stay in contact with the ground.

At this final stage the applicant shall drag the dummy 50-feet. Once the dummy is fully moved beyond the finish line the course is completed.

Do you have the desire, **ABILITY**, and the time to volunteer as a firefighter?
Not everyone who wants to be a firefighter can be a firefighter. Firefighters are called to any number of different emergency situations and expected to perform any number of tasks safely and effectively often with minimal staffing. This CPAT represent just a few of the tasks that are expected of a firefighter.