Paid-on-Call Emergency Responder Hiring Process

Thank you for your interest in joining the Ketchum Fire Department. We are an organization that prides itself in helping people, with professionalism and compassion. Becoming an active firefighter/EMT is a lot of work, but, as our members can attest, it is one of the most exciting and rewarding jobs there is.

The Paid-on-Call Emergency Responder position entails responding to emergency incidents, assisting with public events and participating in initial and on-going training. The Ketchum Fire Department is responsible for mitigating and working to prevent fire and EMS emergencies. Our scope of responsibilities includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Structural firefighting
- EMS response
- Backcountry rescues, including technical rope and avalanche rescues
- Auto extrication
- Wildland firefighting
- Swift water and ice rescues
- Hazardous materials incidents
- Animal rescue
- Public Education
- Fire Prevention
- Service calls involving hazards to people, property or the environment

There are eligibility requirements and a selection process for individuals who wish to become responders for the City of Ketchum. The Ketchum Fire Department is looking for people who, through their personal attributes, available time commitment, and ability to learn, will help us meet our vision of providing effective response and care to our community. No experience is necessary – we provide the pertinent training. The Ketchum Fire Department takes pride in its membership and the trust we have earned from the public. We look forward to expanding our team to include new members who will share in our mission of serving our community.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Must be at least 18 years of age
- Hold a current Idaho Driver’s License
- Complete a background check, without a disqualifying criminal history
- Live within the City of Ketchum or the Ketchum EMS district (from mid-valley to the northern Blaine County line)
- Pass the department Physical Fitness Test
- For EMT’s – Possess or obtain an Idaho State EMT certification
THE APPLICATION PROCESS
The Ketchum Fire Department accepts applications for both EMT's and prospective firefighters throughout the year. We typically hold a hiring process for firefighters, which includes a physical agility test and an interview once a year in the fall to coincide with the Blaine County Fire Academy. EMT Division applicants are welcome throughout the year and maybe considered at any time depending on the needs of the department. If you are interested in joining our department, we encourage you to submit your completed application at your earliest convenience. We will contact you as soon as we have more information.

Completed applications should be submitted to the Fire Clerk or an on-duty firefighter at the Ketchum Fire Station, located at 107 Saddle Rd in Ketchum. If you are interested in learning more about becoming a responder or have questions about the application process, contact any of our members at the above phone number.

IF YOU ARE SELECTED:
Those selected as Idaho State-certified EMT's will be brought on as Probationary EMT's and will be allowed to start responding with us after going through an orientation and skills verification process. If selected as a firefighter, you will be sponsored to take the Fire Academy as a cadet. Cadets need to successfully complete the Fire Academy and test for IFSAC Firefighter I certification to become active Probationary Firefighters. As part of our Recruit Program, applicants who are hired will be permitted to participate in some training and go on calls as a ride-along before and during their time in the academy.

The Fire Academy
The Fire Academy is roughly 118 hours in length and runs from mid-January through May. Although the dates for classes have not yet been set, to give an idea of a potential schedule, last year's classes were Monday and Wednesday evenings from 6-8 p.m., and Saturdays were either all day or from 8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Classes are usually held at various stations within the county. Attendance of all classes is extremely important. A successful candidate will need to budget additional time for homework and hands-on practice outside of the scheduled classroom and field scenarios. Students will be expected to come to every class on time and prepared.

Serving the community as a Paid-on-Call Emergency Responder for the Ketchum Fire Department is a fulfilling and exciting challenge. Being part of a highly motivated response team that handles everything from structure fires and medical emergencies to back country rescues, wildland fires and motor vehicle collisions, is an experience like no other. Thank you again for your interest in joining our team of dedicated firefighters. We wish you luck with the hiring process and we look forward to meeting you!