

Physical Ability Test

The following is a description of the physical ability test for New Candidate Firefighters, which simulates the job of a Firefighter. All firefighters must pass all components of the test within the allotted time. To pass the test, firefighters shall perform all eleven tasks consecutively, without interruption, in proper sequence within ten (10) minutes. Throughout the test, firefighters are required to wear air tank, gloves, and turnout coat.

TASK 1: HOSE DRAG (50 Foot length, 3 inch, 57 pounds)

You will stand at the start line about arm's length distance from the section of hose. You may position yourself so that the hose is next to either your left or right foot, depending on which shoulder you prefer to use to drag the hose. When the examiner tells you to go, reach down, pick up the fold of the hose, place your preferred arm through the fold of the hose and drag the hose the 75-foot line. When you have crossed the stop line, you will drop the hose and immediately proceed to **TASK 2, the HOSE CARRY.**

TASK 2: HOSE CARRY UP STAIRS (2-1/2 inch folded hose, 36 pounds)

Go to the hose section and slide the 2-1/2 inch diameter folded hose onto your preferred shoulder. Carry the folded hose approximately 90 feet along the marked route to the base of the stairs. Carry the hose up the stairs (feet must touch each step with one hand on the railing) to a platform at the top. Drop the folded length of hose on the floor where indicated and immediately proceed to **TASK 3, the HOSE PULL.**

TASK 3: HOSE PULL (50 foot length, 2-1/2 inch hose, 36 pounds)

Standing in front of a window, grasp the rope, which is attached to a length of hose on the ground floor below. Using the rope, pull the hose until it reaches the bar at the window. When the hose coupling (the metal connection) reaches the window, a monitor will indicate that you have completed **TASK 3.** Upon completion of task 3, you will immediately begin **TASK 4.**

TASK 4: MANDATORY 120 YARD WALK

Immediately start the 120 yard walk by descending the stairs (feet must touch each step with one hand on the railing) and following the marked route to the 4-1/2 foot wall, **TASK 5.** At the end of the 120 yard walk start **TASK 5.**

TASK 5: SCALING 4-1/2 FOOT WALL

When the 120 yard walk is completed, you will approach and scale the 4-1/2 foot wall. You may approach the wall from either side. You may not use any part of the bracing to assist you in completing this task. Immediately proceed to **TASK 6, the Ladder Raise.**

TASK 6: LADDER RAISE (20 feet, 60 pounds)

Pick up the top of the aluminum ladder from the ground and raise it (using hand over hand technique with hands grasping each rung) from its horizontal position to a vertical position (setting base out slightly to prevent from falling). Leave the ladder in this position and proceed immediately to **TASK 7, the LADDER CLIMB AND DESCENT.**

TASK 7: LADDER CLIMB AND DESCENT (approximately 10 feet)

Climb a permanently secured ladder (hands to grasp each rung and feet to step on each rung) onto the platform, dismount the ladder, walk around the tip of the ladder, remount and descend the ladder (hands to grasp each rung and feet to step on each rung) to the ground. Immediately proceed to **TASK 8, FORCIBLE ENTRY SIMULATION.**

TASK 8: FORCIBLE ENTRY SIMULATION-HIT TIRE WITH MAUL (8 pound maul, 77 pound weighted tire, 12-1/2 foot long metal surface table)

Pick up the maul at the end of the table and hit the tire until you have moved the tire to the opposite end of the table. A firm grip and control of the maul is necessary both for safety and successful completion of the task. Swing the maul in a continuous motion, striking but not pushing the tire. The maul should not make contact with the table when hitting the tire. If contact is made with the table, the tire will be returned to its starting position and candidate will be required to complete this task within the same time limits. If candidate knocks tire off the side of the table, the tire will be returned to its starting position and candidate will be required to complete this task within the same time limits. Candidate may walk from side to side around the table to complete this task. After hitting the tire to the end of the table, place the maul on the table and immediately proceed to **TASK 9, the TUNNEL CRAWL.**

TASK 9: TUNNEL CRAWL (25 feet long, 2-1/2 feet high, 3 feet wide)

Drop down to enter a U shaped tunnel at whichever opening you choose to enter. You must crawl through tunnel and exit from the opposite opening from which you entered. Upon completion of the tunnel crawl, immediately proceed to **TASK 10, the WEIGHT CARRY.**

TASK 10: CLIMBING STAIRS WITH 15 LB. WEIGHT (15 pounds)

Pick up a 15-pound weight from the floor and climb the stairs (feet must touch each step with one hand on the railing) to the second floor level. At the top of the stairs, turn and descend the stairs (feet must touch each step with one hand on the railing) to the ground floor and place the weight in the marked space, immediately proceed to **TASK 11, the DUMMY DRAG.**

TASK 11: DUMMY DRAG (5 foot, 5 inch, 145 pound dummy, 45 foot drag)
Partially lift and grasp the dummy from the ground. Drag the dummy 45 feet to the finish line. After dragging the entire dummy across the finish line, stop. The physical test is over. The Examiner will record your time.

ITEMS NEEDED TO ADMINISTER THE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST COURSE

Check Off	Task	Item needed
	Hose Drag	50' Section of 3" Fire Hose
	Hose Drag	2 Cones to mark Beginning & End of Task
	Hose Carry	50' Section of 2 1/2" Fire Hose
	Hose Carry	Set of Stairs
	Hose Raise	50' Section of 2 1/2" Fire Hose
	Hose Raise	Rope
	Walk	4 Cones to mark course
	Wall Climb	4 1/2' Wall
	Ladder Raise	16'-20' Straight Ladder
	Ladder Climb	24' Extension Ladder
	Ladder Climb	Rope to secure ladder to platform
	Forcible Entry	12' Steel Table
	Forcible Entry	17" Tire mounted on rim & inflated to appropriate pressure
	Forcible Entry	8 lb. Maul
	Tunnel	26' U-Shaped Tunnel
	Tool Carry	Bucket
	Tool Carry	15 lb. weight
	Dummy Drag	165 lb. Rescue Randy
	Dummy Drag	2 Cones to mark Beginning & End of Task
	Aerial Ladder Climb	Aerial Ladder Truck set at Full Extension at a 75 Degree Angle
	Candidates	Releases
	Candidates	Score Sheet
	Candidates	Acknowledgement Sheet
	Candidates	2 SCBA's
	Candidates	Turnout Jackets
	Candidates	Various size of Turnout Gloves
	Candidates	Pens for Signing Forms
	Administrator	Stop Watches
	Administrator	Video Camera, Tripod, & Video Tapes
	Administrator	Refreshments for Rehab

Gatlinburg's Legal Release signed by all candidates before the process. Wording is by the Gatlinburg City Attorney.

Gatlinburg Release

RELEASE executed on **DATE**, by **NAME** of **ADDRESS**, herein referred to as Releasor, to the City of Gatlinburg, herein referred to as Releasee.

I, Releasor, being of lawful age, in consideration of being permitted to participate in the job selection process of the City of Gatlinburg, do for myself, my heirs, executors, administrators, and assigns, hereby release and forever discharge the City of Gatlinburg, of and from any and every claim, demand, action or right of action, of whatever kind or nature, either in law or in equity arising from or by reason of any bodily injury or personal injuries known or unknown, death or property damage resulting or to result from any activity which may occur as a result of participation in the physical ability test given by the City of Gatlinburg or any activities in connection with this test, whether by negligence or not.

I further release all Gatlinburg officials and professional personnel from any claim whatsoever on account of first aid, treatment or service rendered me during my participation in this physical ability test.

This release contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto and the terms of this release are contractual and not a mere recital. The Releasor further states that he/she has carefully read the foregoing release and knows the contents thereof and signs this release as his own free act.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Releasor has executed this release at the City of Gatlinburg, the day and year first above written.

Signature

Witness

The Candidate's file contains the following information for consideration by the fire chief.....

**GATLINBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT
APPLICANT INFORMATION FILE**

Applicant's name: _____ DOB: _____

Position applied for: _____

Application _____ Driver's License _____

Overall Score _____ High School Diploma _____

Birth Certificate _____ College Diploma _____

Background Questionnaire _____ Military Discharge _____

Scenario Assessment _____ Certifications: _____

Fingerprint Cards _____ Medical Examination _____

Psychological Examination _____ Drug Screen _____

Background Investigations; total number of references received: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Interviewer's Comments; list interviewers

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Additional Materials (list copies included, additional references, etc.): _____

GATLINBURG FIRE DEPARTMENT HIRING PROCESS

1. Applicants will be given/mailed an application, job description, copy of physical ability test, & background questionnaire.
2. Postmark deadline for accepting applications will be **May 19, 2005**.
3. Applications will be reviewed to establish that applicant meets the minimum qualifications for the position. Applicants meeting the minimum qualifications will be required to take and pass a physical ability test to demonstrate their ability to perform the physical requirements of the position.
4. The physical ability test is scheduled for **9:00 AM on May 25, 2005**. The physical ability test is a pass or fail test.
5. After successfully passing physical ability test, applicants will be required to climb department's aerial ladder truck.
6. After successful completion of physical ability test and ladder climb, applicants will be invited to return on **May 26, 2005 at 9:00 AM** to take a written exam.
7. After successfully passing the written exam, applicants will be invited to return for an interview with shift supervisors & fire chief in the afternoon of **May 26, 2005**.
8. Chief compiles scores to create list of prospective employees.
9. Background checks will be conducted on prospective employees.
10. Chief makes recommendation of top candidates to city manager for approval. (*Note: This list will be good for one (1) year after date of written exam. The City of Gatlinburg reserves the right to re-test at anytime during the one (1) year period.*)
11. Offer is made to top candidate pending pre-employment post offer*, psychological test, physical examination, and drug testing.
12. Candidate completes post offer*, psychological test, physical examination, and drug testing.