

Volunteer Membership Programs

Please review the following information to determine eligibility, qualifications, training and expected participation for each of our volunteer programs.

The following volunteer memberships programs are currently available:

- Support Services
- Support Services Vehicle Operator.
- EMS Only
- Firefighter
- Firefighter/Apparatus Operator

The basic eligibility requirement for all Fire District 6 volunteers is a minimum age of 18 years and a high school diploma or GED. After initial screening, volunteer applicants must pass a general knowledge exam, medical exam, drug screen and criminal background check. Depending on the program selected, other eligibility criteria may apply. In addition, each membership program has different levels of qualification, training and participation. Use the following program descriptions and table to determine your ability to volunteer with our agency.

Volunteers participating in some activities (but not all) are given reimbursements and nominal stipends for their services. The nominal stipend rates vary for each membership program.

Take the time to read through the following program descriptions and table to determine the best program for you.

If you have any additional questions please contact:

Merrill Thompson
Volunteer Program Coordinator
360-576-1195
360-521-5202
merrill.thompson@ccfd6.org

SUPPORT SERVICES

Support Services personnel assist with non-combat support activities essential to the emergency services the district provides. Fire prevention, public education and general administration of daily emergency events fall under this category. These important services are provided in addition to the daily Fire & EMS operations. Support Services members represent the Fire District at the many of the community service and public education events occurring throughout the year. The taxpayers whose support we rely on rarely meet District personnel at emergency scenes. They more often meet our members at everyday non-emergent support service activities.

There are many ways Support Service members may contribute – this is just a few examples:

- Assist with public relations events including teaching fire prevention or public education classes
- Web page design and management and Newsletter Design & Management
- Food services at district functions
- Administrative and clerical support
- Grant writing/Fundraising efforts
- Inventory management
- Community support activities (food or toy drives, fundraising for needy citizens)
- Maintenance support (facilities, landscaping and vehicles)



The level of participation is determined by the services the volunteer provides and their time available. The nominal stipend rate for support service personnel is \$12.00 per event. These volunteers meet quarterly to discuss the program and are not required to live within the boundaries of the Fire District 6. Support Services volunteers are issued appropriate apparel and/or gear required for their position.

Support Services Vehicle Operators

The Support Services Vehicle Operator(s) (SSVO) is trained to drive the District's Rehab Bus and/or Air Unit to emergency incidents. The Rehab Bus is a retired C-Tran bus refurbished to provide medical support, rehydration, nourishment and a rest area for firefighters at emergency scenes. SSVO personnel will respond the Rehab Bus to the scene and "set it up" for rehab operations. The Air Unit is a vehicle used to replenish the firefighter's air bottles at structure



fires. SSVO personnel will respond the Air Unit to the scene and fill air bottles for firefighters. Both of these services are essential to supporting safe fire fighting practices and the SSVO will provide a valuable contribution to the community's firefighting effort. SSVO are equipped with an alpha pager to receive notification when a fire or other significant event has occurred.

Initial training requirements include the following:

- Passing a district provided First Aid/CPR Class
- Completing a Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention (EVIP) program (for those without a CDL)
- Completing a road course (driving a specified route displaying safe driving practices),
- Completing a rodeo (maneuvering the vehicle through cones displaying safe driving practices)
- Logging a minimum of one hour of drive time per apparatus
- Completing a vehicle task book for each apparatus.

Annually the road course, rodeo, skills review and one hour drive time must be completed. The SSVO must have a valid Washington State driver's license.

The level of participation is determined by the number of emergency events occurring and the applicant's availability for dispatch. Support service vehicle operators are reimbursed \$7.00 for responses and training drills. A nominal stipend of \$22.00 is given for other volunteer activities.



The SSVO will meet quarterly at the volunteer association meeting. These meetings are conducted the first Monday of every quarter at Station 61 at 2000 hours. Since these volunteers respond back for calls, they are required to live within the boundaries of Fire District 6. Support Service Vehicle Operators will be issued the appropriate apparel and/or gear required for their position.

EMS Only

EMS only volunteers are Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's) and provide Basic Life Support (BLS) services as First Responders. To participate in this program, a Washington State EMT certification is required. EMS only personnel will provide 24 hours a month of shift coverage with career firefighters at district fire stations or with other volunteer EMT's at our satellite Station 151.

Initial training requirements include:

- Attending a bloodborne pathogens class
- Attending a district provided EMT academy
- Completing an EMS task book with career firefighters (EMS Only volunteers will ride out with career paramedics and complete adequate patient assessments for certain types of calls)
- Attending a district EVIP program for the EMS response vehicle.



To maintain their EMT certification, all district EMT's must complete an online OTEP (Ongoing Training and Education Program) quarterly.

EMS only volunteers are required to meet a minimum of once a month to participate in ongoing training. Typically these training drills are conducted on Monday nights from 1900-2100 (**75% drill attendance is required** to maintain Fire District 6 EMT affiliation).

The **minimum** level of participation is **24 hours per month**. EMS Only volunteers are reimbursed \$7.00 for responses and training drills. They also receive a nominal stipend of \$22.00 for other volunteer activities. EMS only providers meet quarterly at the volunteer

association meeting. These meetings are conducted the first Monday of every quarter at Station 61 at 2000 hours. EMS only volunteers are not required to live within the boundaries on Fire District 6. EMS Volunteers will be issued the appropriate apparel and/or gear required for their position.

Firefighter

Fire District 6 is a combination fire department meaning both career and volunteer personnel work together to provide emergency services to the community. The firefighter program contributes to this effort by providing volunteers who can respond back to fire stations for calls and also work firefighter shifts.

Station “call back” is achieved by assigning volunteer firefighters to district stations and issuing alpha pagers to alert them when career engines are dispatched to an incident. Depending on the size and type of incident, the volunteers are asked to respond back to their assigned station for area coverage or dispatch to the scene. While standing by at the station with personnel for routine calls is desirable, responding for structure fires is essential. All structure fires require a certain number of apparatus and personnel on scene very quickly to safely mitigate the situation.



Volunteer firefighter shift coverage is required with career or volunteer personnel. The shift coverage requirement may be done at Fire District 6 stations or our satellite Station 151.

Initial training for this program is a **Recruit Training Academy** conducted annually (sometimes biannually) with candidates from Fire District 6, Clark Fire & Rescue and Vancouver Fire. The academy will last approximately ten weeks and meets 4 hours two nights a week and 8 hours every Saturday (**100% attendance is mandatory**). Fire District 6 also requires a minimum EMS (Emergency Medical Service) certification of EMT-basic within one year of joining the agency. This is an additional 8-10 weeks of training. Individuals not completing this requirement will be transferred to support services until the EMT certification is received. The district does not provide the EMT initial training. Various agencies in the area provide this medical training at a cost of \$350.00 to \$750.00. Volunteer firefighters meet

weekly on Monday nights to train from 1830 hours to 2130 hours. **75.00% drill attendance is required.**

The **minimum** level of participation is **24 hours per month**. Volunteer firefighters are reimbursed \$7.00 for responses and training drills. They also receive a nominal stipend of \$22.00 (Firefighter only) or \$32.00 (Firefighter/EMT) for some volunteer activities. Volunteer firefighters meet quarterly at the volunteer association meeting. These meetings are conducted the first Monday of every quarter at Station 61 at 2000 hours. Volunteer firefighters will be issued the appropriate apparel and/or gear required for their position.

Apparatus Operator

The Apparatus operator is trained to drive the fire engines to emergency scenes. This specialized training is accomplished over months and possibly years of supervision and testing by district personnel. This training includes but is not limited to the driver/operator task book, written exam and pump test. In addition every effort is made to have a volunteer officer evaluate candidates driving with lights and siren to three emergency scenes.



The **minimum** level of participation is **24 hours per month**. Apparatus Operators are reimbursed \$7.00 for responses and training drills. They also receive a nominal stipend of \$42.00 for some volunteer activities. Apparatus operators meet quarterly at the volunteer association meeting. These meetings are conducted the first Monday of every quarter at Station 61 at 2000 hours. Volunteer apparatus operators will be issued the appropriate apparel and/or gear required for their position.

The next page provides a table with all volunteer membership programs outlined.

Volunteer Service Personnel

	Support Services	Support Services Vehicle Operator	EMS Only	Firefighter	Apparatus Operator
Qualifications	Written Exam ≥ 75.00% Medical Exam Passed Drug Screen Negative Background Check Clean Valid Driver's License First Aid / CPR Class Passed	Written Exam ≥ 75.00% Medical Exam Passed Drug Screen Negative Background Check Clean First Aid / CPR Class Passed WA State Driver's License EVIP & Driver Training Complete Vehicle Task Book	Written Exam ≥ 75.00% Medical Exam Passed Drug Screen Negative Background Check Clean Valid Driver's License Bloodbourne Pathogens Class EVIP & Driver Training Complete EMS Task Book	Written Exam ≥ 75.00% Physical Ability Passed Medical Exam Passed Drug Screen Negative Background Check Clean Respirator Medical Passed WA State Driver's License Recruit Academy Passed EMT Training ≤ One Year Complete EMS Task Book	Firefighter EVIP & Driver Training AO Testing Complete
Training Requirements	Association Meeting	Road Course Annually Rodeo Annually Proficiency Check Annually One Hour Drivetime Annually Association Meeting	EMS Drill Monthly ≥ 75% Online OTEP Association Meeting	Monday Night Drill Weekly ≥ 75% Online OTEP Association Meeting	Monday Night Drill Weekly ≥ 75% Online OTEP Association Meeting
Ride-out Requirements	None	None	24 Hours Month	24 Hours Month	24 Hours Month
District Equipment	Support Services Shirt District ID Badge	Support Services Shirt Alpha Pager Safety Vest District ID Badge	District EMS Shirt Hepa Mask Fanny Pack District ID Badge	Firefighter Checklist	Firefighter Checklist
Reimbursement	Stipend \$12.00	Stipend \$22.00 Response \$7.00 Drill \$7.00	Stipend \$22.00 Response \$7.00 Drill \$7.00	Firefighter Stipend \$22.00 Firefighter/EMT Stipend \$32.00 Response \$7.00 Drill \$7.00	Stipend \$42.00 Response \$7.00 Drill \$7.00
Probationary Period	One Year	One Year	One Year	One Year	N/A
Insurance	BVFF	BVFF	BVFF	BVFF	BVFF
Residency Required?	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes