



Hall County Government FIRE SERVICES

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The department shall provide a recruit candidate job skills evaluation, in the form of a ten-station circuit course (appendix 6.03 A), for all potential recruit candidates. This circuit course has also been adopted as the health and wellness portion of the promotion process, and must be successfully passed **prior** to testing for promotion. All stations have been created to simulate tasks that may arise at any time, on any emergency scene. Passing shall be defined as completing all of the stations, without stopping physical progress towards completion of all stations.

Candidates that are not able to complete the course will not be eligible for appointment as a recruit firefighter candidate.

Vital signs shall be taken before the evaluation begins, to include:

- Heart Rate - To be measured prior to physical exertion. If the heart rate is above 110, a tympanic temperature should be taken. If the rate is less than 110, the chance of heat stress is negligible.
- Temperature - If the temperature exceeds 100.6 F, he/she should not be permitted to wear protective clothing. If it is below 100.6 F and the heart rate is still above 110, the candidate shall not be permitted to participate.
- Blood Pressure - Notations should be made of abnormal blood pressures. Associated signs and symptoms should be evaluated in the presence of abnormal blood pressures to determine the appropriate treatment (if any). A diastolic blood pressure of 110 mm/Hg shall be considered the upper limit to allow a candidate to participate.
- Respiratory Rate and Oxygen Saturation - A respiratory rate exceeding 30/min and/or a SpO² of 95% or less, the candidate shall not be permitted to participate.
- Any other diagnostic tools or measures felt necessary for the particular situation; i.e. Cardiac Monitor for someone with chest pain or Glucose test for someone with unexplained continued fatigue or weakness.

Skills evaluation guidelines

The candidate's vital signs shall be recorded prior to starting and upon completion of the evaluation. The guidelines outlined in SOP 1.11 Incident Rehabilitation shall be followed.

Candidates shall be required to complete the ten-station course wearing NFPA approved gear that shall include a helmet, turn-out coat (with liner), gloves, and SCBA (without face piece). SCBA shall be donned after completing Station #1.

Each station must be completed properly before continuing to the next station. If the skill is not performed properly, the candidate must repeat the skill.

Observers may not physically assist an employee with a skill.

Once a candidate starts, all stations must be completed without physically stopping positive effort toward completion of the overall evaluation. If a candidate has to be prompted for failure to continue positive effort towards completion of the objective, more than two (2) times, this shall be considered “no pass”.

Running is not permitted between stations or during a skill.

Skills evaluation station descriptions

Station 1

Hose Roll – A fifty foot section of 3 inch supply hose is rolled in a “storage roll” fashion, then unrolled in a like manner. Candidate must maintain contact with the hose at all times. Upon completion of this skill, the Candidate shall don the SCBA for the remainder of the evaluation.

Station 2

Ladder Climb – The candidate will climb a twenty-four foot extension ladder to the second story window and touch the windowsill with either hand. The candidate will descend to ground level placing both feet on the ground. Each rung must be contacted during ascent and descent. This station consists of (1) repetition.

Station 3

Forcible Entry – Given a sledgehammer and simulator, a candidate must provide enough force to drive the simulator approximately three feet. This is done by striking the simulator with the sledgehammer using an over-the-shoulder method.

Station 4

Ladder Lift – The candidate must stand in front of a roof ladder, remove the ladder from the brackets, and rest the ladder beam on the ground. One knee and the lower ladder beam must contact the ground. The ladder should be returned to the original position. This station consists of one (1) repetition.

Station 5

Hose Carry – The candidate, using proper lifting technique, will pick up and carry on his/her shoulder a fifty-foot “high rise” hose pack. The pack is carried for fifty feet in one direction, then return the hose pack to the starting point for a total distance of one hundred feet.

Station 6

Stair Climb – The candidate, using proper lifting technique, will pick up and carry on his/her shoulder a fifty-foot “high rise” hose pack. The hose pack shall be carried to the fifth floor landing of the fire escape on the training tower. The pack shall be left on the landing, and the candidate return to ground level. A foot must contact each step when ascending and descending the stairs.

Station 7

Ladder Raise – The candidate will kneel at the tip of the ladder, facing away from the building, raise the ladder, and rotate underneath the ladder. From this point he/she will raise the ladder (hand-under-hand) until it rests against the building. Then the ladder is lowered (hand-over-hand) to the starting position. This station consists of one (1) repetition.

Station 8

Hose Pull – Standing at the second story window, the candidate must hoist a fifty-foot section of hose to rest on the windowsill. The hose is then lowered to its starting position. The candidate will use a hand-over-hand technique and must not allow the rope to slide through the hands.

Station 9

Hose Drag – The candidate must kneel behind the start line, grasp the rope with hands, and drag the hose until it clears the finish line. The hose stack is made up of two (2) fifty foot sections of 1.75 inch hose. The candidate will use a hand-over-hand technique.

Station 10

Victim Drag – The candidate, standing at the head of a simulated fire victim (mannequin) and using a proper lifting technique, will drag the victim a distance of fifty feet. Using the webbing handle attached to the victim to drag is acceptable. Continual effort must be maintained until the station is complete.

There is a ‘Confined Space’ simulator portion that must be successfully completed. Failure to complete this simulator station is considered a “no pass” for the entire drill.

Hall County Fire Services is a combination department; which means you will fight fire (going into burning buildings, climbing ladders, being in confined spaces, working in environments where you cannot see, bailing out of 2 and 3 story windows) and you will perform emergency medical care (using needles, involving blood and other bodily fluids). You will be expected to be positive, proficient, and proactive in all aspects of the job.

Thank you for your interest in Hall County Fire Services.