

DeSoto Fire Rescue

Personal History Statement

Of

For the Position of:

Firefighter/ Paramedic

Our Values

Members of the DeSoto Fire Rescue occupy positions of high public trust. This trust mandates that our employees be able to uphold our adopted values of Quality Service, Ethics, Safety, Excellence, Commitment, Respect, Empowerment, Loyalty, Dependability, and Team Work. During a career with the DeSoto Fire Rescue our members will, from time to time, be placed in situations in which temptations to depart from these values may be presented. The information in this application provides the basis for intensive background investigation to insure that selected applicants are able to live up to the department's values.

Instructions To Applicant

Read each question carefully and answer based on your knowledge of the facts requested. Give your most honest answer. Unless otherwise indicated, each question or item requires a "yes" or "no" answer only. Do not be concerned about which answer you have to give in order to answer correctly; it is more important that your answer is the truth. A polygraph investigation will be conducted to verify that you have given, to the best of your ability, the most truthful answer possible. You may use the back of the preceding page to provide additional information.

Identification Section

The Identification section questions are asked to verify your identity to establish (1) year legal eligibility to work in this county and (2) your compliance with State Civil Service Rules. You may use the back of the preceding page to provide additional information as necessary.

Name: _____

First

Middle

Last

Address: _____

City

State

Zip Code

Telephones: Home () _____ Cell () _____ Work () _____

E-mail address: _____

Social Security Number: _____ Driver's License Number: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth: _____

City

State

Height _____ weight _____ Eyes _____ Hair _____

Current or most recent occupation: _____

List all other names/ nicknames: _____

Have you ever used any other name other than those listed above? (yes or no) _____

Have you ever used any name illegally? (yes or no) _____

List all of your addresses for the last ten (10) years. Begin with your current address and work back:

Dates	Street Address	City	State	Zip

Educational Section

The education background questions are asked to insure that you have met Civil Service qualifications for this position, as well as to gain insight into your ability to successfully complete intensive additional required training such as paramedic school. Answer the following questions by a “yes” or “no” response in the blank provided and by completing the requesting information. Use the back of the preceding page if additional space is required.

_____1. Have you successfully completed High School or a GED program?

School	
Address	
Dates Attended	
Phone Number	

_____2. Did you successfully complete EMT training?

School	
Address	
Dates Attended	
Phone Number	
Coordinator Name	

_____3. Did you successfully complete Fire Recruit training?

School	
Address	
Dates Attended	
Certification Level	
Expiration date	
Course Grade & State Test Grade	
Training Coordinator & Phone Number	

_____ 4. Have you ever been expelled, placed on probation, or suspended from any education or other training? _____

_____ 5. Do you understand that DeSoto Fire Fighters are required to have paramedic certification and the Medical Director's approval to practice as a Paramedic within DeSoto as a condition of employment? _____

_____ 6. Are you currently certified by TCFP, or alternatively, do you possess a current letter from the Commission stating that you are certifiable upon employment? _____

Date	School	Major	Hours Completed	Degree Y/N

List any technical skills or training you have which will be of benefit to the City of DeSoto Fire Rescue:

Employment History

These questions are asked to insure that you have a stable work record, acceptable disciplinary record, have not been dismissed from employment for cause, and have not been employed in an illegal occupation in accordance with local Civil Service Rules. Listed employers may be contacted by dept. investigators to verify the provided information. Your current employer will be contacted immediately prior to receiving any conditional offer of employment.

Begin with your present or most recent employer. You may exclude part-time employment during High School.

1. Employer: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Position: _____ State Date: _____ End Date: _____
Supervisor: _____
Reason for leaving: _____
May we contact this employer? _____

2. Employer: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Position: _____ State Date: _____ End Date: _____
Supervisor: _____
Reason for leaving: _____
May we contact this employer? _____

3. Employer: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Position: _____ State Date: _____ End Date: _____
Supervisor: _____
Reason for leaving: _____
May we contact this employer? _____

4. Employer: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Position: _____ State Date: _____ End Date: _____
Supervisor: _____
Reason for leaving: _____
May we contact this employer? _____

5. Employer: _____ Phone: _____
Address: _____
Position: _____ State Date: _____ End Date: _____
Supervisor: _____
Reason for leaving: _____

May we contact this employer? _____

Answer the following questions with a Yes or NO response in the blank provides. If Yes, please explain.

____ 1. Have you listed the name of ALL previous employers excluding part-time employment during High School?

Explain: _____

____ 2. Have you previously applied for similar work? If "yes" list the date, agency, and result of your application (including rejection) on the back of the previous page.

Explain: _____

____ 3. Have you ever been rejected by the Texas Commission on Fire Protection for certification as a Basic Fire Fighter?

Explain: _____

____ 4. Have you been rejected by the Texas Department of Health for certification as an EMT or Paramedic?

Explain: _____

____ 5. Have you ever resigned from a job to keep from being fired?

Explain: _____

____ 6. Would any former employer give you an unfavorable recommendation?

Explain: _____

____ 7. Were you ever reprimanded or suspended from work?

Explain: _____

____ 8. Were you ever questioned or investigated by an employer for misconduct that resulted in an oral or verbal reprimand, a suspension, or termination?

Explain: _____

____ 9. Have you ever been employed in an illegal occupation?

Explain: _____

____ 10. Have you ever filed a Worker's Compensation claim for an injury that you did not sustain while at work?

Explain: _____

____ 11. Have you ever used sick leave when you really were not sick?

Explain: _____

____ 12. Have you ever been involved in a dispute with a co-worker or fellow employee which required the intervention of a supervisor or manager?

Explain: _____

____ 13. Have you ever falsified time worked or payroll records?

Explain: _____

____ 14. Have you ever fraudulently received employment benefits?

Explain: _____

____ 15. Have you ever committed an undetected act which, if detected, would have caused you to lose your job?

Explain: _____

____ 16. Have you ever slept on the job when you were not authorized to do so?

Explain: _____

____ 17. Have you ever committed any act of sexual harassment while on the job?

Explain: _____

____ 18. Have you ever had any type of unauthorized, or illegal physical or sexual contact while working on a job?

Explain: _____

____ 19. Have you ever committed any act of harassment of a fellow employee while on the job?

Explain: _____

____ 20. Have you ever assisted another employee in taking money, food, goods, or materials from your employer without permission?

Explain: _____

____ 21. Have you ever assisted another person in taking any items sold by your employer, either by not paying for the items, or by paying an incorrect price?

Explain: _____

____ 22. Are you withholding any information relating to your employment history or qualifications to do this job?

Explain: _____

____ 23. Have you ever falsified an accident, injury, or damaged equipment report to a previous employer?

Explain: _____

Credit History

Credit history is defined as the manner in which you have managed your financial affairs. The state civil service act requires fire fighters under Civil Service to “pay their debts...” DeSoto Fire Fighters are subject to this requirement and, in addition, are involved in activities which could present the opportunity of an offered bribe or an opportunity for theft. The following questions asked to resolve any questions relating to the applicant’s susceptibility to such situations and to verify the “recency” of any such events.

Answer “Yes” or “No” in the blank, if “Yes,” Please explain:

1. ____ Have you had any problems with creditors with in the last four years?
Explain: _____
2. ____ Do you have bills that are currently past due more than 30days?
Explain: _____
3. ____ Do you have any outstanding judgments relating to credit?
Explain: _____
4. ____ Have you ever intentionally written a “Hot/ Bad Check”?
Explain: _____
5. ____ Have you defaulted on a promissory note within the last four years?
Explain: _____
6. ____ Have you been involved in a repossession within the last four years?
Explain: _____
7. ____ Have you been evicted for non-payment of rent or mortgage within the last four years?
Explain: _____
8. ____ Have you ever failed to pay any city, county, state, or federal taxes?
Explain: _____
9. ____ Are there any judgements or civil matters pending against you as a result of failing to pay your just debts?
Explain: _____
10. ____ Have you ever fraudulently used a credit card?
Explain: _____
11. ____ Have you ever failed to pay any utility bill including water, gas, electric, or cable TV?
Explain: _____

12. ____ Have you ever moved or concealed your location to avoid the payment of a just debt?
Explain: _____
13. ____ Have you ever falsified any documents that were used in a financial institution to secure loans or to lend your money or anything else of value?
Explain: _____
14. ____ Have you defaulted on any federal or state student loans?
Explain: _____
15. ____ Are you behind on any court ordered alimony or child support?
Explain: _____

Criminal History

DeSoto Fire Fighter serve in a position of public trust. To maintain this trust, candidates may be disqualified for the commission of certain felonies and/or misdemeanors as well as for “bad character.” The following questions are designed to assist in verifying your qualification for appointment.

Answer each question truthfully with “YES” or “NO” response regardless of whether you were caught, charged with a crime, or granted deferred adjudication. Any “YES” answers need to be explained.

1. ____ To your knowledge have you ever committed a felony or a misdemeanor other than minor traffic violations?
Explain: _____
2. ____ Do you have any charges pending now in a court of law?
Explain: _____
3. ____ Have you ever committed any type of sexual assault on another person?
Explain: _____
4. ____ Have you ever engaged in any sexual activity in violation of the law including engaging in any sexual activity with a person under the legal age of consent?
Explain: _____
5. ____ Have you ever exposed yourself in a public place?
Explain: _____
6. ____ Have you ever participated in any way or any act of prostitution?

Explain: _____

7. ____ Have you engaged in any acts of incest in violation of the law?

Explain: _____

8. ____ Have you ever engaged in acts of window peeping?

Explain: _____

9. ____ Have you caused the death of another person other than lawfully in the course of military service?

Explain: _____

10. ____ Have you ever planned or conspired to cause the death of another person?

Explain: _____

11. ____ Have you ever forced anyone to give you their money, property, or other valuables against their will?

Explain: _____

12. ____ Have you ever taken part in a robbery?

Explain: _____

13. ____ Have you ever taken part in a burglary of a motor vehicle, habitation, business building, or coin operated machine?

Explain: _____

14. ____ Have you ever committed a theft of anything over the value of \$50.00?

Explain: _____

15. ____ Have you ever committed a theft of a motor vehicle?

Explain: _____

16. ____ Have you ever committed an act of assault on another person?

Explain: _____

17. ____ Have you ever caused or threatened to cause bodily harm to another person?

Explain: _____

18. ____ Have you ever started a fire or caused an explosion with the intent to hurt or damage another person, property, or motor vehicle?

Explain: _____

19. ____ Have you ever attempted to defraud an insurance company?

Explain: _____

20. ____ Have you ever a document or signature of personal gain?

Explain: _____

21. ____ Have you ever used a credit card without the card holder's permission and consent?

Explain: _____

22. ____ Have you ever intentionally damaged or destroyed the property of another?

Explain: _____

23. ____ Have you ever made an obscene phone call?

Explain: _____

24. ____ Have you ever threatened another with a weapon?

Explain: _____

25. ____ Have you ever illegally possessed, transported, manufactured or sold weapons including firearms, knives, explosives, incendiary devices, or military equipment such as mines, automatic weaponry, armor piercing ammunition, etc.?
Explain: _____
26. ____ Have you ever illegally possessed, transported, manufactured or sold martial arts weaponry?
Explain: _____
27. ____ Have you ever hired someone or been hired by someone else to set a fire in an effort to destroy property?
Explain: _____
28. ____ Have you ever damaged your own property to collect insurance on it?
Explain: _____
29. ____ Have you ever been sexually stimulated or excited by watching fire?
Explain: _____
30. ____ Have you ever been arrested or detained by a law enforcement officer?
Explain: _____
31. ____ Have you ever committed any criminal offense, not listed above?
Explain: _____
32. ____ Have you ever illegally or without permission accessed computer records or data?
Explain: _____
33. ____ Have you ever intentionally changed, altered, or destroyed computer data without permission?
Explain: _____

Driving Habits

Candidates may be disqualified if their driving record is unacceptable the City's Risk Manage, or whose overall driving history is not conducive to the safe operation of expensive fire emergency vehicles. The following questions are asked to verify suitability to safely drive and operate fire vehicles.

Answer "Yes" or "No" in the blank, if "Yes," Please explain:

1. ____ Do you have any driver's license(s) other than those disclosed?
Explain: _____
2. ____ Have you ever had a driver's license suspended for any reason?
Explain: _____
3. ____ Have you had more than three (3) events (accidents or moving violations) during the last 3 years?
Explain: _____

4. ____ Have you ever been arrested for failing to appear on a traffic ticket?
Explain: _____
5. ____ Have you ever committed a hit and run accident?
Explain: _____
6. ____ During the last five (5) years, whether arrested or not, have you driven when you believe you were legally intoxicated? If yes, list the date, location, and circumstances.
Explain: _____
7. ____ During the last five (5) years have you driven under the influence of drugs?
Explain: _____
8. ____ Have you ever caused death or serious injury in a motor vehicle accident?
Explain: _____
9. ____ Have you ever evaded a law enforcement officer to avoid a citation?
Explain: _____
10. ____ Have you ever had a motor vehicle accident in a government vehicle?
Explain: _____
11. ____ Have you been denied coverage because of your driving record or failed to provide liability insurance on your motor vehicles?
Explain: _____

List all traffic violations, incidents, and accidents. Include incidents in which you attended defensive driving and/or received deferred adjudication.

Type	Date	Location	Disposition

12. ____ Have you listed all requested tickets, accidents, and incidents above?

Alcohol Use and/ or Abuse

The following questions are to assist the department in insuring that your use of alcoholic beverages has not and will not interfere with your ability to perform the essential tasks of your position, including operating motor vehicles and firefighting equipment safely.

Answer "Yes" or "No" in the blank, if "Yes," Please explain:

1. ____ During the last three (3) years, have you consumed alcoholic beverages while driving?
Explain: _____
2. ____ During the last three (3) years, have you been intoxicated in a public place to the extent that any disturbance took place?
Explain: _____
3. ____ During the last three (3) years, have you consumed any alcoholic beverage at your workplace in violation of any employer's rules, regulations or policy?
Explain: _____
4. ____ During the last three (3) years, have you consumed any alcoholic beverage when you were on standby and subject to a call of duty?
Explain: _____
5. ____ Have you operated a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages to the point of legal intoxication within the last three (3) years.
Explain: _____
6. ____ Have you ever been fired or resigned in lieu of being fired from a job or because of your use of alcoholic beverages?
Explain: _____
7. ____ Do you intend to comply with the City of DeSoto policies which stipulate that excessive use of alcohol, drinking alcoholic beverages while on the job, or violating City substance abuse rules will be grounds for dismissal?
Explain: _____
8. ____ During the past three (3) years, have you missed work, school, or training as a result of alcohol use?
Explain: _____
9. ____ Have you ever been arrested as a result of alcohol possession, use, or sale?
Explain: _____
10. ____ Have you ever used an altered ID, or the ID of another person to illegally purchase alcohol?
Explain: _____
11. ____ Have you ever purchased or furnished alcohol for a person you knew to be under the legal age?
Explain: _____

Drugs

Candidates for the position of Fire Fighter may be disqualified either permanently or temporarily for certain types of illegal drug use. Fire Fighters are often in situations where pharmaceutical drugs are readily available. Also, stobe emergency lights, operations at heights, and the general excitement of emergency response have created situations in which previous users of certain types of drugs are potentially susceptible to “flashbacks”. The following questions are asked to verify that the applicant has not used drugs in violation of the rules of the City of DeSoto Civil Service Commission.

Answer “Yes” or “No” in the blank, if “Yes,” Please explain:

1. ____ Have you smoked or ingested any marijuana within the last two (2) years?

Explain: _____

2. ____ Have you smoked marijuana more than five (5) independent times during the last five (5) years?

Explain: _____

3. ____ Have you ever ingested cocaine or any form of cocaine such as rock, crack, etc., during the last five (5) years?

Explain: _____

4. ____ Have you used any other illegal substances, such as, but not limited to heroin, hashish, morphine, opium, or other opiate derivatives within the last five (5) years?

Explain: _____

5. ____ Have you ever taken any hallucinogenic drug including, but not limited to LSD, STP, Psilocybin, Mescaline, Mushroom, etc.?

Explain: _____

6. ____ Have you taken/used/ingested any chemical substances that are stimulants and/or depressants such as amphetamines (uppers) or Quaaludes (downers) or other types of stimulant or depressant drug within the last five (5) years?

Explain: _____

7. ____ Have you used a designer drug such as eve or ecstasy within the last five (5) years?

Explain: _____

8. ____ Have you sniffed an inhalant drug for the purpose of getting high within the last five (5) years?

Explain: _____

9. ____ Have you ever taken any prescription medication for any reason other than its legally prescribed use?

Explain: _____

10. ____ Have you ever used or experimented with any other illegal drug not previously listed?

Explain: _____

11. ____ Have you ever provided any illegal drugs to another person?

Explain: _____

12. ____ Have you ever manufactured an illegal drug?

Explain: _____

13. ____ Have you ever received money or other goods from the sale of illegal drugs?

Explain: _____

14. ____ Have you ever bought any illegal drug within the last five(5) years?

Explain: _____

15. ____ Did you ever knowingly transport and deliver illegal drugs for someone from one location to another?

Explain: _____

16. ____ Have you ever used an illegal drug while at work or on the job?

Explain: _____

17. ____ Do you now, or have you within the last five(5) Years associated with someone that you know is/ was using or selling drugs?

Explain: _____

18. ____ If you are selected as a fire fighter, would you turn in a co-worker for violating the department's drug policy?

Explain: _____

19. ____ During the last two (2) years have you been with someone that used an illegal drug in your presence?

Explain: _____

20. ____ Do you currently use any form of tobacco?

Explain: _____

In the space provided indicate when you first and last used the indicated illegal drug, and the approximate number of times used. Place "NA" in each blank if you have not used the drug.

Drug	Date First Used	Date Last Used	Times Used
Marijuana/THC			
Hashish			
Angel Dust/PCP			
Ecstasy/MDMA			
Cocaine/Crack			
Heroin			
LSD/Acid/Blotter			
Mushroom//Peyote/Mescaline			
Quaaludes			
Speed (Type)			
Barbiturates			
Valium			
Steroids			
Rohypnol (or similar) Drugs			
Illegal Prescriptions			
Other Inhales substance (spray paint, model cement, etc.)			
Other Illicit Substances			

Personal References

(1)Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

How Known: _____

From: _____ To: _____

(2)Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

How Known: _____

From: _____ To: _____

(3)Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

How Known: _____

From: _____ To: _____

(4)Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

How Known: _____

From: _____ To: _____

(5)Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

How Known: _____

From: _____ To: _____

Military Service

The following questions are asked to verify your military status, your eligibility to receive veteran bonus points, and your work record while in military service. Please answer the following questions with a “Yes” or “No” response in the blank provided. Any “Yes” answer must be numbered and explained on back of this page:

____(1) Have you been in a branch of the Military Service?

Branch of Service: _____

Enlistment date: _____

Highest rank held: _____

Rank at discharge: _____

Specialty (MOS): _____

Type of discharge: _____

____(2) Were you ever court marshaled or reduced in rank?

____(3) Were you ever charged with being AWOL?

____(4) Were you dishonorably discharged?

____(5) Are you registered for the draft?

____(6) Have you ever refused to serve when called to Military Service?

____(7) Were you ever denied entry into any branch of the Military?

Personal Information

Fire Rescue Personnel are called upon to serve as community role models in the deliverer of a wide range of services. The following questions are designed to insure that you are in compliance with the laws of the State of Texas, are not involved in activities which may prove detrimental to the community perception of the department, and can perform the work schedule and essential tasks of the Fire Rescue position. Please answer the following questions with a “Yes” or “No” response in the blank provided. Any “Yes” answer must be numbered and explained on the back of the preceding page:

____(1)Is your current marital status illegal under the laws of the State of Texas?

____(2)Have you had a marriage dissolved in a manner which was not in accordance with the laws of your place of residence at the time?

____(3)Have you ever been a member of any group or organization that advocates violence to any particular group of the United States government?

____(4)As an EMT or Paramedic, do you have any personal beliefs which would preclude you from administering emergency medical assistance to a citizen in need (including the administration of IV fluids/medicines)?

____(5)Do you have any personal beliefs which would prevent you from fully performing all duties of a Fire Rescue Specialist listed in the job description?

____(6)Do you have any personal beliefs which preclude your working a firefighter’s shift including overtime, weekends, holidays, 24 hour shifts or 8 hour shifts?

____(7)Do you have any objection to maintaining paramedic status as instructed by the Fire Chief?

____(8)Do you have any objections to performing fire inspections?

____(9)Do you have any objections to performing public education programs?

____(10)Do you intend to cooperate fully with examining physician?

____(11)Do you intend to cooperate fully with examining psychologist?

____(12)Are you related by either blood or marriage to any City of DeSoto employee or elected official? If yes, please list the name and relationship on back of the preceding page.

Employment Notices

Please read each of the following items very carefully and make sure that you understand it completely. Each paragraph should be initialed on the blank provided to its left. Your initials indicate you have read and understand each requirement.

____(1)I understand that as a condition of employment, I will be asked to submit to testing for substances listed in Schedules I & II of the Texas Health and Safety Code Controlled Substances Act, and may, if employed, be required to submit to future drug testing in accordance with City Policy and State or Federal Law.

____(2)I understand that as a condition of continued employment, I will be required to maintain Paramedic certification and function as a paramedic in the City of DeSoto EMS System and with the City Medical Director.

____(3)I understand that if I am offered a “conditional” offer of employment with the City of DeSoto fire Rescue, that I will be required to satisfactorily complete appropriate medical and psychological examinations, and I hereby authorize any such examining physician, psychologist, laboratory, or other examiner to provide results of such examinations to the City of Desoto.

____(4)I understand that DeSoto Fire Rescue will contact some or all of my references and employers, whether listed herein or not, and I understand and agree that any misstatement or omission as to material facts may be grounds for rejection of my application, or future dismissal from the department. I further authorize any individual, company or institution with whom I have been associated or employed to furnish any representative of DeSoto Fire Rescue with any and all information which they have on record concerning my abilities, character, or otherwise.

Declaration

I, _____, hereby declare and state that I personally answered all of the enclosed questions. I further declare and state that I answered all of the enclosed questions truthfully and without attempting deception of any kind. I further declare and state that I did not withhold any requested information and that none of the answers I gave were given for the purpose of concealing the truth. I understand that falsifying any employment document will constitute grounds for dismissal should falsification be discovered during my employment with the City of DeSoto.

Signature of Applicant

Today's Date

Sworn and subscribed before me, a Notary Public, in and for the State of Texas, on this, the

_____ day of _____ 20_____.

(Notary Signature)