

BOSTON FIRE DEPARTMENT

BEFORE YOU GET STARTED

STEP

1

The state holds a civil service exam every two years to become a firefighter.

The civil service exam has two parts — a **written test** and a **physical test**. To take the state civil service exam to become a Boston firefighter, you need to meet a few requirements:

- You must be at least 19 on the date you apply, and younger than 32 on the day you take the exam.
- You must be a Boston resident at least one year before the date of your exam. Boston residents have preference over non-residents.
- You must have a valid Massachusetts license.
- You can't be a smoker.

We hold regular open houses to answer questions on exam years. We'll update our website the next time we hold these events.

STEP

2

APPLY TO TAKE THE CIVIL SERVICE EXAM

To apply to take the civil service exam to become a firefighter, you need to [create an account and apply on the state's website](#). When you apply for the firefighter exam, you will be given options for what cities and towns you want to work in. **Remember to pick Boston.**

The fee for the exam is \$200. You can pay on the state's website with a credit or debit card.

The written part of the exam usually takes place in April. The state will mail you a written notice and send you an email with the date of the test. After you apply for the exam, the state will also send you a date, time, and location for your physical abilities test.

NEED TO KNOW:

We also have civilian jobs at the Fire Department. You can find more information on the [City's career center site](#). Sometimes, we also post job openings on the [Fire Facebook page](#).

CONTACT:
FIRE OPERATIONS

617-343-3550

BFDPUBLICINFO@BOSTON.GOV

115 SOUTHAMPTON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02118

MORE FIRE INFORMATION

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

We hire based on your scores on the written and physical exams. If you're a veteran, you'll get several benefits during the selection process.

If you served on active duty, you may qualify to take the exam until age 35. The state website has [more information on veterans' benefits](#).

FIREFIGHTER PAY AND BENEFITS

The salary for a Boston firefighter starts at \$65,000 per year. The City also offer many benefits, including:

- several health insurance options
- 13 paid holidays per year
- 15 sick days with buyback at retirement
- paid vacation
- participation in the Boston Retirement System, with the chance to retire as early as 55, and
- an option to join the Boston Firefighter Credit Union.