Firefighter Specialist Job Interview Questions And Answers



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Firefighter Specialist Interview Questions And Answers Guide.

Question - 1:

Explain what did you like least about your last job?

Ans:

There was nothing about my last job that I hated, but I guess there were some things I liked less than others. My previous role involved traveling at least twice a month. While I do love to travel, twice a month was a little exhausting - I didn't like spending quite so much time out of the department. I'm happy to see that this role involves a lot less travel.

View All Answers

Question - 2:

Please explain what do you think of your previous boss?

Ans:

My last boss taught me the importance of time management - he didn't pull any punches, and was extremely driven. His no-nonsense attitude pushed me to work harder, and to meet goals I never even thought were possible.

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Question - 3:

Why are you leaving your current role as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

I've learned a lot from my current role, but now I'm looking for a new challenge to broaden my horizons and to gain new skill-sets - all of which, I see the potential for in this job.

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Question - 4:

Why do you want to work in this industry as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

I have always appreciated and admired those who put their lives on the line to protect our communities. My interest piqued in firefighting after I witnessed a post-crash rescue. I heard the calling as I watched the first response team pull civilians to safety. It was then I knew that this is what I was meant to do.

Question - 5:

What salary are you looking for as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

I'm more interested in the role itself than the pay. That said, I'd expect to be paid the appropriate range for this role, based on my five years of experience. I also think a fair salary would bear in mind the high cost of living here in New York City.

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Question - 6:

Tell me how an apple tastes to someone who can't taste?

Ans:

There isn't a right or wrong answer to this question. This question reveals your ability to think critically. Take a moment to think about how you will respond. One way to answer the question is: 'I would describe the taste of an apple as refreshing because of how juicy they are. While a person may not be able to taste, they can probably feel the juice as they bite into the apple. When I think about apples, I imagine the fresh, juicy sensation that comes with taking my first bite.' Even if your answer isn't the same as the rest of candidates interviewing, it shows your ability to think on your toes. Your interviewer will appreciate whatever answer you give as long as you provide a reason for why you chose the description you used.



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Question - 7:

What's your greatest weakness as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

I've never been very comfortable with public speaking, which as you know, can be a hindrance. Realizing this was a problem, I asked my previous department if I could enroll in a speech workshop. I took the class, and was able to overcome my lifelong fear. Since then, I've given a lot of safety presentations to school children across the county. I still don't love it, but no one else can tell!

Question - 8:

View All Answers

Why should I hire you as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

I've been a firefighter for the past five years - my boss has said time and time again that without me, the department wouldn't function as well. I've also taken the time to educate myself on some of the non-standard techniques used in first response. I can react quickly in hectic situations, and handle the responsibilities of a leadership role. What's good enough for most people is never really good enough for me.

View All Answers

Question - 9:

Why are you looking to leave your current job as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

The interviewer wants to know that you have clearly though through your decision to leave your current job, and that you know what you want out of your next role. Never use this question as an excuse to complain about your current or previous employer, as it will make you sound unprofessional! Instead, take the opportunity to explain areas in which you'd like to be more challenged, projects you haven't had the opportunity to work on, or simply elaborate on why this move is right for you at this time. Focus on the positive aspects of what else you have to offer professionally and how it fits within the role you're applying for.

View All Answers

Question - 10:

Tell us what religious holidays do you practice?

Ans:

It is illegal for an interviewer to ask you about your religion, age, marital status, if you're a parent, or your sexual orientation. Employers use these questions to discriminate against applicants in the hiring process.

Don't assume your interviewer is intentionally asking illegal questions. One in five interviewers unknowingly asks an illegal interview question based on CareerBuilder's April survey.

There are three ways you can answer this question.

If you feel comfortable answering the question, just answer it.

Or, instead of responding to the original question, try answering the question you think the interviewer is trying to ask. Interviewers asking what holidays you participate in religiously could be their way of finding out if you will be unable to work on specific days of the year.

Finally, if you feel the question is too personal, you can refuse to answer it. Decline to answer respectfully and let the interviewer know the answer will not impact your work ethic. However, refusing to answer might result in another candidate receiving the job offer.

View All Answers

Question - 11:

Tell me about your ability to work under pressure as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

Pressure is actually a catalyst to my work. When there is an imperative deadline, I refocus my energy into my work which in fact, has helped me to produce some of my best works. (Give examples) I guess you can say I thrive under pressure.

View All Answers

Question - 12:

What motivates you in you career?

Ans:

I've always been motivated by the challenge - in my last role, I was responsible for training our new recruits and having a 100% success rate in passing scores. I know that this job is very fast-paced and I'm more than up for the challenge. In fact, I thrive on it. <u>View All Answers</u>

Question - 13:

Explain me your gap in employment?

Ans:

My work is important to me, so I won't be satisfied with any old job. Instead of rushing to accept the first thing that comes my way, I'm taking my time and being selective to make sure my next role is the right one. <u>View All Answers</u>

Question - 14:

Each employee should know their responsibilities in the event of a fire.



A. True B. False

Ans: A. True

View All Answers

Question - 15:

Which of the following(s) is/are true?

- A. Designated exits must always be unlocked from the inside
- B. You should know the fire exit closest to your workspace, and also have a secondary exit in mind just in case
- C. Designated fire exits will always be marked with a green EXIT sign and will be lit from within to insure visibility

D. All of the above

Ans: D. All of the above

View All Answers

Question - 16:

What is the first priority in a fire?

A. Run B. Move your patients - Rescue C. Call 911

Ans:

B. Move your patients - Rescue View All Answers

Question - 17:

If you have a fire in your microwave

- A. Turn it off immediately and open the door
- B. Turn it off immediately and keep the door closed
- C. Open the door and attempt to put out the fire
- D. Get a lid from a pot or pan to cover the fire

Ans:

B. Turn it off immediately and keep the door closed View All Answers

Question - 18:

The P.A.S.S. acronym stand for: Pull Aim Step Squeeze

A. True B. False

Ans:

B. False View All Answers

Question - 19:

Lestions Answersons Carbon dioxide fire extinguishers are designed for which types of fuels?

A. Class B and C. B. Classes A, B and C. C. Class A and C. D. Class D and A.

Ans:

A. Class B and C.

View All Answers

Question - 20:

Switching off the computers and printers at the end of every workday can prevent any overheating of equipments which in turn lead to fire hazards

A. True B. False



Ans: A. True

View All Answers

Question - 21:

An example of two "Class B" fuels would be:

- A. Brass and aluminum.
- B. Cardboard and newspapers.
- C. Grease and paint thinner.
- D. A toaster and a circuit breaker.

Ans:

C. Grease and paint thinner.

View All Answers

Question - 22:

What should you do when your clothes catch fire?

A. Run quickly such that the wind helps to put out the fire

- B. Scream for help
- C. Stop where you are, drop to the floor, roll gainst the floor and cool off with water after the fire is out
- D. Grab a fire extinguisher and spray it on your clothes

Ans:

C. Stop where you are, drop to the floor, roll gainst the floor and cool off with water after the fire is out View All Answers

Question - 23:

In the event of an uncontrolled fire in your vicinity, your first course of action should be to

- A. Get a fire extinguisher
- B. Run out of the building
- C. Activate the alarm
- D. Ask your lecturer/boss what to do

Ans:

C. Activate the alarm View All Answers

Question - 24:

The local fire department should be called whenever an uncontrolled fire starts within the facility

A. True B. False

Ans:

A. True

View All Answers

Question - 25:

Where should smoke alarms be placed?

A. On or near the ceiling

- B. On or near the floor
- C. In the middle of the wall D. In the corner of the room

Ans:

- A. On or near the ceiling
- View All Answers

Question - 26:

Clinic extinguishers can be used for what type of fires?

- A. Wood, paper, and trash
- B. Flammable liquids
- C. Gases
- D. Electrical
- E. A, B, and D F. All of the above
- Ans:

E. A, B, and D



View All Answers

Question - 27:

Which type of fire extinguisher has a large black plastic horn on the end of a flexible hose or short rigidpipe?

- A. Air pressurized water.
- B. Carbon dioxide. (CO2)
- C. Dry chemical. (ABC) D. All of the above.

Ans:

B. Carbon dioxide. (CO2) View All Answers

Question - 28:

An APW (water extinguisher) is safety is on an electrical fire?

A. True B. False

Ans:

B. False

View All Answers

Question - 29:

Fire extinguishers are checked by clinic staff

A. Weekly B. Monthly

C. Yearly

D. Never

Ans:

B. Monthly

View All Answers

Question - 30:

What is the minimum number of fire escapes route(s) for a room?

A. At LEAST one B. Two C. Three D. Four

Ans:

B. Two

View All Answers

Question - 31:

To operate the fire extinguisher, the acronym P.A.S.S. is often used to help us remember to

A. Pull the pin, aim at the base of the fire, squeeze the handle, and sweep at the base of the fire

- B. Pass by the fire, activate the fire alarm, select the proper extinguisher, shoot at the base of the fire
- C. Pull the alarm, alert the response team, shut down the power sources, secure the area
- D. Pass by the fire, activate the sprinkler system, seal fire area from oxygen, stop unauthorized entry

Ans:

A. Pull the pin, aim at the base of the fire, squeeze the handle, and sweep at the base of the fire View All Answers

Question - 32:

Fresh Firefighter Specialist Job Interview Questions:

Ans:

- * What are some of the important traits a firefighter must possess?
- * What is the most important trait a firefighter must possess?
- * How could you help maintain good relations around the firehouse?
- * What is a typical daily routine in a firehouse?
- * What will you do with your spare time while on duty?
- * What duties does a firefighter perform?
- * What is the most essential duty a firefighter performs? * What type of person would you find it most difficult to work with?
- * Would you ever disobey an order?
- When would you disobey an order? * What do you know about the city of



- * What do you know about the organizational structure of the _____ Fire Department?
- * What are your hobbies and/or interests?
- * Define harassment/sexual harassment.
- * What would you do if you were witness to someone being sexually harassed/harassed?
- * Have you ever been directly or indirectly or known someone who was involved in a sexual harassment/harassment dispute? What were the circumstances?
- * Honesty and Integrity, define them and why are they important in the fire service?
- * Pride and Loyalty, define them and why are they important in the fire service?
- * What are the advantages and disadvantages of similar groups vs. diverse groups of people when working as a team?
- * What do you think the future holds for the fire service?
- * Where do you see the fire service going (how do you see it changing) in the next 5-10 years?
- * If we were to contact your present or former employer, what would be one negative point they might raise about you?
- * Are you currently on any other fire department eligibility list?

* What would you do if we offered you a position, and then soon after, you were offered a position with a bigger and better paying department, why would you stay? * As part of the hiring process we will be doing an extensive background investigation. Is there anything in your past that you would like to discuss or explain to this panel?

View All Answers

Question - 33:

Role-specific Firefighter Specialist Job Interview Questions:

Ans:

- * What motivates you to be a firefighter?
- * What can a firefighter do for fire prevention?
- * What are the challenges that fire departments have to deal with nowadays?
- * Do you know the mission statement of our agency?
- * What's the most important duty of a firefighter?
- * What piece of firefighting equipment is most difficult to operate and why?

View All Answers

Question - 34:

Professional Firefighter Specialist Job Interview Questions:

Ans:

- * Please prioritize the following in order of importance to you: Career, Family, Friends.
- * Suppression, Prevention and Public Education, rank them in order of importance in the Fire Service and explain your reasoning. * Describe a difficult decision that you've had to make in your life. What were the circumstances and what was your decision? Would you make the same decision again?
- Tell us about a conflict you've had with a co-worker or supervisor. What actions did you take to resolve this conflict? What did you learn from it? What would you do differently if the same situation arose again?
- Tell us about a mistake you've made in your past and what you learned from that mistake.
- * What have you done to prepare for this interview?
- * What have you done to prepare for a career in the fire service? What have you done to prepare for a career with the _ fire department?
- * Where do you see yourself in 5 years? 10 years?
- * Why do you want to be a firefighter?
- * Why do you want to be a firefighter for the City of
- * What is the most appealing aspect of being a firefighter?
- * What is the least appealing aspect of being a firefighter?
- * What do you consider to be your strongest asset? your weakest?
- * Why would you be a good firefighter?
- * Give an example in which you had to work as part of a team in order to achieve a common goal.
- * What is the advantage of working in teams?
- * Why is teamwork so important in the fire service?
- * How do you and your family feel about you working 24 (or 48) hour shifts?
- * What makes you think you would be able to deal with the stresses of being a firefighter?
- * How have you prepared yourself to remain calm and react effectively at emergency scenes?
- * Give an example of a time which you were faced with an emergency situation.
- * Explain the circumstances and your actions.
- * What kinds of personal conflicts/problems might arise in a firehouse and what could you do to minimize such problems?
- * What personality traits do you possess that make you feel you would be a good firefighter?
- * If hired what would you give to our department?

View All Answers

Question - 35:

Operational and Situational as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

* Imagine that you've been called to extinguish a fire at a building and one of the residents that were taken out starts to panic and wants to go back inside. How do you handle this? * What would you do if you noticed a fellow firefighter stealing something during a fire extinguishing operation?

- * How would you care for an unconscious person?
- * Imagine you receive two different orders from senior firefighters at the same time. What do you do?
- * How would you deal with an order that you think is wrong and would put you in unnecessary danger?

View All Answers

Question - 36:

Basic Firefighter Specialist Job Interview Questions:

Ans:



- * Tell us a little about yourself and how your education, training, and experience have qualified you for this position.
- * What's an important value to you and give an example of how this value affects your life?
- * Give an example of your loyalty to the fire department.
- * Describe in your own words the key values of this fire department.
- * What are three issues facing the fire service today?
- * What is the weakest attribute you bring to this position and what have you done to overcome it?
- * What is the biggest challenge you will face in your new position?
- * What is your strongest attribute?
- * How do you motivate others?
- * What style of leadership have you adopted?
- * What do you feel are the main roles and responsibilities of this position?
- * How would you deal with a policy change from management that you disagree with?
- * In your opinion, what is the one glaring deficiency in your department and is there anything you feel you can do in this new position to correct or alleviate this deficiency?
- * How do you go about resolving conflict?
- * Why should we select you over other candidates?
- * What do you bring to this position?
- * Why do you want to promote?
- * What does leading by example mean to you?
- * What would your current supervisor say about you?
- * What are your short and long range goals?

View All Answers

Question - 37:

Explain me a time when you did not get along with your coworker?

Ans:

I used to lock heads with a fellow EMT. We disagreed over a lot of things - from the care of civilians to who got what shifts to how to speak with a victim's family. Our personalities just didn't mesh. After three months of arguing, I pulled her aside and asked her to lunch. At lunch, we talked about our differences and why we weren't getting along. It turns out, it was all about communication. We communicated differently and once we knew that, we began to work well together. I really believe that talking a problem through with someone can help solve any issue.

View All Answers

Question - 38:

Tell us about a time when you messed up at work. How did you fix your mistake?

Ans:

Everyone makes mistakes, but not everyone has the ability to quickly solve them on their own.

This question is not a trap. It's the employer's way of learning if you are able to fix your mistakes. Honestly talk about a mistake you made, but focus mainly on how you solved the problem.

Begin by saying: 'A time I messed up at work was when I gave a customer a quote that was considerably lower than it should have been. I realized my mistake and immediately told my boss about the situation. I knew the business was going to take a hit financially, so I offered to work longer hours until I had worked off the debt from my mistake.'

This answers the interviewer's question but focuses more on the positive parts of the mistake.

View All Answers

Question - 39:

Tell me what have you done to improve your knowledge for a FIRE OFFICER POSITION IN THE LAST YEAR?

Ans:

Everyone should learn from his or her mistakes. I always try to consult my mistakes with my kith and kin especially with those senior to me.

I enrolled myself into a course useful for the next version of our current project. I attended seminars on personal development and managerial skills improvement. View All Answers

Question - 40:

Please explain how would your friends describe you?

Ans:

My friends would probably say that I'm extremely persistent - I've never been afraid to keep going back until I get what I want. When I worked as a program developer, recruiting keynote speakers for a major tech conference, I got one rejection after another - this was just the nature of the job. But I really wanted the big players - so I wouldn't take no for an answer. I kept going back to them every time there was a new company on board, or some new value proposition. Eventually, many of them actually said "yes" - the program turned out to be so great that we doubled our attendees from the year before. A lot of people might have given up after the first rejection, but it's just not in my nature. If I know something is possible, I have to keep trying until I get it.

View All Answers

Question - 41:

Tell us what is your greatest failure, and what did you learn from it?

Ans:

When I was in college, I took an art class to supplement my curriculum. I didn't take it very seriously, and assumed that, compared to my Engineering classes, it would be a walk in the park. My failing grades at midterm showed me otherwise. I'd even jeopardized my scholarship status. I knew I had to get my act together. I spent the rest of the semester making up for it, ended up getting a decent grade in the class. I learned that no matter what I'm doing, I should strive to do it to the best of my ability. Otherwise, it's not worth doing at all.

View All Answers



Question - 42:

Tell me what is your five-year plan?

Ans:

When interviewers ask this question, they want to know if you will last at the company.

Picture where your career is going. Maybe the job you're applying for is only a stepping stone to a bigger and better career. Letting your potential employer know their business is nothing more than a pit stop on your career road trip could cost you the job.

Instead of letting an employer know you don't plan to stay with the company long-term, think about what you hope to get out of the position. Talk generally about how you hope the position will prepare you for your next career move. Mention your desire for career growth within the company.

Only apply for jobs if you honestly see yourself working there for the foreseeable future. Otherwise, it's not fair to you, the company, or the person who would actually be the best fit for the position.

View All Answers

Question - 43:

Tell me what are you proud to have accomplished at your last job?

Ans:

This question gives the interviewer the opportunity to learn your strengths. Simply saying: 'I increased social media engagement' isn't going to give your interviewer a sense of what you accomplished. Instead, tell them how you increased social media engagement for the company and why your help was valuable.

It's important to master the art of the humble brag to make a good impression. Feeling proud of your accomplishments is fine. Endlessly discussing your value to the last company you worked for gives the impression you are arrogant.

View All Answers

Question - 44:

A "backdraft" is a smoke explosion caused by a fire which has consumed the available oxygen within a given space. High heat, flammable gases, and a smoldering fire remain. A potential "backdraft" situation exists in

A. An electrical panel

B. A storage closet

C. The plenum between a suspended ceiling and the floor or roof above D. All of the above

Ans:

D. All of the above View All Answers

Question - 45:

When a fire is spotted, what emergency number should you call? A. 911 B. 995 C. 1800-112-6868 D. 112

Ans:

B 995

View All Answers

Question - 46:

Behavioral Firefighter Specialist Job Interview Questions:

Ans:

- * Tell me about a conflict you had with a colleague. How did you resolve it?
- * Give me an example of a time you had to deal with an emergency
- * Recall a time when you made a mistake in using rescue equipment. What should you have done differently?

View All Answers

Question - 47:

Tell me what field experience do you have for a FIRE OFFICER POSITION?

Ans:

I have been working with computers since 2001. I also have a degree in network support/computer repair. I have built my last 3 computers, have work with Dell as an employee. So I have around 15 years experience working with computers. View All Answers

Question - 48:

When were you most satisfied in your job as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

I'm a people person. I was always happiest and most satisfied when I was interacting with community residents, making sure I was able to meet their needs and giving them the best possible comfort in a tough situation. It was my favorite part of the job, and it showed. Part of the reason I'm interested in this job is that I know I'd have even more interaction with the public, on an even more critical level.

View All Answers



Question - 49:

Where do you see yourself in five years as Firefighter Specialist?

Ans:

In five years I'd like to have an even better understanding of fire and rescue. Also, I really enjoy being the first to a scene. I work very well under pressure. Ultimately, I'd like to be in a commander-type position, where I can use my organizational skills and industry knowledge to benefit the people working with me, and those we are there to help.

View All Answers

Question - 50:

Tell me what is one of your flaws?

Ans:

This question is very often treated as a joke or a way to turn a negative into a positive (I'm too perfect. I'm an overachiever. I never give up), said Annie Griffin, Chief Happiness Officer at Manifest London.

T'll tell you what I like, I like to hire human beings not machines. I like to hire someone who is upfront, honest and comfortable in their own skin. Everyone has flaws, I wasn't born yesterday.

'Show me that you are a person who has awareness and honesty. Maybe you hate getting out of bed. Maybe you speak too quietly. You let papers pile up on the printer. 'When people recognise a flaw it shows a hunger for improvement and that is always desirable.'

'When people recognise a flaw it shows a hunger for improvement and that is always desirable.'

Question - 51:

Tell us how would your previous manager describe you?

Ans:

Why are you being asked? An interviewer will use this question to gauge how you see yourself in manager's eyes, and to determine how well you get along with management.

Remember, if you've given (or plan to give) your previous manager as a reference, the interviewer can confirm your answer to this question, so it's best to be as honest as possible. Talk about your attitude toward work, ability to work in a group and the positive aspects of your working relationship with your old manager. If you don't get along with your old manager, try not to let this influence your response, and instead talk about your role within your previous team.

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