



## **Thank you for your interest in the Resident Volunteer program with Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District!**

### **Resident Volunteer Program Goals**

The intent of the Resident Volunteer Program is to provide knowledge of the operating principles of the fire and emergency medical service through day to day operations, hands-on experience and classroom time. Resident volunteers learn the principles of firefighting, fire prevention, fire control, rescue and emergency medical services.

### **Resident Volunteers will:**

- Respond to medical emergencies and motor vehicle accidents on a transporting ambulance
- Actively engage in structural and wildland firefighting as a part of a team
- Drive and operate emergency equipment, including:
  - Fire engines
  - Ambulances
  - Water tenders
- Receive training and certification in structural and wildland firefighting
  - Certification is provided through DPSST and is transferrable throughout the State
- Be assigned to shift rotation working 48 hours on with 96 hours off
  - Resident volunteers are excused from their shift requirements to attend classes
  - Time off for vacation & illness is provided and shift trading with other Resident Volunteers is allowed
- Have opportunities for promotion, supervision, and leadership within the resident volunteer program



### **The Resident Volunteer experience begins:**

Resident volunteers are chosen through the Joint Recruitment process. The process is administered by Central Oregon Community College (COCC) on behalf of the Central Oregon fire agencies. Recruits selected by Sisters-Camp Sherman Fire District (SCSFD) then participate in a comprehensive firefighter academy that teaches the basic components of structural and wildland firefighting as well as emergency vehicle driving. The academy begins in June and ends in mid-August.



### **Housing:**

Resident volunteers are required to live in district housing starting at the beginning of the recruit academy. The district provides private bunkrooms with plenty of storage space and comfortable common living quarters. Common spaces include a spacious kitchen, large dining area, spacious day room with pool table and big screen TV, both male and female bathroom facilities, and library/study and gym facilities.

### **Scholarship Details:**

Resident volunteers receive a scholarship covering tuition and books at Central Oregon Community College in Bend, Oregon. They are required to be enrolled in the Structural Fire Science and Paramedic Programs and carry a minimum of 12 credit hours per academic term. Completion of the program generally takes three years depending upon prior college credit earned. Resident volunteers receive a monthly mileage and meal reimbursement up to \$300 and will be given the opportunity to use a district vehicle to drive back and forth to classes. District uniforms are provided and consist of: t-shirts, polo shirts, Nomex pants, jacket, hat, belt, and boot reimbursement.





### **Promotional Possibility:**

The district has a fourth year scholarship opportunity that was started in the 2015/2016 budget year. This scholarship is available to one existing resident volunteer, based on budget conditions, and allows them to remain in the program for one additional year and earn a bachelor's degree in Fire Service Administration or EMS Administration from Eastern Oregon University. A promotion to Resident Volunteer Lieutenant comes along with the fourth year scholarship. While working under the direct supervision of the Deputy Chief of Operations, the Lieutenant is responsible for many administrative functions within the Resident Volunteer Program. The Resident Volunteer Lieutenant may also be delegated incident management functions under the direct supervision and mentorship of the shift commander.

### **Additional Opportunities:**

In 2015 SCSFD entered into an international exchange program with Hampshire Fire Rescue Service (HFRS) in the southern UK. HFRS sent five firefighters to Central Oregon to learn about American wildland firefighting. In the summer of 2016 SCSFD sent firefighters to HFRS to learn new firefighting techniques from the British. One resident volunteer was among the group. The international exchange program will continue into the future as long as funding is available. Our future fourth year resident volunteers may be a part of the continuing exchange.



### **About the Fire District:**

Sisters-Camp Sherman Rural Fire Protection District is a combination department serving an area over 240 square miles with an ambulance service area of approximately 2,000 square miles in scenic Central Oregon. The District provides structural and wildland fire suppression, fire prevention and education, and ambulance service to the community with advanced life support emergency medical services and rescue services. The department serves two communities (Sisters and Camp Sherman) and adjacent rural areas with a combined population of approximately 6,500 permanent residents out of four stations. Along with the resident population, the area is recognized nationally as a tourist destination and local events can draw as many as 15,000 tourists at a given time.



Current staffing includes: Fire Chief, Deputy Chief of Operations, Administrative Assistant, part-time Finance Manager, part-time Fire Safety Manager, three Captain/Shift Commander-Paramedics, six Firefighter-Paramedics, nine Resident Volunteers, approximately 45 Volunteer Firefighters and 15 Fire Corps members.

### **The Fire Corps:**

Provides essential non-emergency services to the district such as:

- Smoke alarm installation
- Rural address signs
- Community CPR and first aid training
- Community blood pressure screening
- Car Seat Installation & Safety Checks



### **Questions???**

If you have any questions regarding Sisters-Camp Sherman RFPD or if you'd like to visit the station and take advantage of our ride-along program, please contact Deputy Chief Tim Craig by phone at:

Office Phone: 541-549-0771 or email [tcraig@sistersfire.com](mailto:tcraig@sistersfire.com) .