

Frequently Asked Questions

Who?

San Juan Island Fire & Rescue is looking for individuals to become qualified structural firefighters and wildland firefighters. The Fire Department maintains apparatus at several satellite stations around the island. We are especially looking for people residing in the Cattle Point / Cape San Juan area; the Egg Lake / Three Corner Lake / Miller Road area; and the West Side Road / Sunset Point areas.

What?

Firefighters are trained in fire behavior, fire suppression, structure search and rescue techniques, teamwork, First Aid / CPR, and personal and team safety. The Department also trains crews to respond to vehicle rescue, and marine response.

The process starts with filling out an application. There is an interview process and background check and based on results, an invitation to join is offered. There is a physical exam to determine fitness, cardiac health, and respiratory health before the start of the training (paid for by the Department).

Applications are due by November 26nd.

Where?

The training consists of at-home components and in-person classroom and hands-on skills training. There will be some off-island workshops. The bulk of training will be at the Fire Department Headquarters at 1011 Mullis St.

When?

There will be several on-line / at-home initial assignments in December. Class begins in earnest January 3, 2026, with training occurring every Wednesday evening and every Saturday through May 3rd. There will be several Sundays during this period to accommodate some special skills and training. The last two weekends will be the Wildland Firefighter module.

Why?

Volunteering helps to keep your community safe, provides quicker response times, and actually helps to reduce your homeowner's insurance costs.

Continuing Commitment

We ask our volunteers to remain response ready for incidents across the District. We also ask our volunteers to regularly participate in training activities to maintain skills and remain as a member in good standing.

Compensation

Members in good standing receive a monthly stipend of \$225 with the additional opportunity of signing up for a shift at the fire station to facilitate rapid response to incidents. Shift time can be accrued in increments of 12 hours at \$70 per 12 hour shift. There are also opportunities to sign up for "standby" shifts at \$30 per 24 hour shift.

Contact Lt. Karl Kuetzing kkuetzing@sjifire.org with any questions.