



# BLASDELL FIRE DEPARTMENT

121 Miriam Avenue • P.O. Box 2191 • Blasdell, New York 14219

822-1921 ext. 29  
Chief / Commissioners Ofc.

825-0456  
Hall / Engine Room

822-7127  
Fax

— *A Proud Tradition* —  
*Since 1905*



Dear Applicant:

Thank you for considering becoming a member of Blasdell Volunteer Fire Department. Following the application process and acceptance to the department, you will join a group of dedicated individuals with varying interests, who share the belief in serving their community by being volunteer firefighters. Volunteer firefighter does not mean amateur firefighters; rather we are professionals who are not compensated for our efforts.

You will find that we are well trained through courses offered in Firefighting and Emergency Medical Services by the New York State and Erie County Offices of Fire Prevention and Control and the Department of Health. Many of the courses are college accredited, which aid many of our members towards their degree goals. We provide basic and intermediate care to our residents, visitors and to the surrounding areas through the operation of our own ambulance.

Volunteering with the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Department is not all work and no play. We enjoy kicking back socially with fellow members in the Fire Hall clubroom. We are involved with many events as well as sponsorships for those events. Time spent on calls, during basic duty operations, social events and gathering, local event participation creates camaraderie and relationships that in many ways like that of brothers and sisters. Through disagreements and challenging situations, the group pulls together, and comes up with reasonable agreements that are reflective of compromising and mature individuals.

The experiences you'll encounter will help you grow in ways you may not have realized you could, as well as give you a sense of reward that no other volunteer job could offer.

We wish you the very best in your endeavor of becoming a fellow firefighter.

Very truly yours,

*Your Brother and Sister Firefighters*

(Please return the completed application together with a \$10.00 non-refundable application fee to the Village Hall located at 121 Miriam Avenue, Blasdell, NY)

*Celebrating 100 years 1905-2005*



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## APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last Name) (First Name) (M.I.)
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street Address) (Apt. / Suite No.)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(City, Town, Village) (State) (Zip Code)
3. Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
4. How long have you resided at the above address? Years: \_\_\_\_ Months: \_\_\_\_
5. How long have you resided in New York State Years: \_\_\_\_ Months: \_\_\_\_
6. Are you 18 years of age or older? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_
7. Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_
8. Please list additional information about a change in your name or use of an assumed name or nickname to enable a check on your eligibility for membership?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
9. Are you currently employed? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
If "Yes", give employer information below.  
May we contact you employer as a reference? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
Name of Company: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_
10. Do you have a valid New York State Drivers License? Yes \_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_  
If "Yes", please attach a photocopy of your license.
11. Please indicate your availability to participate in normal required fire department activities (meetings, drills and emergency drills). Please check appropriate time periods below.  
Week Days: Days \_\_\_\_ Evenings \_\_\_\_ Nights \_\_\_\_  
Weekends: Days \_\_\_\_ Evenings \_\_\_\_ Nights \_\_\_\_
12. Previous emergency services experience: (Include only fire rescue, police and emergency medical services agencies.)  
Name of Agency: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
(If additional space is required, please use attached sheet.)

13. Have you ever been a member of the United States Armed Forces? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_  
If "Yes": Date of service? \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_ To \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_  
For which branch did you serve? \_\_\_\_\_  
(If more space is needed, please use additional sheet attached.)

Did you receive a dishonorable discharge? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ (If "Yes" please explain on additional all sheet provided.)

Dishonorable discharge is *not* an absolute bar to membership. This and other factors will effect a final membership decision.

14. Have you ever been convicted or pleaded guilty to a felony, misdemeanor, insurance fraud, arson or a reduction of one these offenses? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_ If "Yes", give details on the attached sheet.

15. Please list three personal references, other than members of this organization, who have known you for at least three (3) years.

A. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

B. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

C. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

16. Please list names of any acquaintances that are members of this organization:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

17. OSHA regulations require that you pass a physical examination before becoming an interior structural firefighter. The department's designated physician will provide you with a free medical examination. Will you be willing to undergo a medical examination? Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

18. Arson Clearance Attached (Board of fire Commissioners) Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Date of Clearance \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_



WITHIN THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW, ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED / OR OBTAINED HEREIN WILL REMAIN CONFIDENTIAL AND WILL BE USED ONLY FOR INTERNAL MEMBERSHIP.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, THIS APPLICATION HAS BEEN SUBSCRIBED ON THIS \_\_\_\_\_ DAY OF \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ BY THE UNDERSIGNED APPLICANT WHO AFFIRMS THAT THE STATEMENTS MADE HEREIN ARE TRUE UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

WITNESS SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

### PRIVACY NOTIFICATION

Section 94 of the Public Officers Law (Personal Privacy Protection Law) requires that you be notified of the following facts when information will be maintained in a record system, which has been collected from you.

The authority to request and confirm information on you is found in Article 6 of the Executive Law.

This information will:

- be used to determine you qualifications for the position for which you have applied
- be released to the fire chief and potential supervisors; and
- be maintained in your personal file (if you should become a fire department member) or in your resume file for six months (if you are not a fire department member).

Failure to provide the information or authorization will result in your application not being considered for membership.

The information will be maintained by the Village Clerk / Village Administrator of the Village of Blasdell, New York, 121 Miriam Avenue, Blasdell, New York 14219. That telephone number is (716) 822-1921.

Village of Blasdell  
121 Miriam ave.  
Blasdell, NY 14219  
716-822-1921

I hereby give the Village of Blasdell Fire Department (VBFD) permission to obtain information relating to my criminal history record through the Blasdell Police Department (BPD). The criminal history record, as received from reporting agencies, may include arrest and convictions data as well as a plea-bargaining and deferred adjudication. I understand that this information will be used, in part to determine my eligibility for an employment/volunteer position with this organization. I understand that I will have an opportunity to view the criminal history, and a procedure is available for clarification, if I dispute the record as received. The information received will remain confidential in that only Human Resources, or any potential supervisor, appropriate or applicable, will be party to this information. This information is for internal use only and will not be released to anyone outside of VBFD or BPD.

I, the undersigned, do release, discharge and hold harmless VBFD/ BPD from all causes of action, suits, liabilities, costs, claims and any related legal fees resulting from investigation of my background.

The following is my true and complete legal name and all information is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

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Print: Last, First M.I.

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(Maiden Name or Other Names Used)

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Present Address How Long?

---

---

City/State Zip Code

---

---

Former Address How Long?

---

---

City/State Zip Code

---

---

Date of Birth Social Security Number

---

**Driver's License Number State of Issue** \_\_\_\_\_

**Have you ever been convicted of a crime?** ( ) Yes ( ) No

**What was the nature of Offense?** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are there any felony charges pending against you?**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Volunteer Applicant Signature Date**

**Village of Blasdell  
Defined Contribution  
Service Award Program**

**Program Provisions**

- A. Sponsor's Legal Name: **Village of Blasdell**
- B. Volunteer Fire Company's Legal Name(s): **Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.**
1. **Type of Program:** Defined Contribution Plan.
  2. **Effective Date of Program:** January 1, 2011.
  3. **Service Award Program Administration:** This Service Award Program shall be administered and operated by the Village of Blasdell Board of Trustees.
  4. **Eligibility to Participate in the Service Award Program:** All active volunteer firefighter members of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. (i.e. "Full Active Duty Members" as that term is defined under the by-laws of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.) shall be eligible to participate in the Service Award Program.
  5. **When Participation Commences:** Unless they waive participation, all eligible persons shall become program Participants on the last day of the first calendar year during which they meet the following requirements but not before December 31, 2011:
    - a) Be at least 18 years old; and
    - b) Earn a year of Service Credit under the Village of Blasdell Service Award Program Point System (herein referred to as "Point System") during a calendar year beginning after December 31, 2010.
  6. **Annual Service Award Contribution:** \$700 for each calendar year a Participant earned a year of Service Credit (see #10 and #11).
  7. **Accrued Service Award:** Each Participant shall have an individual Service Award Program account balance. The total Service Award annual contributions (see #6) earned by a Participant, plus a proportionate share of allocated investment income earned on the Village of Blasdell Service Award Program Trust Fund, plus interest paid into such fund by the Village of Blasdell on a Participant's prior service contributions, less any investment related expenses paid from such Trust Fund shall be the Participant's Accrued Service Award at any given time.
  8. **Entitlement Age:** Later of age 60 or the person's age on the next January 1 after becoming a Participant in the Service Award Program.
  9. **Form of Payment of Accrued Service Award at Entitlement Age:** After a Participant attains the Entitlement Age, a lump-sum shall be paid equal to the Participant's Accrued Service Award, unless and until the Village Board of Trustees subsequently approves by Board Resolution other forms of payment (see #20).



**Village of Blasdell  
Defined Contribution  
Service Award Program**

**Program Provisions**

10. **To Earn Credit for a Year of Service after December 31, 2010:** To earn a year of Service Credit, a Full Active Duty Member must earn 50 points during a calendar year under the Point System. Service Credit shall be allowed only for active volunteer firefighter service as a Full Active Duty Member of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.

The Village of Blasdell Service Award Program Point System for earning Service Credit is explained in a separate document. Such document shall be adopted by the Village Board of Trustees and may be amended at any time by Board Resolution, without further referendum (i.e., Village resident voter approval not required).

11. **To Earn Credit for Service Prior to January 1, 2011 (“Prior Service Buyback”):** To be eligible to earn Service Credit for active volunteer firefighter service prior to January 1, 2011 and after December 31, 2005 with the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc., a Full Active Duty Member must earn a year of Service Credit under the Point System during calendar year 2011 or 2012. Provided this condition is met, for each calendar year prior to January 1, 2011 but after December 31, 2005 during which the Participant was a Full Active Duty Member and was at least 18 years old, a year of Service Credit shall be earned by such Participant for each such calendar year during which, based on available Fire Department records, he or she would have earned 50 or more points under the Point System. Under New York State law, no more than 5 years of pre-2011 Service Credit shall be allowed.

12. **Maximum Years of Service Credit:** The maximum years of Service Credit that can be earned by a Participant in the Village of Blasdell Service Award Program shall be 40 years.

13. **Years of Service Rendered after the Entitlement Age:** An individual who becomes or continues to be a Full Active Duty Member of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. after having attained the Entitlement Age shall have or continue to have the opportunity to earn Service Credit under the Point System.

14. **Military Duty:** A Participant whose volunteer fire service is interrupted by full-time extended obligatory military service or by a single voluntary enlistment not to exceed four years in the armed forces of the United States shall be considered on military leave. During such period of military leave, the Participant shall be credited with a year of Service Credit under the Point System for each full year on military leave. For military service of less than a year, a Participant shall be awarded prorated points. Provided, however, such Participant must again become a Full Active Duty Member of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. within 18 months after his or her military leave expires before any Service Credit is granted for military service. Military Service Credit is automatically granted to any Participant on military service leave from the department who dies or is totally and permanently disabled while in active military duty.

15. **Vesting Schedule:** A Participant's Accrued Service Award shall be 100% vested (i.e., the Accrued Service Award cannot be forfeited) after he or she has earned 5 years of Service Credit, or attains the Entitlement Age while a Full Active Duty Member, or is awarded a finding of total and permanent disability

**Village of Blasdell  
Defined Contribution  
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**Program Provisions**

by the Village Board of Trustees or dies while a Full Active Duty Member.

**16. When Accrued Service Award and Service Credit are Forfeited:** The Participant's Accrued Service Award and earned Service Credit shall be forfeited as of December 31 of the year a non-vested Participant ceases to be a Full Active Duty Member of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. The forfeited earned Service Credit and Accrued Service Award shall be restored if the person again becomes a Full Active Duty Member of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. within 5 years of the effective date of forfeiture and subsequently earns at least one year of Service Credit under the Point System. As required by the New York State General Municipal Law, a Participant who is convicted of the crime of arson in any degree as defined in the penal law shall not be eligible to receive benefits from a service award program and shall forfeit any and all rights he or she may have had to past or future benefits pursuant to a service award program.

**17. Pre-Entitlement Age Death Benefit:** Lump-sum paid to the Participant's designated beneficiary (or estate if no beneficiary is designated) equal to the Participant's Accrued Service Award as of the December 31 preceding death and including the contribution for the year of death if the Participant earned a year of Service Credit for the calendar year of death. Full Active Duty Members eligible to earn credit for firefighting service prior to January 1, 2011 who shall die in calendar year 2011 or 2012, before earning a year of Service Award Program service credit in calendar year 2011 or 2012 but after the date Village residents approve the proposition to establish the program, shall be considered to have been Participants at the time of their death and shall be given credit for their otherwise allowable pre-2011 service, if they were Full Active Duty Members at the time of their death (as determined by the Village Board of Trustees).

**18. Definition of Total and Permanent Disability:** A Participant shall be considered totally and permanently disabled if the Participant is awarded benefits before attaining the Entitlement Age for a total and permanent disability from: the Social Security Administration, any entity which pays benefits under the Volunteer Firefighters' Benefit Law, or from any other authority approved by the Village Board of Trustees.

**19. Pre-Entitlement Age Total and Permanent Disability Benefit:** Lump-sum paid to the Participant equal to the Accrued Service Award as of the December 31 preceding the date the disability benefit is awarded to the Participant and including the annual contribution for the year the benefit shall be awarded if the Participant earned a year of Service Credit during that year. Full Active Duty Members eligible to earn credit for firefighting service prior to January 1, 2011 who shall become totally and permanently disabled in calendar year 2011 or 2012, before earning a year of Service Award Program Service Credit in calendar year 2011 or 2012 but after the date Village residents approve the proposition to establish the program, shall be considered to have been Participants at the time of their total and permanent disablement and shall be given credit for their otherwise allowable pre-2011 service, if they were Full Active Duty Members at the time of their total and permanent disablement.

Disabled persons who shall be paid a total and permanent disability benefit payment from the Village of Blasdell Service Award Program who subsequently recover from their disability and again become Full

**Village of Blasdell  
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**Program Provisions**

Active Duty Members of the department shall be considered a new member as of the day they again become a Full Active Duty Member of the Blasdell Volunteer Fire Company, Inc. and except for vesting purposes shall not again receive Service Credit for service prior to that date.

**20. Commencement of Payment of Accrued Service Award:** In the case of pre-Entitlement Age death or Total and Permanent disablement, commencement of payment shall be as soon as possible after a completed application from a Participant or a Participant's beneficiary is received by the firm retained by the Village Board of Trustees to provide Service Award Program administration services. In the year the Participant attains the Entitlement Age, payment of the Accrued Service Award calculated as of the December 31<sup>st</sup> following attainment of the Entitlement Age shall commence effective the following January 1<sup>st</sup>. Such payment shall be made as soon as administratively feasible after the Participant has verified eligibility and the Accrued Service Award of all Participants have been updated as of December 31<sup>st</sup>. The additional Service Award contribution earned by a Participant during a calendar year after the calendar year of attainment of the Entitlement Age shall commence to be paid as of the January 1 in the next succeeding calendar year and shall be made as soon as administratively feasible after the points earned by all Full Active Duty Members during such calendar year have been properly certified, posted and approved according to the requirements of Article 11-A.

**21. Administration Costs:** Administration costs shall be paid by the Village Board of Trustees from the Village of Blasdell general operating fund.

**22. Interest Paid on Prior Service Contributions:** The cost of Prior Service shall be amortized over 10 years based on a 5.0% annual interest rate.

**23. Amendment of the Service Award Program:** Unless voter approval shall be required by Article 11-A of the New York State General Municipal Law, amendments to the Village of Blasdell Service Award Program shall be adopted by resolution of the Village Board of Trustees of the Village of Blasdell. The Village of Blasdell Service Award Program Point System may be amended at any time by Resolution of the Village Board of Trustees, without further referendum. Within one hundred eighty (180) days after the later of the date of adoption or approval by voters, or the effective date of the amendment, a written notice and explanation of such amendment shall be distributed to all persons who participate or are eligible to participate in the Service Award Program. Copies of such written notice and explanation shall be available upon request to the Village Board of Trustees to all other persons.

**24. Termination of the Service Award Program:** The Village Board of Trustees may terminate the Village of Blasdell Service Award Program at any time in accordance with Article 11-A of the New York General Municipal Law, which requires approval by eligible voters (i.e., mandatory referendum) residing in the Village of Blasdell. In the event that the Program shall be terminated, all Accrued Service Awards shall be paid in accordance with the resolution adopted by the Village Board of Trustees and the proposition approved by such eligible voters of the Village.