

COUNTY EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEM

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Purpose: *As a benefit for unselfish community service, volunteer fire fighters participate in the County Employees Retirement System. The Board of Trustees of the Okolona Fire Protection District will participate in this system. Chapter 78 of the Kentucky Revised Statutes requires the Board of Trustees of a fire district to establish minimum work requirements for participation in the system.*

Procedure:

MINIMUM WORK REQUIREMENTS:

1. To receive one year of service credit, a volunteer fire fighter for the Okolona Fire Protection District shall attend not less than fifty percent (50) of all fire runs for which the member is available. The twelve (12) month period from July 1 to June 30 of the following year shall be used to calculate the percentage for the purposes of this program.
2. In addition to the fire run attendance, a volunteer firefighter for the Okolona Fire Protection District shall attend a minimum of 100 hours of training. The following may be used to satisfy the training requirements: regularly scheduled weekly training, special training (such as house burnings, etc.), schools, company inspections, Emergency Medical Technician training, National Fire Academy programs, attendance at seminars, such as International Association of Fire Chiefs, Fire Department Instructors Conference, fire prevention training and courses in fire protection subjects offered by accredited colleges or universities.
Use of vacation days can be counted toward the 100 hour requirement.
3. If a member does not satisfy the training hour attendance requirement, the following items may be applied towards the requirement number of hours however, two hours of special details shall count for one hour of training credit.
4. The following may be used to satisfy a deficiency in training requirements: parades, public relations or education events, work details, apparatus maintenance, fire prevention inspections (unless for the training of personnel), etc.
5. The fire chief or training officer shall determine whether or not an event is appropriate for training credit.
6. If a member cannot comply with this requirement due to injury or illness, a reduction in the number of hours may be made. This will be done on a case by case basis, up to the discretion of the Board of Officers. The Officers may require the member to submit a physician's statement.

HAZARDOUS POSITIONS:

1. A member is in a hazardous position when the principal duties involve active fire suppression or fire prevention. Job descriptions detailing the activities of persons who the Board of Trustees desires hazardous position coverage for, shall be sent to the Kentucky Retirement Systems, for a determination of eligibility.

Standard Operating Procedures are meant only to be guidelines. Actual conditions may warrant alternative actions.

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MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS:

1. Kentucky Revised Statutes Chapter 61 requires any person employed in hazardous position to undergo a thorough medical examination by a licensed physician. A copy of the medical report of the physician shall be retained on file by the fire department, and be made available to the Kentucky Retirement System, upon request.
2. The Okolona Fire District Board of Trustees shall select a licensed physician to perform the medical evaluations. A firefighter may elect to have the medical examination performed by a physician of his own choice, at the firefighter's expense.

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