

Fire Chief

St. Johnsbury, Vermont



The Town of St. Johnsbury, Vermont (population 7,500) is conducting a search for the position of Fire Chief. The Town seeks an engaging, collaborative, and dynamic fire/EMS professional with top-notch labor/management skills. This creative and resourceful chief fire officer will have a successful approach to leading fire rescue services and operating high-quality programs that meet the broad needs, demands and lifestyles of a diverse and dynamic community.

As the regional economic hub of the Northeast Kingdom of Vermont, St. Johnsbury offers all the conveniences of an urban lifestyle, with the easy living of a small Vermont town. Restaurants, museums, art galleries, movie theatres, a library, excellent schools and shopping are all a short walk from most in-town neighborhoods. Living in the Northeast Kingdom, residents and visitors enjoy immediate access to a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities including biking, hiking, skiing, and boating.

The Department covers an area of 36.8 square miles from a centrally located fire facility. The Department is an ISO Class 4/4X full-service fire/rescue organization that has a total of 10 full-time personnel and 25 on-call personnel. The Fire Chief serves as the Town's Emergency Management Director, Health Officer and Fire Warden. The Department responds to 903 (432 fire, 471 EMS) annual calls for service and provides an expanding level of mutual aid to several surrounding communities. The current annual operating budget of the Fire Rescue Department is approximately \$1.2 million.

The Chief is appointed by the Town Manager. Candidates must have strong leadership and managerial skills combined with excellent interpersonal and communication skills. A proven success record of experience in progressively responsible supervisory, administrative and command assignments is also required.

Minimum qualifications include: Associates or Bachelors' Degree from an accredited university or college is preferred; 10 years of municipal fire/rescue experience with at least 7 years of experience as a command officer in a comparable or larger organization. The Chief must have completed or be willing to obtain firefighter certification 1 and 2, ICS 400, 800a and EMT certification. Participation in Chief/Executive Fire Officer training and Pro Board Fire Officer II certification are preferred. An equivalent combination of training and experience may be considered.

Candidates must have demonstrated experience and skill within the following critical areas: budgeting, crafting collaborative interagency relationships, pacing change, fireground management, incident command and emergency management.

It is preferred, however not required, that the new Fire Chief establish residency in St. Johnsbury. Hiring range is \$70,000 - \$80,000 depending on qualifications. The Town offers a competitive benefit package which includes 85% paid medical (BCBS Gold plan), \$1,500 dental plan provided, \$50,000 Life Insurance provided, 6.25% municipal contribution provided into the Vermont Municipal Employees Retirement Pension Plan. Additional information relating to this opportunity has been posted at www.mrigov.com/career.

A resume and cover letter formatted as a PDF file can be sent to recruitment@mrigov.com. **Applications will be accepted until 5 pm on Friday, September 17th.** The Town of St. Johnsbury is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of age, sex, race, color, sexual orientation, marital status, familial status, mental or physical disability, religious creed, national origin, veteran status, pregnancy, gender identity or any other characteristic protected by applicable law in its programs, activities and employment practices.