



City of Belvidere Fire Department
Accepting Applications and Written Testing
June 1st, 2026 - June 30, 2026
for:
Full-Time Firefighter/Paramedic

To Apply: www.belvidereil.gov/fire/
To Test: www.nationaltestingnetwork.com

Questions about the written exam?
Please Call: National Testing Network at 866-563-3882

Applications, Written Exam and Documents Due on or Before:
Tuesday, June 30, 2026

BFD Mission:

It is our mission to provide emergency rescue and fire protection services that exceed expectations; to be there for our community at their greatest times of need.

Department Overview:

The Belvidere Fire Department has been serving the City of Belvidere since 1886. We protect the city's population of 25,585 covering an area of 12.5 square miles. In 2025 the Belvidere Fire Department responded to 3,568 calls for service. The Department maintains a full-time staff of 42 members and operates from two Fire Stations and an Ambulance Station to provide effective coverage throughout the city. We are seeking highly self motivated individuals that are passionate about serving others and providing for our community. Belvidere Fire prides itself on strong teamwork, leadership skills, smart but aggressive tactics, safety and an "All In" attitude. Experience is not necessary to apply but the desire and courage to serve others in their greatest time of need is. We will equip and train the perfect candidate to be at the level we need them to be. When you become a member of the Belvidere Fire Department you become a member of our family from day one.

Compensation and Benefits:

Firefighter/Paramedic Salary
Starting: \$63,458
10+ years: \$95,989

Vacation	Other Paid Leave
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Years 1-2: 3 work shifts- Years 3-6: 5 work shifts- Years 7-14: 7 work shifts- Years 15+: 10 work shifts	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Sick time benefit - paid 100% up to 160 days per incident- Bereavement leave- 9 paid holiday shifts

Health & Retirement	Work & Career
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Low employee cost \$250 deductible 90/10 PPO health plan- Dental benefits- Retirement after age 55 and 20+ years of service- Retiree health insurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Overtime available, forced overtime is extremely rare- Kelly days every 18 shifts- Paid training- Opportunities to test as a Fire Officer in as soon as 5 years- Become part of IAFF Local #1569

Check your email regularly for important information about the recruitment process.

All communications will be sent via email.

Minimum Requirements:

Minimum Requirements at Time of Application:	Additional Minimum Requirements at Time of Conditional Offer of Employment
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- At least 21 years of age at the time of hire and under 35 years of age as of June 30, 2026, unless the individual falls under one of the exceptions to the statutory maximum hiring age detailed in 70 ILCS 705/16.06 or 65 ILCS 2/10-2.6-6. Proof of date of birth is required;- No felony convictions and good moral character;- Must be of sound mental and physical health and meet all established application guidelines;- A U.S. citizen or legally allowed to work in the U.S.;- Valid Driver's License;- Must provide copy of high school diploma or GED diploma or college transcripts;- No residency requirements.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) with Ladder Climb Certification conducted by a licensed agency dated between June 1, 2026 and August 1, 2026; due August 1, 2026.- Valid Illinois Driver's License- Must pass psychological and medical examinations;- Minimum 21 years of age at appointment.

How to Apply and Submit Documents - June 1-30, 2026:

1. Visit www.belvidereil.gov/fire and follow the instructions
2. Make sure to upload all required documents
3. Submit the required documents (See Checklist) on or before Tuesday, June 30, 2026. Documents received after the deadline will NOT be accepted. Documents may also be delivered personally to BFD Station 1 Administration Office (123 S. State St., Belvidere, IL 61008) during office hours (Mon-Fri 8:00am-4:00pm; closed holidays and weekends).
4. CPAT due August 1, 2026. It must be dated June 1, 2025 - August 1, 2026.

How to Schedule Written Exam (June 1-30, 2026):

Test in the comfort of your home, or anywhere you have access to a computer with a webcam, microphone, and internet access on National Testing Networks online platform.

1. Visit www.nationaltestingnetwork.com.
2. Create a free account if you don't already have one.
3. Select Firefighter Jobs and register for the Belvidere Fire Department exam.
 - At the National Testing Network website, you will be able to:

- Review detailed information about the position and testing procedures
- Access online practice exams
- Choose a testing date and time that fits your schedule (testing is offered multiple days each week, including Saturdays)
- Test in the comfort of your home, or anywhere you have access to a computer with a webcam, microphone, and internet access.
- Pay the \$65 testing fee or \$15 for additional tests

After completing the written exam, your scores will be automatically submitted to Belvidere Fire Department hiring personnel. Applicants who achieve a passing score will be placed on the department's Preliminary Eligibility Register and may move forward in the selection process.

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Licensed CPAT Testing Agencies:

- Northeastern Illinois Public Safety Training Academy (NIPSTA)
www.nipsta.org/240/CPAT-Schedule, 847-998-8090
- Huntley Fire Protection District
www.huntleyfpd.org/cpat-testing, 847-669-5066
- Central Illinois Fire Chiefs Association
www.centralillinoisfirechiefs.com/CPAT/CPATSchedule.aspx
- City of Naperville
www.naperville.il.us/services/naperville-fire-department/programs-and-services/candidate-physical-ability-test-cpat/, 630-305-5900
- Village of Romeoville
<https://www.romeoville.org/1361/Candidate-Physical-Ability-Test-CPAT>, 815-372-4042

Application/Testing Timeline and Important Dates to Remember:	
<p>June 1 - 30, 2026 Application - Testing Period - Required Documentation</p>	<p>Application, written examination, and required documents must be received by the BFD within this time period. Documents (see checklist) must be received by the BFD by 4:00pm on June 30, 2026.</p>
<p>July 1, 2026 Preliminary Eligibility Register</p>	<p>Preliminary Eligibility Register will be emailed to all candidates. A candidate is eligible to be placed on this register based upon the passage of the written examination, which is a final average score of 70 out of 100 points.</p>
<p>July 1 - 15, 2026 Online Interviews</p>	<p>Prescreening Interview (through National Testing Network, by email invite only) link will be emailed to those who passed the written exam.</p>
<p>August 1, 2026 CPAT</p>	<p>Physical Agility Test (CPAT) due on or before this date.</p>
<p>August 3, 2026 Initial Eligibility Register</p>	<p>Initial Eligibility Register will be posted. This list of applicants will be established in numeric order based on a minimum passing score on the written examination and oral interview (written exam 50%, oral interview 50%).</p>
<p>August 13, 2026 Request for Preference Points Due</p>	<p>Submission of Request/Documentation for Preference Points due within 10 days of the Initial Eligibility Roster. The maximum awarded to each individual will be 30. The Preference Point schedule is as follows: <i>5 Points</i> - Veterans Preference (Military points); <i>2 Points</i> - Successful completion of an approved internship with the BFD; <i>5 Points</i> - Associate's degree in the field of fire service or EMS, or a bachelor's degree; <i>5 Points</i> - valid Paramedic License; <i>0-5 Points</i> - past Firefighter or EMS work, earning at a rate based on qualifications and years of service; <i>5 Points</i> - Boone County residency; <i>3 Points</i> - Assigned to the BFD by an outside vendor as an ambulance service provider for at least six months, and being in good standing with the department. Detailed descriptions of Preference Points will be provided to eligible candidates.</p>
<p>August 22, 2026 Final Eligibility Register</p>	<p>Final Eligibility Roster will be posted. This will include all Preference Points, and is valid for a period of two years from the date of certification by the Board.</p>

Checklist:

Online Application Period June 1 - 30, 2026

- Applied at www.belvidereil.gov/fire/
- Documents submitted at www.belvidereil.gov/fire/
- Scheduled written exam at www.nationaltestingnetwork.com
Date & time of exam: __/__/__
- Prescreening oral interview (*by email invite only*)

Required Documents

- Copy of CPAT Identification Card
(*Due on or before August 1, 2026, dated between June 1, 2025 and August 1, 2026*)
- Copy of valid Illinois Driver's License
(Copy of front and back)
- Copy of high school diploma or equivalent, college transcripts, military records and discharge papers
- Copy of Birth Certificate or other documents verifying the lawful right to work in the U.S.
- Copy of applicable Preference Points (*due August 13, 2026*)

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Please note: Applications won't be reviewed until after the deadline. Any candidate who submits an application without all required documentation will be disqualified. The Belvidere Fire Department is not responsible for late, misplaced, or incomplete submissions. To remain eligible for the hiring process, all required materials—including your online application and written exam—must be completed and submitted by the deadline. You may submit documents online, in person or by mail, but everything must be received on time.

Apply and Submit Required Documents Electronically:

<https://www.belvidereil.gov/fire/>

Take the Written Test Electronically:

<https://www.nationaltestingnetwork.com>

Applicant Access and Accommodation Statement

Applications must be submitted online. Applicants who do not have access to a computer or internet may use a department-provided computer with internet access at no cost at Fire Station 1, 123 S. State St., during normal business hours. Applicants requesting a reasonable accommodation in the application process should contact the Belvidere Fire Department as early as possible and sufficiently before the application deadline to allow the issue to be addressed; in person, by phone at 815-544-2242, or by email at admin@belviderefire.com. Applicants needing technical assistance accessing the online test through National Testing Network must contact National Testing Network at 866-563-3882 as early as possible. Use of a department-provided computer, technical assistance, or a reasonable accommodation request does not extend the application deadline. All applications must be submitted by the posted deadline.

The City of Belvidere Fire Department is an Equal Opportunity Employer