



## **Taber Emergency Services Introduction & Information Package**

Thank you for expressing interest in becoming a member of Taber Emergency Services. We hope this information package is able to answer some of the questions you may have about our department.

Paid on call firefighters are a key component of Taber Emergency Services and it is important that you realize what is involved in being an emergency services member before making the necessary commitment. This package is intended to describe how Taber Emergency Services operates and to provide you with some background information before you make any decisions.

You are encouraged to discuss this information with your family and to contact any of the members of the service if you require any additional information.

### **What is Taber Emergency Services?**

We are a group of individuals, with strong community will and commitment, who are actively involved in making our community what it is today.

### **What do we do?**

Taber Emergency Services provides Fire, Rescue, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Prevention, Inspection and Investigation services within the Town of Taber, the Village of Barnwell, and the southern half of the M.D. of Taber.

### **How do we operate?**

Taber Emergency Services is a department of the Town of Taber. The service is administered by a full time Emergency Services Chief and Deputy Chief. EMS is provided by full and part time staff who are on duty at the Emergency Services Building twenty four hours a day.

Fire and Rescue services are provided by paid on call firefighters, who respond from within the community as they are available. All firefighters are notified of emergency calls by radios that are provided by the department.

Taber Emergency Services provides all personal protective equipment and training for firefighters. Firefighters are provided with the benefit of a group accidental death and dismemberment insurance plan and are covered by Workers Compensation while on emergency calls or participating in training or education activities. In addition, paid on call firefighters receive an hourly wage during response to emergency calls.

Previously, the term “volunteer firefighter” was used. Firefighters are now called “paid on call” to reflect the professional standards they are trained to and the financial recognition they receive for the time they spend responding to emergency calls.

### Firefighter Prerequisites

- 👤 18 years of age
- 👤 Good physical condition
- 👤 Alberta Drivers license, with ability to obtain Air Brake endorsement
- 👤 Current Driver’s Abstract with no more than 6 demerits
- 👤 Criminal Records Check
- 👤 Resident of Town of Taber or immediate area

### Employment Considerations

- 👤 Commitment
- 👤 Availability
- 👤 Related skills or training

### Firefighter Expectations

- 👤 **Family Support:** This is the most important aspect for you and Taber Emergency Services. When you join, in many ways, so does your family. Missed family functions and events may occur as a result of this commitment. Discuss this with your family and have their support.
- 👤 **Employer Support:** This is the next item you need to consider. Many calls occur during working hours. Although your job comes before the service, you need to discuss your commitment with your employer and discuss your availability during working hours for emergency calls.
- 👤 **Time Commitment:** Being a paid on call firefighter is not like belonging to other organizations. Commitment is key and often there is considerable time contributed for emergency calls, training and other functions.
- 👤 **Completion of Fire Training:** Firefighters are expected to achieve an accepted level of training. This includes initial orientation, ongoing monthly training sessions (held the first, third and fourth Tuesday evenings of each month), and formal training courses. Formal courses are an important component of the training process, and it is expected that a firefighter will make all attempts to complete formal training opportunities provided by the department.
- 👤 **Response Availability:** Obviously, call availability on a regular basis is important. When you are available to respond, it is our expectation that you will. Firefighters must attend a minimum of 20% of calls in a year to remain active.
- 👤 **Practice/meeting attendance:** Practices and meetings are where you learn the most about the service and its operations. It is important that firefighters regularly attend practices and meetings.
- 👤 **Ability to follow a Chain of Command:** Due to the potential dangers on the emergency scene, all members are required to follow a Chain of Command and accountability system. There is no room for individuals to freelance. All fire and rescue efforts must be coordinated and controlled to ensure safety and success.

### Taber Emergency Services Role / Commitment

- 🔊 **Safety:** Safety is the paramount concern in everything that we do. Firefighting and rescue can be a hazardous activity, and Taber Emergency Services makes every effort to ensure firefighters are properly trained and equipped to work safely, managing or minimizing those risks that can be controlled. The Department and the Town of Taber take safety seriously, and operate with a Health & Safety Plan and an active Health & Safety Committee.
- 🔊 **Training:** We provide all training required to do the job.
- 🔊 **Equipment:** We provide all necessary equipment to do the job.
- 🔊 **Personal Protective Equipment (PPE):** We provide all required PPE for firefighters, including protective turn out gear, helmets, eye protection, gloves, Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA), etc. All PPE meets or exceeds current standards.
- 🔊 **Worker's Compensation:** All Taber Emergency Services personnel are covered by WCB while training, on emergency calls, during public education functions, or any job related function.
- 🔊 **Accident Insurance:** Accidental Death & Dismemberment insurance is provided to all members.
- 🔊 **Communications:** Emergency Services radios or pagers are provided to all members.

### **The Department Social Aspects**

There is a recognized social aspect of membership that many of our firefighters realize. When working together as closely as we do, a common bond and camaraderie can develop that may lead to new friendships and a whole new social circle.

There are several social events planned each year, including Christmas parties, barbecues, family and sports activities, card nights or tournaments and the annual Town of Taber Employee Recognition Banquet. These events, while providing enjoyment for all members and their families, also help develop the "team spirit" that makes us successful.

### **Conclusion**

All Members should be professional in attitude as well as performance. Firefighting and Emergency Medical Services, by its inherent nature, is a serious and potentially dangerous business. Because of this, it is imperative that every member of the service takes their position seriously and professionally. After all, we are in the business of saving lives and property in our community.

This does not mean there are not significant social opportunities, and opportunities to have a great experience with a great group of people. It does mean that, as a firefighter, you are a member of a professional group, and, whether on duty or off duty, you will always be judged by others to a higher standard.

As a new firefighter, we don't expect you to know everything when you start. We encourage you to ask questions if you don't know or are unsure. The learning curve is steep, and in the fire service, there is always something new to learn. We are here to support one another and help each other in any way we can. Fire/Rescue and EMS are a "team sport" like no other.

Take this package home and discuss it with your family and your employer. Once you have submitted an application, it will be reviewed and followed by an interview. Following the interview, you may be invited to attend a fire practice or two so you can come and see first hand what we are all about.

An orientation meeting will be held on your first day as a member to get you familiar with our practices and guidelines. If you have any questions or comments, please let us know, we want to hear them. Thanks for your interest.

## **Contact Information**

### ***Taber Emergency Services***

#### **Mailing Address**

4900A – 50 Street  
Taber, AB T1G 1T1

#### **Emergency Services Building**

6201B – 54 Avenue  
Phone: 403-223-2112

Administration Phone: 403-223-5500, ext. 5442

Fax: 403-223-5502

Email: [Fire.Chief@taber.ca](mailto:Fire.Chief@taber.ca)



# TABER EMERGENCY SERVICES

## Fire/Rescue Application

Name:			
Date:			
Street Address:			
Mailing Address: (If different)			
Home Phone:		Business Phone:	
Cell Phone:		Pager:	
AB Drivers Lic. #:		Class/Endorsements:	
Expiry Date:			
SIN			
Emergency Contact:		Phone:	
Current Employer:		Phone:	
Position:		Supervisor:	
Previous Employer:		Phone:	
Position:		Supervisor:	
Previous Employer:		Phone:	
Position:		Supervisor:	

Please describe any previous training, experience or skills you feel would be applicable to our department:


**Related Fire Training:**

Course Name	Training Institution	Course Date

**Related EMS Training:**

Course Name	Training Institution	Course Date

The above information is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature

Print Name

Date



**Taber Emergency Services**  
**Police Information Check**



Taber Police Service  
5700 – 50 Avenue  
Taber, AB

Please accept this letter as confirmation that:

\_\_\_\_\_ **DOB:** \_\_\_\_\_

Is a candidate for a volunteer position with the Town of Taber Emergency Services. We are requesting a Police Information Check with a Vulnerable Sector Search included for this individual.

Upon completion, the file may be held at Taber Police Service for the Fire Chief or the Deputy Fire Chief.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Yours truly,

Steve Munshaw  
Fire Chief  
Taber Emergency Services