

# Fire Department Registration Benefits

(Excerpted from How Project Code Red® Works document)

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## WORK TO OBTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT REGISTRATION

If not already, begin now working with the Alaska State Fire Marshal's Office (see Contact List) regarding requisites for becoming a state recognized Volunteer Fire Department, a condition of Project Code Red®. The Fire Marshal's Office will assist you no matter what scenario your community falls under:

1. Your community registered in the past as a Volunteer Fire Department and is current with annual registration applications and monthly fire reporting;
2. Your community registered in the past as a registered Volunteer Fire Department but has lapsed with annual registration and monthly reporting three years or longer;
3. Your community has never registered as a Volunteer Fire Department.

Besides fulfilling a requirement to receive a Micro-Rural Fire House, there are other benefits to establish a State of Alaska recognized Volunteer Fire Department in your community:

1. Opportunity to attend State of Alaska Fire Service Training, National Fire Academy, and Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) fire/safety/administration related courses.
2. Access to state and federal fire equipment.
3. Eligibility for FEMA and Division of Forestry Wildland grants.
4. Eligibility for FEMA Fallen Firefighter, Public Safety Officers death benefit. (For volunteer firefighters *listed* with the State of Alaska Fire Marshal's Office.)
5. Possible FEMA worker's compensation coverage—above your community's current insurance coverage—for injured volunteer firefighters.

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## SOLICIT FOR A FIRE CHIEF AND VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS

If not already assigned, who in your community will serve in the critical roles of Fire Chief and Assistant Fire Chief? These individuals will be your champions for maintaining the volunteer force, training, equipment, procedures, and assuring a ready and able Volunteer Fire Department. Many city VPSO's take on this role. See the ***Fire Chief Agreement*** document for qualities and responsibilities.

Regarding your volunteer fire fighters, encourage individuals to join who have a strong sense of commitment to the community, a willingness to learn, and the ability to work as a member of an elite team. Those 18 years of age and older will receive certification as a State of Alaska, **Rural Basic Fire Fighter**. Mature individuals under 18 years of age are also encouraged to take the training. The more individuals who take the course, the better.