



**ROYALTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT  
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Driver's License No.: \_\_\_\_\_ S.S. No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Present Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived at this address: \_\_\_\_\_

Previous Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Name & Address of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Job Description: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you been employed at the above: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever been convicted of a crime? \_\_\_\_\_ Explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Education: High School \_\_\_\_ Yrs. \_\_\_\_ Graduate \_\_\_\_ College \_\_\_\_ Yrs. \_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Military: Date of Duty: \_\_\_\_\_ Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you been a Firefighter or involved with a Fire Department before? \_\_\_\_ If so name of the Fire Department: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have any Firefighting training? \_\_\_\_ If so what type: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

---

When are you available? Weekdays \_\_\_\_ Days \_\_\_\_ Nights

Weekends \_\_\_\_ Days \_\_\_\_ Nights

Can you leave work in case of a major fire? \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

Any disabilities that would limit your ability as a firefighter: \_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_ No

If yes, explain: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

References: (Nonmembers of the Royalton Township Fire Department)

1.Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

2.Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

3.Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Member(s) of Royalton Township Fire Department:

1.Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

2.Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

3.Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Person to notify in case of emergency: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# ROYALTON TOWNSHIP FIRE DEPARTMENT

## TRIAL TRAINEE PROGRAM

RTFD program is designed to give an interested person the opportunity to witness first-hand what is involved in becoming a paid on-call firefighter with RTFD.

It allows the trainee to see the situations that a firefighter faces at a fire or accident. This program also affords the officers of the department to observe the trainee under some of the same conditions.

### NOT EVERYONE CAN BE A FIREFIGHTER

This program provides ample training for the trial trainee in operation of all RTFD equipment at a fire or rescue scene, including trucks, pumps, Jaws of Life, and other rescue equipment. The training period for a trial trainee is one year. Before starting in the program, each applicant must submit an application which will be reviewed by the RTFD executive committee. This committee will also personally interview each applicant. Accepted applicants will be required to pass a physical exam which includes an agility test. During the training period, the applicant will receive no compensation.

Upon completion of the one-year training period, the applicant will again be interviewed by the executive committee. Interviews may also be held periodically during the year for the benefit of the trainee or the department regarding the progress of the trainee.

At the end of the training period, if a position is available and the trainee has been recommended, the trainee will be required to serve a six-month probation period as a probationer. The probationer complies with the RTFD's rules and regulations, which differ from the trial trainee rules. While on probation, the probationer will be compensated for calls and training meetings.

Successful completion of Firefighter 1 and 2 classes are required to become a member of the Royalton Township Fire Department. Firefighter 1 and 2 classes are mandated by the State of Michigan and taught locally through the Berrien County Firefighter Training Council which is centrally located at Berrien Springs Fire Department. Students are expected to attend approximately 260 hours of classroom and hands-on training. The training classes usually start around October and run until April. Classes are typically scheduled for Tuesday nights and weekends for practical evolutions. A written and practical examination needs to be successfully completed in order to pass this class.

## How RTFD Works

RTFD maintains a roster of approximately 20 firefighters. In addition to the executive committee, positions include a Chief, Assistant Chief, Captain, Lieutenant and Secretary.

Business/training meetings are held the first and third Tuesday of each month.

All members of RTFD, including trial trainees and probationers, are provided with a pager. When a call is received in Royalton Township or

a mutual aid call outside of the township, firefighters receive the call on the pager, which is dispatched by the Berrien County Dispatch Center. The dispatcher informs the RTFD where to go and what type of call it is.

## Trucks

RTFD has the following trucks at the fire station located at:

911 E. John Beers Road  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

\*2018 Sutphen = 75ft Ariel Platform 6-man cab  
2000 gpm pump 500 gal tank 2000GPM pump

\*2009 HME/Spencer Rescue Pumper 6-man  
cab 1250 gpm pump 800 gal tank 30 gal foam  
tank with Amkus Jaws of Life set.

\*2000 Freightliner/US Tanker 5 man cab 2000  
gal tank

1995 Pierce Pumper 6-man cab, 1250 gpm  
pump 1200 gal tank

\*1987 Ford/Pierce Mini Pumper 2 man cab 400  
gpm pump, 250 gal tank

\*2020 Wing 14 foot semi-ridged inflatable  
water rescue boat with a 30HP Mercury  
outboard

## RTFD History

In the late 1800s, the Village of Stevensville organized a volunteer fire department in Lincoln Township. It operated as the Stevensville Fire Department. In the late 1940s, the townships of Lincoln and Royalton met with the village and formed a fire board with two members from each unit of government to oversee the operation of the department. The fire station was located in downtown Stevensville and the department was known as Stevensville Tri-Unit Fire Department.

In 1961, the "Royalton Station" was added and a station was built on the southeast corner of John Beers Road and Scottdale Road with ten firefighters assigned to that station. In February of 1966 the name of the fire department was changed to Tri-Unit Fire Department.

In 1964 it was increased to 12 firefighters, then 14 in 1984, then up to 17 in 1987, and finally to 20 in 1991, which was the same as the Stevensville Station.

In 1995 a new modern station was built across the street from the original station to bring the department into modern compliance with the ability to house more equipment and larger equipment.

On April 1, 2003, there was a split in the Tri-Unit Fire Department and the Royalton Station became the Royalton Township Fire Department.

## Royalton Township Fire Department

Would **YOU** like to become a member?

For information on how you can enroll in the RTFD trial trainee program, pick up an application at:

Royalton Township Hall  
980 Miners Road  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Or call Chief Zac Bernard at (269) 363-2321 or (269) 429-5202 or FAX (269) 556-1718

Assistant Chief Mark Thorton (269) 930-0606

email: [firedept@Royaltontownship.org](mailto:firedept@Royaltontownship.org)

# Royalton Township Fire Department

Serving the people of  
Royalton Township, Michigan



**1961 - 2026**  
**65 YEARS STRONG**