

# JUSTIA

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## 2019 Georgia Code

### Title 25 - Fire Protection and Safety

### Chapter 4 - Firefighter Standards and Training

### Article 1 - General Provisions

### § 25-4-8. Qualifications of firefighters generally

#### Universal Citation:

GA Code § 25-4-8 (2019) ○

[← Previous](#)

[Next →](#)

(a) Except as provided in Code Section 25-4-12, any employee, volunteer, or private contractor of a fire department operating in this state or certified as a firefighter shall, as prescribed by the council:

(1) Be at least 18 years of age;

(2) Not have been convicted of, or pleaded guilty to, a felony in any jurisdiction or of a crime which if committed in this state would constitute a felony under the laws of this state within ten years prior to employment, provided that a person who has been

convicted of a felony more than five but less than ten years prior to employment may be certified and employed as a firefighter when the person has:

(A) Successfully completed a training program following the Georgia Fire Academy curriculum and sponsored by the Department of Corrections;

(B) Been recommended to a fire department by the proper authorities at the institution at which the training program was undertaken; and

(C) Met all other requirements as set forth in this chapter.

The council shall be the final authority with respect to authorizing the employment, appointment, and certification of a person who has been convicted of a felony more than five but less than ten years prior to seeking employment when the person is seeking employment as a firefighter for any municipal, county, or state fire department which employs three or more firefighters who work a minimum of 40 hours per week and has the responsibility of preventing and suppressing fires, protecting life and property, and enforcing municipal, county, and state codes, as well as enforcing any law pertaining to the prevention and control of fires;

(3) Have a good moral character as determined by investigation under procedure approved by the council;

(4) Be fingerprinted and a search made of local, state, and national fingerprint files to disclose any criminal record;

(5) Be in good physical condition as determined by a medical examination and successfully pass the minimum physical agility requirements as established by the council; and

(6) Possess or achieve within 12 months after employment a high school diploma or a general education development equivalency, provided that the council may by rule or regulation prescribe for the waiver of such requirement.

(b) For the purposes of this Code section, a person shall be deemed to have been convicted of a crime if such person shall have pleaded guilty to a charge thereof before a court or federal magistrate or shall have been found guilty thereof by the decision or judgment of a court or federal magistrate or by the verdict of a jury, irrespective of the pronouncement of sentence or the suspension thereof, unless such plea of guilty or such decision, judgment,

raised seal on the printed copy. Please include your name, date of birth, type of order granted and the year that the order was granted and we will send a copy as soon as time allows. If we cannot locate an order, we will advise via email response.

To qualify for a Pardon for offenses *other than sex offenses which require you to be listed on Georgia's Sex Offender Registry*:

- You must have completed all sentence(s) at least five (5) years prior to applying.
- You must have lived a law-abiding life during the five (5) years prior to applying.
- You cannot have any pending charges.
- All fines must be paid in full.

To qualify for a Pardon for sex offenses which require you to be listed on Georgia's Sex Offender Registry:

- You must have completed all sentences for sex offenses requiring registration at least ten (10) years prior to applying.
- You must have a psychosexual evaluation conducted within 90 days prior to applying. This evaluation must be uploaded to your online application. A list of approved sex offender treatment providers can be found at the following link: **[Approved Sex Offender Treatment Providers](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L8n9FK_YGQCzP7)** (**[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L8n9FK\\_YGQCzP7](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1L8n9FK_YGQCzP7)**)

