

Apprentice Preference

[70 ILCS 705/16.06b](#)

(7.5) Apprentice preferences. A person who has performed fire suppression service for a department as a firefighter apprentice and otherwise meet the qualifications for original appointment as a firefighter specified in this Section may be awarded up to 20 preference points. To qualify for preference points, an applicant shall have completed a minimum of 600 hours of fire suppression work on a regular shift for the affected fire department over a 12-month period. The fire suppression work must be in accordance with Section 10-1-14 of this Division and the terms established by a Joint Apprenticeship Committee included in a collective bargaining agreement agreed between the employer and its certified bargaining agent. An eligible applicant must apply to the Joint Apprenticeship Committee for preference points under this item. The Joint Apprenticeship Committee shall evaluate the merit of the applicant's performance, determine the preference points to be awarded, and certify the amount of points awarded to the commissioners. The commissioners may add the certified preference points to the final grades achieved by the applicant on the other components of the examination.

(8) Scoring of preferences. The commission shall give preference for original appointment to persons designated in item (1) by adding to the final grade that they receive 5 points for the recognized preference achieved. The commission may give preference for original appointment to persons designated in item (7.5) by adding to the final grade the amount of points designated by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee as defined in item (7.5). The commission shall determine the number of preference points for each category, except (1) and (7.5). The number of preference points for each category shall range from 0 to 5, except item (7.5). In determining the number of preference points, the commission shall prescribe that if a candidate earns the maximum number of preference points in Apprentice preference points may be added in addition to other preference points awarded by the commission.

However, apprentice preference credit earned subsequent to the establishment of the final eligibility register may be applied to the applicant's score upon certification by the Joint Apprenticeship Committee to the commission and the rank order of candidates on the final eligibility register shall be adjusted accordingly.