

# 10 Facts about Portland Airport Fire and Rescue

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Bet you don't know these 10 facts about our Portland Airport Fire and Rescue:

1. Provides emergency services for Portland International Airport every day, around-the-clock with a team of 43 (full-time equivalent).
2. Handled about 2,200 calls in 2018—74 percent for emergency medical services.
3. Served with a truck and team at three separate wildland fires last year: Substation Fire southeast of The Dalles, Ore.; Paradise Fire in California; and the Mendocino Complex Fire, the largest recorded fire complex in California history.
4. Equipped with two new trucks weighing over 80,000 pounds each—20 times the weight of an average car—capable of delivering 697 horsepower and more than 70 miles per hour.
5. Operates Rescue Boat 80—specially designed and equipped to provide aircraft water rescue, which last year responded to 118 general emergencies on the Columbia River.
6. Implemented and still maintains the airport's AED program, helping to boost Multnomah County's cardiac arrest survival rate to twice as high as the national average.
7. Started and still offers a voucher program, assisting passengers/patients in obtaining over-the-counter medications, or a meal, if they have no means to purchase themselves while in the airport.
8. New hire candidates must take a written exam, submit a resume for grading, undergo a firefighter panel interview, be ranked into a civil service hiring list, and then interview with our Fire Chief Craig Funk.

9. After a new hire candidate receives a contingent offer, there's still a comprehensive background check, physical and psychological evaluation, attendance at Washington State Fire Academy for three months, aircraft rescue firefighter training in Dallas, and finally on-shift training at PDX.
10. Backgrounds for the talented team range from product marketing at Nike to youth mentorship, and arena football to flying a Blackhawk helicopter in the U.S. Army.