

SEATTLE
FIRE
DEPARTMENT

Chief Hanson
NEWSLETTER

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**FIRE FIGHTER
PRE-RECRUITS-
WOMEN "ONLY"**

The Seattle Fire Department is now recruiting for Fire Fighter pre-Recruit-for Women only. As a Fire Fighter pre-Recruit, successful applicants will participate in a six-week training program of the Seattle Fire Department designed to prepare them for successful participation in and completion of, Fire Fighter Recruit School. They will participate in on-the-job training activities such as physical and manipulation drills to develop their capabilities to effectively use equipment, tools and procedures involved in fire combat. They will receive intensive instruction and practice specific skill areas needed to remove individual deficiencies of an educational, physical or cultural nature. After a six-week training course, they will be given the opportunity to take a promotional examination for Fire Fighter. Seattle residence is not required for application and appointment.

Starting pay will be \$4.4425 per hour, with merit increase to \$6.2989 per hour.

Application Requirements: Age 20-29 inclusive, high school graduation or successful completion of G.E.D. course. Ability to obtain valid State of Washington driver's license. A thorough medical examination will be given before appointment. Detailed medical standards are available upon request. The applicant must possess normal vision. She must demonstrate normal visual functions and acuity not less than 20/100 vision in each eye without correction to 20/20 in better eye and 20/30 in lesser eye. She must possess normal color vision.

All interested persons should be referred to the Chief's office at Station 10 to complete an application.

As in the past, Department personnel have always been the best judges in recommending Fire Fighter applicants and it is hoped that will carry over again.

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**U of W HOSPITAL'S
ARTICLE --
DRUG OVERDOSES**

"Synapse" a bimonthly publication by the University of Washington Hospital, this time is devoted to HMC emergency medical services. One of the most interesting articles concerns drug overdoses and some of the observations of Dr. Mike Copass.

According to the article, five victims of drug overdose are seen on an average weekday, with the percentage of OD even higher on weekends--8 to 12 overdoses out of nearly 100 patients seen each day.

The article quotes Dr. Copass as estimating that about 25 percent of the weekend overdoses are suicide attempts. The rest are caused by careless unintentional mixing of drugs with too much alcohol. The majority of overdoses seen during the week are impulsive gestures, with only ten percent having suicidal intent.

He also estimates there has been nearly a 200 percent increase in the use of heroin in Seattle over the last three years. Three years ago, physicians in the emergency trauma center saw about one heroin overdose a week. Now they see one every two days and an even greater increase on weekends.