



## AUSTIN FIRE DEPARTMENT

Our Mission Goes Beyond Our Name

Our Mission Goes Beyond Our Name is the cornerstone of the Austin Fire Department (AFD). A leader in the fire service, AFD is on the cutting-edge of technology and training. A leader in the fire service, the Austin Fire Department protects lives and property through extensive fire prevention and safety education efforts, in addition to a quick and effective response to emergencies



#### **Overview**

In 2021 AFD's Recruiting Division faced historic challenges. Despite these challenges Recruiting was able to substantially improve on and exceed the successes and results of the 2019 recruiting cycle.

#### Goal

The Recruiting Division strives to interest qualified, competitive candidates to participate in the Austin Fire Department's hiring process. This is an important first step towards producing a more diverse workforce reflective of the city of Austin.

#### **Recruiting Campaign Initiatives**

The Global pandemic prevented AFD's traditional recruiting approach of attending college expos, career fairs, and community events. Recruiting shifted to the following initiatives.

- 1. Candidate Interest Card Re-engagement
- 2. Texas Fire Service Recruiting Coalition
- 3. Digital Outreach
- 4. Adjunct Outreach
- 5. Print Outreach
- 6. Community Partnership



#### **2021 Hiring Process**

## **Target Candidates**

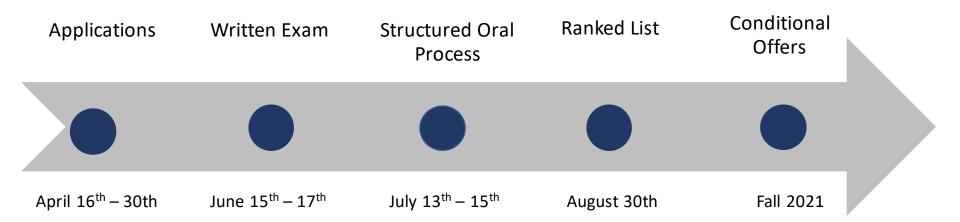
- Target Candidates are those who self identify as a member of an underrepresented demographic group within AFD.
- Under-represented groups within AFD are all minority groups, those who are multiracial, and women.
- Non-target candidates are those who identify as white male or choose not to disclose their race or ethnicity.





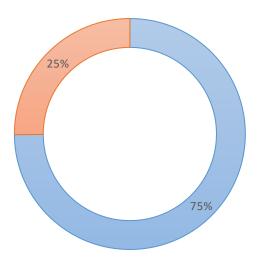


## **Hiring Process Timeline**



# 2021 Candidate Interest Cards

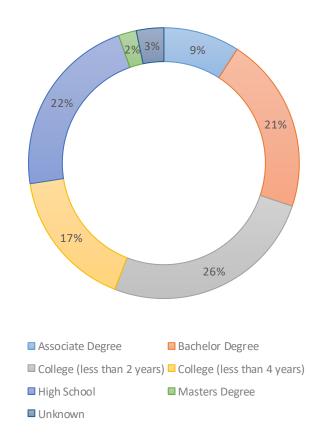
Hiring Process 2021



- 5457 Candidate Interest Cards (CICs)
- 75% of CICs are from Target Candidates
- A 33% increase in diversity representation when compared with 2019 CICs
- The most diverse pool of CICs in AFD history



# 2021 Candidate Interest Cards

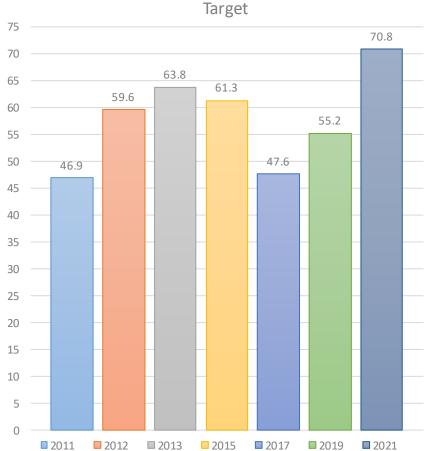


### Target Candidate Education Level

- 74.8% with some college background
- 23.3% with a Bachelors or Masters Degree
- 22% High School only background



### 2021 Hiring Process



Hiring Process Performance by Percentage

## Making History !!!

The record diversity of our CICs has translated to the most diverse applicant pool in AFD history.

- 3,270 Applications submitted
- **70.8%** are Target Applicants



### 2021 Hiring Process

# **Application Data**



- Majority Minority with 42.2% Hispanic/Latino
- Record percentage of female applicants
- Red numbers are new records

Demographic	2021		2019	
African -American	460	14.0%	388	11.3%
Hispanic/Latino	1404	42.2%	1072	31.1%
American Indian/Alaskan Native	23	0.6%	32	1.0%
Asian American Pacfic Islander	90	2.7%	83	2.4%
Two or More Races	194	5.9%	163	4.8%
Target	2318	70.8%	1895	55.2%
Non-Target	952	29.1%	1535	44.7%
Women	379	11.5%	332	9.7%



- Total applicant participation in the written exam has varied between 42% to 73% over the last decade.
- This is the largest point of attrition throughout hiring process.
- Recent trends reveal that Target candidates out participated non-Target candidates by 1% (2017 & 2019).

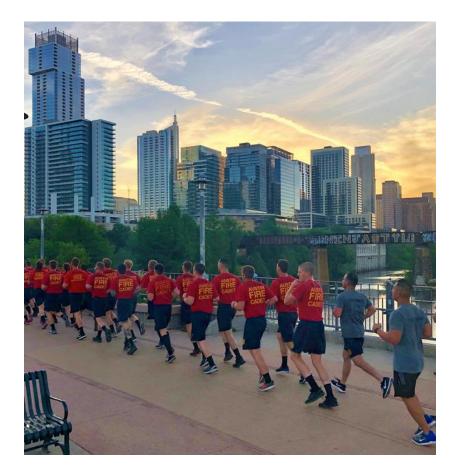
We believe that we can build on this trend by increasing participation in the written exam by our Target Candidates, thus increasing the diversity representation of our applicant pool even more!

#### Applicant Participation in Written Exam

	2019	2017	2015	2013	2012	2011
Total Participation	53%	73%	66%	59%	54%	42%
African American	45%	70%	61%	52%	44%	27%
Hispanic/Latino	55%	75%	64%	59%	55%	37%
AAPI	55%	75%	57%	67%	51%	40%
Caucasian	53%	70%	71%	61%	58%	46%
Target	54%	75%	64%	58%	52%	37%
Non Target	53%	72%	70%	62%	58%	46%
Women	55%	75%	66%	57%	52%	*



#### 2021 Hiring Process



## How you can help!

External Community Groups can...

- Help by engaging and motivating Target Applicants.
- Participating in organized Q&A sessions.
- Partnering with AFD Affinity Group representatives with applicant mentorship.

# https://joinafd.com/



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