



panel interview

PANEL INTERVIEW

INFORMATION SHEET

WHAT TO EXPECT

All candidates who pass the written examination will be invited to participate in the Entry Level Firefighter panel interview, also referred to as the oral interview.

Success in the oral interview is not based on your personal experience and any previous training in firefighting. The panel interviewers will be evaluating your ability to show you are ready for the physical and mental challenges of the training and the job.

A CHECKLIST

Be prepared!

The most important thing that you can do to prepare for an interview is to be familiar with the position and with the organization with which you are applying. The Candidate Information Packet* describes the requirements and expectations of the position. Become very familiar with these and make sure you have started preparing yourself both academically and physically.

Bring all documents requested (Completed Background Book).

Be on time.

Dress appropriately for a business interview.

Practice in front of a mirror or have someone videotape you. Mock interviews can be very helpful too. Ask people with experience to help you by asking questions that you have to respond to spontaneously.

Be honest in your responses and don't be afraid to ask questions when allowed for by the panel interviewers.

*Candidate Information Packet and other helpful documents are available online at www.aacounty.org/fire. Click on Employment. The packet can be found under Career Resources. Printed copies are available from the Office of Personnel (2660 Riva Road, Annapolis, Maryland 21401) and from the Fire Department Headquarters (8501 Veterans Highway, Millersville, Maryland 21108).