

Union Vale Fire District Service Award Program Point System

This is the Union Vale Fire District Service Award Program Point System adopted by the Board of Fire Commissioners. The Point System is intended to comply with Article 11-A of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York (i.e., the Service Award Program law).

The Union Vale Fire Company, Inc. has the responsibility to maintain the Point System records. It is imperative that all Active Members strictly comply with sign-in procedures for verifying attendance at training sessions, meetings, calls, etc. These sign in/attendance sheets must be produced upon demand if the Service Award Program records are audited.

The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Service Award Program has the right to change the Point System but may do so only if the changes comply with all governing rules, regulations, and laws. In the event that the Point System is changed, a written notice of change will be either given to Active Members or posted at the fire station.

When reading this document, an Active Member should keep in mind that the intent of the Point System is to provide Active Members with ample opportunity to earn benefits under the Service Award Program. An Active Member who for whatever reason (such as regular work hours) cannot earn as many points under one or more categories as other Active Members should focus on the total number of points he or she could earn from all categories of allowable point accumulation activities.

*In computing credit for those Active Members who also serve as paid employees within a political subdivision of the state, credit **shall not** be given for activities performed during the regularly assigned work periods.*

The Point System contains categories of activities for which Active Members can earn points. To earn Service Award Program service credit for a calendar year, a member of the fire company must earn at least 50 points under this Service Award Program Point System during the calendar year and must be an "active volunteer firefighter" as that term is defined in Article 11-A.

The Points System is as follows:

1. Training Sessions/Courses – 25 point maximum

Based on duration of training sessions/courses as follows:

1. Under 20 hours: One (1) point per hour; no more than five (5) points per course.
2. 20-45 hours: Five (5) points plus one (1) point per hour for each hour over twenty hours; no more than ten (10) points per course.
3. 45-100 hours: Fifteen (15) points per course.
4. Over 100 hours: Twenty-five (25) points per course.

NOTE: Training sessions/courses should be satisfactorily completed (certification of completion required) and designated as approved sessions by the Board of Fire Commissioners. Persons who are paid to attend training courses as part of their job or profession get no credit in the Service Award Program for attending such courses.

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2. Attendance at Meetings – 10 points maximum

Attendance at any official meetings of the entire volunteer fire company or the entire rescue squad -- one point per meeting.

3. Participation in Department Responses – 25 points

Points are earned for responding to the minimum number of fire company calls as follows:

Less than 10% -	0
10% or More -	25

4. Miscellaneous Activities – 10 points maximum

Participation in activities covered by the Volunteer Firefighters' Benefit Law and listed below for which points cannot be earned otherwise -- one point per activity including:

Activity

Work Details/Sessions
Station, Equipment Maintenance, Testing
Wakes & Memorial Services
Fire Prevention Activities
Explorer Activities

5. Line of Duty Disability – 5 points per month - no maximum

In the event that an active volunteer firefighter is either totally and temporarily disabled, or partially and permanently disabled, as certified by the Workers' Compensation Board or other competent authority approved by the Board of Fire Commissioners, and the disability occurs during the course of service as a volunteer, while actively engaged in providing line of duty services, as defined in subdivision one of section five of the Volunteer Firefighters' Benefit Law, the active volunteer firefighter shall receive five points for each complete calendar month of such disability. However, if such disability becomes a permanent and total disability and a total and permanent disability shall be awarded on account of such disablement, then no future points shall be credited under this line of duty disability provision after the date of the awarding of such disability by the Sponsor of the Service Award Program.