

Alaska Smokejumpers

1513 GAFFNEY RD. FORT WAINWRIGHT, ALASKA 99703

 **2015 Rookie Smokejumper Application Information**

The Alaska Smokejumpers will be accepting applications from qualified, hard working, highly motivated, and aggressive firefighters for our 2015 Smokejumper Rookie Training Program.

The Alaska Smokejumpers are the primary initial attack force for the largest area of wildlands in the United States. The 60+ Alaska Smokejumpers are called upon to provide initial and extended attack fire suppression to Alaska, Canada, and the Western United States wherever needed.

There are typically 6 to 10 positions open for rookie candidates in a given year. Approximately 150 applications are received for these positions. Selected candidates typically have a number of seasons of wildland firefighting experience, are highly recommended by their previous supervisor, and are in excellent physical condition. Historically about 40% of the candidates who begin training do not finish.

Selected candidates will be placed in the BLM Smokejumper Rookie Training Program for firefighting, parachute, and physical training. Training usually begins in the third week of April at Fort Wainwright, AK. Candidates who successfully complete training will join the Alaska Smokejumpers in the formidable and rewarding effort of fire suppression in Alaska and the lower 48 states. Rookie Smokejumper positions are temporary GS-5's with work generally ending in September.

Minimum qualifications for smokejumper rookie candidates (GS-5) are:

* **Must have a current FFT1 Qualification**; AND
* 12 months of specialized experience equivalent to the GS-04 level duties; OR

• A 4-year course of study above high school leading to a bachelor’s degree with either: 1) a major

study in forestry, range, or agriculture management; OR 2) a major in a subject-matter field directly

related to the position; OR

• At least 24 semester hours in any combination of the following courses: forestry, agriculture, crop or plant science, range management or conservation, wildlife management, watershed management, soil science, natural resources (except marine biology and oceanography), outdoor recreation management, civil or forest engineering, or wildland fire science. No more than 6 semester hours of mathematics is creditable; OR

• A combination of education and experience that is directly related to the work of the position

• Must have prior wildland fire suppression experience.

 The announcement information will be available at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov> from approximately October 27 through December 08, 2014. All Applicants are required to apply on line at <http://www.usajobs.opm.gov> ; For more information on this issue contact Fire staff help desk at (888)364-6432. Applicants with specific questions about the program or the application process are encouraged to call (907)356-5540.

Brandon Kobayashi

Lead Rookie Trainer

Alaska Smokejumpers

1513 Gaffney Rd.

Ft. Wainwright, AK 99703

(907) 356-5524

Email: bkobayashi@blm.gov