

1973. No. 414

[C]

**FIRE SERVICES****Appointments and Promotion**

REGULATIONS, DATED 27TH SEPTEMBER 1973, MADE BY THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS UNDER SECTIONS 16(2) AND 40(1)(b) OF THE FIRE SERVICES ACT (NORTHERN IRELAND) 1969.

The Ministry of Home Affairs on behalf of the Secretary of State in exercise of the powers conferred on it by sections 16(2) and 40(1)(b) of the Fire Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(a) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf, hereby makes the following Regulations:—

*Citation and commencement*

1. These Regulations may be cited as the Fire Service (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1973 and shall come into operation on 1st October 1973.

*Interpretation*

2. In these Regulations—

“the authority” means the Fire Authority for Northern Ireland;

“Fire Services Central Examination Board” means the body of persons specified in Regulation 8 of the Fire Services (Appointments and Promotion) Regulations 1965(b);

“control room duties” means duties in connection with the reception, transmission and recording of calls for the assistance of a fire brigade, and with the transmission of instructions regarding the provision of such assistance by a fire brigade as may be required in any case;

“Institution of Fire Engineers” means the limited company incorporated by that name on 25th July 1924, and the expression “graduate of the Institution of Fire Engineers” means a person who, under the Articles of Association of the said company and the byelaws set out in the Schedule to those Articles, has been duly elected a graduate thereof;

“Ministry” means the Ministry of Home Affairs;

“operational service”, in relation to any person, means whole-time service as a member of a fire brigade maintained by the authority or by a fire authority established under the Fire Services (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1950(c) or by a fire authority in Great Britain under the Fire Services Act 1947(d) holding a rank higher than that of junior fireman, during any period in which that person in the course of his duty as a member of such a fire brigade was under an obligation to attend at fires and provided that such service need not be confined solely to any one fire authority but may be an aggregate of such service in the employment of two or more such fire authorities;

“promotion” does not include promotion which is expressed to be temporary only;

“rank” does not include the rank of chief fire officer.

*Revocations*

3. The Fire Services (Qualifications of Fire Officers) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1966(e) are hereby revoked.

(a) 1969. c. 13 (N.I.).

(b) S.I. 1965, No. 577 (1965, I, p. 1817).

(c) 1950. c. 4.

(d) 10 & 11 Geo 6 c. 41.

(e) S.R. & O. (N.I.) 1966, No. 85.

*Appointment in the rank of junior fireman*

4.—(1) The qualifications for appointment in the rank of junior fireman, in the case of a male person, shall be as follows, that is to say, the person concerned at the time of his appointment—

- (a) shall be of good character;
- (b) shall have attained the age of 16 years and, subject to paragraph (2), shall not have attained the age of 17 years;
- (c) shall have satisfied the chief fire officer that he is likely, on attaining the age of 18 years, to be able to satisfy the qualifications for promotion to the rank of fireman mentioned in Regulation 5(1)(c), (d), (e) and (f).

(2) A person who has attained the age of 17 years but has not attained the age of 17 years and 3 months may be appointed in the rank of junior fireman if, after considering the circumstances of his case, the authority decide that this paragraph shall have effect in his case.

*Promotion to, or appointment in, the rank of fireman*

5.—(1) The qualifications for promotion to, or, subject to paragraph (2), appointment in the rank of fireman, in the case of a male person who is to serve whole-time therein on terms under which he is or may be required to engage in fire-fighting, shall be as follows, that is to say, such person at the time of his promotion or appointment—

- (a) shall be of good character;
- (b) shall have attained the age of 18 years and shall not have attained the age of 31 years, or, in the case of a person who, having undertaken a fixed period of voluntary service in the regular armed forces of the Crown, has completed that period of service, 35 years;
- (c) subject to paragraph (3), shall be not less than 5 feet 6 inches in height and have a chest measurement of not less than 36 inches when unexpanded with an expansion of not less than 2 inches;
- (d) shall have satisfied a duly qualified medical practitioner selected by the authority that he is fit to undertake fire-fighting duties and that he has not any physical abnormality, and is not suffering from any disease, which in either case would be likely to incapacitate him temporarily or permanently for the performance of the said duties;
- (e) shall have satisfied the chief fire officer of his ability to pass the following test of strength, that is to say, a test of his ability to carry a man weighing between 10 and 12 stone a distance of 100 yards in a time not exceeding 60 seconds; and
- (f) shall have passed such examination in educational subjects as the authority may require, being such an examination as necessitates a reasonable standard of proficiency in reading, writing and arithmetic and such other subjects, if any, as the authority may require, or be, to the satisfaction of the authority, of such educational standard that it is unnecessary for him to take any such examination.

(2) Nothing in this Regulation shall apply in relation to—

- (a) the appointment of a person who, at the time when it is decided to appoint him, is serving as a whole-time member of another fire brigade or of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Great Britain under the provisions of the Fire Services Act 1947 in a rank higher than that of a junior fireman, and is so serving on terms under which he is or may be required to engage in fire-fighting and whose engagement as such a member or person is not expressed to be temporary only; or

(b) the appointment of a person who has previously served as a whole-time member of the same or another fire brigade maintained by a fire authority under the provisions of the Fire Services Act (Northern Ireland) 1969 or of a fire brigade maintained by a fire authority in Great Britain under the provisions of the Fire Services Act 1947 in a rank higher than that of junior fireman, and was, immediately before he ceased so to serve, serving on terms under which he was or might be required to engage in fire-fighting and whose engagement as such a member or person was not expressed to be temporary only.

(3) A junior fireman may be promoted to the rank of fireman notwithstanding that he does not possess the qualifications mentioned in paragraph (1)(c) if, after considering the circumstances of his case, the authority—

- (a) decide that this paragraph shall have effect in his case; and
- (b) draw the attention of the medical practitioner selected for the purposes of paragraph (1)(d) to the fact that he does not possess the said qualifications.

*Promotion to a rank higher than that of fireman*

6.—(1) The qualifications for promotion to a rank higher than that of fireman, in the case of a male person who is not a part-time member nor is serving on terms under which he is solely engaged on control room duties, shall be as hereafter provided:

Provided that a person may with approval of the Ministry be promoted to such a rank to perform in that rank particular duties for which special qualifications are required if he possesses those qualifications notwithstanding that he does not possess the qualifications required under this Regulation for promotion to that rank.

(2) For promotion to the rank of leading fireman the qualifications of a member of a fire brigade shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall—

- (a) have passed the educational examination specified in Part I of Schedule 1, or be, to the satisfaction of the authority, of an educational standard at least as high as that required to pass the said examination; and
- (b) after having had 2 years' operational service, have passed the test of technical attainments specified in Part II of the said Schedule 1.

(3) For promotion to the rank of sub-officer the qualifications of a member of a fire brigade shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall have had not less than 4 years' operational service, and shall—

- (a) unless he is already a leading fireman, have passed a test of technical attainments specified in Part II of Schedule 1;
- (b) unless he is or has been a graduate of the Institution of Fire Engineers having passed the graduateship examination of the said Institution before the end of the year 1962, have passed the written examination specified in Part I of Schedule 2; and
- (c) have passed, to the satisfaction of the authority, the practical examination specified in Part II of Schedule 2.

(4) For promotion to the rank of station officer the qualifications of a member of a fire brigade shall be as follows, that is to say, he shall have had not less than 5 years' operational service and—

- (a) have passed a written technical examination on a syllabus of study prepared by the Fire Services Central Examination Board; or