



Recruitment for BLM AFS North Star Fire Crew is open for 2026 season

BLM AFS's training crew is perfect opportunity to launch a wildland firefighting career

Are you ready to embark on a thrilling adventure in the heart of Alaska's wilderness? The Bureau of Land Management Alaska Fire Service's Type 2 North Star Fire Crew is calling for recruits like you to launch your wildland firefighting career and become part of a team dedicated to wildfire suppression and management.

Located in the beautiful city of Fairbanks, Alaska, the North Star Fire Crew offers an unparalleled opportunity for young adults to kickstart their careers in wildland firefighting. As an entry-level hand crew, we provide a pathway for aspiring firefighters to become AFS hotshots, smokejumpers, or fire specialists. Many of our former North Star firefighters now hold positions at all levels of wildland fire in Alaska and nationally. Many support and leadership positions at BLM AFS are former North Star firefighters.

What sets us apart is our commitment to training. We welcome applicants with little to no fire experience and provide intensive training, including basic wildland fire certifications (also known as red card certification) within the first two weeks of critical training. Over a three-month season, our crew members learn fundamental skills in wildfire suppression, equipping them for the challenges of the job.

While classified as a Type 2 hand crew, the North Star Fire Crew adheres to Interagency Hotshot Crew standards. Our overhead positions are filled by seasoned BLM AFS hotshots with three to five years of wildfire experience, ensuring a high level of expertise and professionalism within our team.

Whether you're seeking seasonal work, yearning for summer adventures in the Alaska wilderness, or aiming for a career in wildland fire, the North Star Crew offers a gateway to fulfilling your aspirations. Our three-month season, running from mid-May to mid-August, is ideal for college students. For those seeking a full season, we coordinate placements with other BLM AFS crews, including Chena and Midnight Sun hotshots.

Fire assignments typically last two weeks, and crew members must be fire-ready at all times. While classified as casual employees, a full season with us counts toward qualifying experience as a regular seasonal employee.

We understand the challenges of living in Alaska, which is why we provide free housing and meals to North Star crew members. Our dining hall and barracks are conveniently located just a short walk from the operations building, where crew members report for duty.

Fighting fire in Alaska demands physical fitness and resilience. Our program strongly encourages physical preparedness, as the work is conducted outdoors in diverse and often challenging conditions. Crew members can expect wilderness living, campfire-cooked meals, tent camping, and up to 16-hour work shifts. Our wildfires are frequently remote, accessible only by plane, helicopter, or boat. Crew members are compensated approximately \$20 per hour during two-week fire assignments.

To learn more about the BLM AFS North Star Fire Crew and to apply, go online and fill out the [application](mailto:blm_ak_afs_northstar_crew@blm.gov) and email it to blm_ak_afs_northstar_crew@blm.gov.

Don't miss this chance to be part of something extraordinary. Join us in the noble mission of protecting Alaska's wilderness and communities from the threat of wildfires. Apply now and seize the opportunity to make a difference.

