

Expedited Bill No. 21-21
Concerning: Fire and Rescue Services –
Length of Service Awards Program
For Volunteers - Amendments
Revised: 5-4-21 Draft No. 2
Introduced: May 18, 2021
Enacted: June 15, 2021
Executive: _____
Effective: _____
Sunset Date: None
Ch. _____, Laws of Mont. Co. _____

COUNTY COUNCIL FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

Lead Sponsor: Council President at the request of the County Executive

AN EXPEDITED ACT to:

- (1) increase the amount of the length of service benefits to certain local fire and rescue department volunteers;
- (2) provide points for activities cancelled due to COVID-19 in the length of service benefits to certain local fire and rescue department volunteers; and
- (3) generally amend the length of service benefits program for certain local fire and rescue department volunteers.

By amending

Montgomery County Code
Chapter 21, Fire and Rescue Services
Section 21-21

Boldface	<i>Heading or defined term.</i>
<u>Underlining</u>	<i>Added to existing law by original bill.</i>
[Single boldface brackets]	<i>Deleted from existing law by original bill.</i>
<u>Double underlining</u>	<i>Added by amendment.</i>
[[Double boldface brackets]]	<i>Deleted from existing law or the bill by amendment.</i>
* * *	<i>Existing law unaffected by bill.</i>

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following Act:

Sec. 1. Section 21-21 is amended as follows:

21-21. Length of service award program for volunteers

* * *

(c) *Length of service benefits.*

(1) Volunteers Who Qualified Before 1985. Effective January 1, 1985, any volunteer who qualified for a monthly award payment before January 1, 1985, must receive monthly award payments equal to 150 percent of the pre-1985 monthly award payment. Effective June 20, 2021, any volunteer who receives a monthly award payment under this subsection must receive a 3% increase in the amount of the monthly award.

(2) Volunteers Who Qualify in 1985 or Later – 25 Years of Service.

* * *

(B) A volunteer who qualifies under this paragraph must receive an award payment of:

(i) \$240 [~~\$233~~] per month for life; and

(ii) \$12.05 [~~\$11.70~~] per month for life for each year of service as an active volunteer over 25 years (up to \$120.51 [~~\$117~~] per month). The maximum total benefit is \$360.51 [~~\$350~~] per month.

(3) Volunteers Who Qualify in 1985 or Later – 15 Years of Service.

* * *

(B) A volunteer who qualifies under this paragraph must receive an award payment of \$9.60 [~~\$9.32~~] per month for life for each year of service as an active volunteer.

(4) Volunteers who Qualify in 1985 or Later – 10 Years of Service.

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(B) A volunteer who qualifies under this paragraph must receive an award payment of \$9.60 [\$9.32] per month for life for each year of service as an active volunteer.

* * *

(6) A volunteer must receive a [3.5%] 2.5% increase, for a maximum benefit of no more than [\$362.00] \$382.18 per month, to his or her LOSAP benefit payment effective June 20, 2021, and a 2.5% increase effective July 1, 2021 for a maximum LOSAP monthly benefit payment of no more than \$391.73 if he or she:

(A) received LOSAP benefit payments as of December 31, 2015; and

(B) qualified for the higher nominal fee as described in Article 12 of the fire and rescue volunteers collective bargaining agreement, for calendar year 2015 by:

- (i) being on the Integrated Emergency Command Structures (IECS) certified list;
- (ii) receiving 30 LOSAP points for department and station responses; and
- (iii) receiving 20 LOSAP points for sleep-in or stand-by service.

* * *

(k) *Point system.* To qualify as an active volunteer under subsection (a), a volunteer accumulates points under this subsection during each calendar year that are not transferable to another year. An individual

52 must not receive points for any activity performed as a County
53 employee.


54 * * *

55 (9) A volunteer who does not accumulate 50 LOSAP points for
56 calendar year 2021 may submit a list consisting of canceled
57 meetings, drills, standbys or other collateral duties during 2021
58 that the volunteer was not able to attend or complete. The
59 volunteer's President and the Division Chief of Volunteer
60 Services must certify this list and award points.

61 **Sec. 2. Expedited Effective Date.**

62 The Council declares that this legislation is necessary for the immediate
63 protection of the public interest. This Act takes effect on the date on which it
64 becomes law.

Approved:

 _____ 6/22/2021

Tom Hucker, President, County Council

Date

Approved:

Marc Elrich, County Executive _____ Date

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Selena Mendy Singleton, Esq., Clerk of the Council

Date