



The Village of Pinehurst is pleased to announce that after three days of extensive review by a peer assessment team on behalf of the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE), the Village of Pinehurst Fire Department has been recommended for accredited agency status. Representatives from the Village of Pinehurst Fire Department will attend the Commission on Fire Accreditation International semi-annual meeting in August to meet with the Commission, who will make the final determination for accreditation.

The accreditation process provides a well-defined, internationally-recognized benchmark system to measure the quality of fire and emergency services. There are currently 19 accredited agencies in North Carolina and 220 worldwide. If accredited in August, Pinehurst will be the only career (or non-volunteer) accredited department in North Carolina that serves a population under 22,000. The nearest previously accredited fire department is at Fort Bragg.

“This recommendation for international accreditation is a testament to the hard work of each and every Pinehurst Fire Department employee and signifies the department’s commitment to continuous improvement efforts,” said Village Manager Jeff Sanborn.

Fire Chief Carlton Cole commended Deputy Chief Floyd Fritz, who served as the department’s accreditation manager and the entire Fire Department team. “Their dedication to the fire service is unmatched. We have worked together over the past several years to improve our services and our processes to meet the accreditation standards. We are proud to tell the residents of Pinehurst that their fire department has met these strict standards,” said Chief Cole.

Accreditation is a comprehensive self-assessment and evaluation model that enables organizations to examine past, current, and future service levels and internal performance and compare them to industry best practices. This process leads to improved service delivery. CPSE's Accreditation Program, administered by the Commission on Fire Accreditation International (CFAI) allows fire and emergency service agencies to compare their performance to industry best practices in order to:

1. Determine community risk and safety needs and develop community-specific Standards of Cover;
2. Evaluate the performance of the department; and
3. Establish a method for achieving continuous organizational improvement.

Please join the Village of Pinehurst in congratulating the Pinehurst Fire Department on this outstanding achievement.