

James T. Wascom
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Junior Firefighter Program

Junior Firefighter Member Structure

The Junior Firefighter program shall consist of one program coordinator and a minimum of three additional advisors. The members shall be divided into three shifts. Each shift shall be led by a shift advisor. Each shift shall be comprised of no more than eight junior members. One member will be elected as a Team Leader by their shift advisor. Any applicants over and above the allotted number per shift will be placed on a waiting list. The number of junior members allowed is due to the ability to supervise over span of control. Each shift advisor shall assign a night to their respective shifts for the purpose of training. Each shift advisor will be assigned a training schedule for their respective shifts by the program coordinator. It will be the decision of the shift advisor on how many nights of training each month their shift will complete.

Duties, Roles, and Responsibilities of Advisors

The program coordinator shall oversee each shift advisor as well as the entire program. Each shift advisor will elect a Team Leader from the membership. This person shall be appointed by qualifications and leadership abilities. All members shall follow the Chain of Command as established in this document.

- I. Fire Chief or his designee
- II. Program Coordinator
- III. Assigned Shift Advisor
- IV. Shift Team Leader
- V. Junior Firefighter

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Rules and Regulations

Membership Requirements

1. The application form and waiver must be completed in its entirety. A parent must sign the application in the presence of an advisor.
2. Any relevant, prior training must be documented on the application with associated certifications, to be submitted to the department. These will be kept in the members file.
3. After being accepted into the department, the member will serve a six month probationary period.
4. Members must attend a minimum of 50% of training meetings and classes per quarter. This will apply to cadet training classes and meetings. Training classes will be designated by the shift advisor for each assigned shift.
5. If a member cannot attend a class or meeting he/she shall notify their assigned shift advisor and advise them of the reason. The shift advisor will then notify the program coordinator who may “excuse” the absence. If an absence is excused, the absence will not count against the 50% requirement. In some instances, proof will be requested.
6. A minimum of a “C” grade point average will be required to enter and maintain membership as a Junior Firefighter. A copy of the latest report card shall be submitted with the application. A copy of a report card shall be submitted twice a year or upon request of shift advisor or program coordinator. An advisor may request proof of minimum requirements at any time. If the member is not enrolled in a public school or approved homeschool program, the member must show proof of enrollment in a(n) state approved GED program or completion of the same.
7. Any member resigning or being dismissed from the department must serve an additional six month probationary period, when/if they are accepted back into the department.

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Call Response

1. No junior firefighter shall respond to dispatched emergency/non- emergency calls for service in a privately owned vehicle (POV).
2. The program coordinator or the fire chief may clear a junior firefighter to respond to calls in his/her POV only under their discretion.
3. At no time is a junior firefighter allowed to have any emergency lights, sirens or other emergency warning devices in their vehicle at any time, whether displayed or not displayed.
4. Junior firefighters may respond to dispatched calls for service while at the station or participating in an approved special event. A response by a junior firefighter shall only be allowed with an experienced, qualified member of the department. At no time shall the junior firefighter be allowed to drive or operate any fire department apparatus.
5. A seat belt must be worn at all times while riding in an apparatus.

Safety and Conduct

1. No profanity, loud or abusive language shall be tolerated by junior firefighters, at any time.
2. Respect shall be given to all other members of the department. Senior members shall be addressed by their rank and/or title, if applicable.
3. It is the duty of the junior firefighters to follow the reasonable orders and commands of senior members of the department.