



| Wintergreen Fire and Rescue Standard Administrative Policy | |
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| Subject: | Junior Member |
| Reference Number: | ADM 01-013 |
| Effective Date: | 1-Mar-19 |
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| Signature of Approval | Curtis Sheets, Chief |

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to define requirements for junior firefighter programs pursuant to the Code of Virginia §40.1-79.1 and to set general guidelines for junior fire and rescue members.

Objective:

The objective of the Junior Member Policy is to provide a basic foundation in firefighting and emergency medical services, for high school students, between the ages of 16 and 18. On the emergency scene, Junior Members will operate and complete support functions, and shall be supervised by an officer, senior member, or chief.

This objective will be accomplished with training, classroom instruction, and fire-rescue call attendance. Junior Members are required to follow all rules stated in this Junior Member Policy, and the Standard Operating Guidelines of the Department.

Definitions:

A Junior Member shall be defined as a volunteer of the Fire-Rescue Department who is:

- Under the age of 18 including 16 and 17-year-old. (An 18-year-old who is still enrolled in school as defined in the bullet below shall fall under the guidance of this policy).
- A student at a local high school including: the home school equivalent, vocational technical schools, etc.
- Junior Members must be approved, after graduation, etc. to begin work as a regular member of the department. Once approved the member will begin a six-month probationary period.

Guidelines:

Senior members are responsible for overseeing the welfare and actions of the Junior Member on all emergency calls, non-emergency calls, training exercises, and routine maintenance operations. The senior member shall also provide positive support and a positive/non-threatening learning environment to all Junior Members.

Minors who are 16 and 17 MAY:

- Ride as a passenger in the cab of a fire truck or in a rescue vehicle. The Junior shall be seated with his/her seat belt securely fastened,

- Attend and take part in supervised training.
- Participate in department functions within the rehabilitation area of an emergency scene. This could include setting up the engine or light truck, assisting in water supply efforts, handling of wood and other technical rescue materials, and other support functions, which do not expose the Junior member to hazardous areas or atmospheres.
- Pick up hoses or other materials and clean up at the emergency scene after it has been declared safe by the Incident Commander.
- Enter a structure only when accompanied by an adult responder once the structure has been determined safe by the Incident Commander and not considered immediately dangerous to life or health (IDLH).
- Operate a fire pump or equipment located outside the danger zone at the direction of a senior member or Incident Commander.
- Use pressurized hose lines, if properly trained, under the direction of a senior member or Incident Commander and out of the danger area.
- EMT certified personnel may act as an attendant in addition to the AIC to maintain ALS compliance. In this instance the driver does not need to be an EMT.

Minors who are 16 and 17 MAY NOT:

- Perform fire suppression involving structures or vehicles.
- Perform firefighting “overhaul” activities (except when the structure has been declared safe by the Incident Commander and then only with direct supervision).
- Perform high level, confined space, collapse rescue, or any rescue operation that places them in danger or areas of IDLH.
- Drive fire department or rescue vehicles.
- Respond while operating red lights and/or sirens (drive any vehicle including their own car with attached operating red lights) to the scene of a fire or emergency.
- Respond to a Hazardous Materials events (except for support functions within the cold zone).
- Participate or assist in any extrication activities at the scene of an accident or emergency (except in the capacity of a support function).
- Direct traffic at the scene of a fire or other emergency.
- Train on departmental equipment or remove equipment from an apparatus unless under the supervision of a senior member or instructor.
- Stay at any Wintergreen Fire & Rescue station past 21:00.
- The Junior member may not show up at any Wintergreen Fire & Rescue station prior to 08:00 unless permission has been granted prior to that shift by the Captains involved.

Other Junior Requirements:

- Junior Members will submit, to the Deputy Chief, a copy of the progress reports from school. If failing in any course(s) the Junior Member will be suspended until grades are passing. Failing shall be defined as any grade lower than a “C” or the equivalent number grade. Any member who receives a failing grade in any class will be suspended until the next progress report/report card is received.

Parents will regulate home-schooled members, and proof of maintaining passing academic levels will be provided at the same intervals report cards are issued.

- Any Junior Member suspended from high school will automatically be suspended from the Department, for the duration of the school suspension
- If a Junior Member is unable to attend school for any reason, he/she must not be present at the station, respond to any calls, or be present at any fire or rescue scene, in any capacity during school hours until they return to school. Failure to obey this rule will result in one-week suspension.
- Junior Members must follow all standard operating guidelines and policies of the department.
- Junior EMT's shall not respond to calls where they may be potential or likely risk of physical or psychological harm to the Junior EMT. Such calls may include but not be limited to domestic violence situations, violent crime scenes, suicides or attempts, calls involving friends or immediate family members, weapons on scene, hazardous materials calls, or severe trauma situations.