

POSITION DESCRIPTION – CADET FIREFIGHTER – VOLUNTEER

Purpose:

The purpose of this SOG is to specify the duties and responsibilities for a Cadet Firefighter.

Scope:

This section applies to any member 16 or 17 years of age..

Supervision Received:

Works under the direct supervision of a Captain or Lieutenant, as needed.

Supervision Exercised:

None.

Permitted Activities:

Members under 18 years of age may perform any of the following activities, to the extent that they are not prohibited by other portions of this manual.

- A. May respond to fire or other emergency incidents for the purpose of watching the activities. While watching they may not enter any area designated as a hot or warm zone, and may not enter any area that because of its proximity to the incident poses any greater than normal hazard to them. Unless otherwise informed by the Incident Commander, they may not approach closer than the closest fire apparatus to the incident scene.
- B. May ride on department vehicles as permitted by the district insurance carrier. Minors shall wear seat belts at all times when riding in district vehicles, if seat belts are not provided, minors shall not ride. Minors shall not drive or otherwise operate any district vehicle at any time.
- C. May assist in rolling fire hose and/or picking up equipment after a fire or other emergency situation has been resolved. While performing this activity they may not enter any building, portion thereof, or other area which, because of its condition, poses any unusual hazard.
- D. May participate in routine maintenance and cleaning activities at the station.
- E. May participate in training drills, meetings, and other training sessions, with certain exceptions. They may not participate in training sessions involving the use of a burn building or other live fire evolutions. They may, however, participate in training on the use of portable fire extinguishers as offered to the general public, when such training is

supervised by a State Certified Fire Instructor. They may not participate in any drill which requires them to climb a ladder over six feet in height, or operate on a roof, scaffolding or similar area. They may not participate in any other drill that involves similar risks to life or health.

- F. May participate in routine inspection, fire prevention, or maintenance activities such as fire hydrant lubrication and painting.

Prohibited Activities:

Members under 18 years of age are specifically prohibited from performing any of the following activities. These prohibitions are based on requirements of the child labor laws, and supervisors who permit minors to perform these activities may be guilty of a felony.

- A. No minor member shall perform any function of a firefighter at any fire/emergency incident. Performance of activities related to the extinguishment of a fire such as refilling of SCBA cylinders, connection of hose lines away from the immediate area of the fire, operation of pumps, and transporting of equipment to the edge of the hazard area, are all considered to be firefighting activities and are prohibited. Any tasks performed at or near the fire scene during the incident are prohibited.
- B. No minor member shall carry or fill any compressed gas cylinder at any time; oxygen and SCBA air cylinders are specifically included. No minor shall dispense oxygen from any cylinder at any time. No minor shall operate any cascade system or high pressure (>40PSI) compressor.
- C. No minor member shall operate any chain saw, cut off saw or other industrial type cutting device.
- D. No minor member shall operate any fuel or electrically powered extrication equipment.
- E. No minor member shall climb or operate from any ladder above six feet in height, or operate on any roof, scaffolding, or similar location.
- F. No minor member shall be permitted to operate, at any time, the driving or pump controls of any district vehicle (portable pumps may be operated by minors during drills and/or training).
- G. No minor member shall be permitted to work on electrical apparatus or wiring.
- H. No minor member shall be permitted to work in or around toxic substances or corrosives.

Note: Some of these activities are permitted after a fire or other emergency incident has been resolved and an emergency situation no longer exists.

Peripheral Duties:

- A. Interacts with, supports, and assists members as directed within the chain-of-command.
- B. Assists in training new cadet members, as assigned.

Minimum Qualifications:

Possess a valid Kentucky driver's license.

Minimum Requirements:

- A. Must live in the district or within one mile of the district boundaries.
- B. Must be a citizen of the United States of America.
- C. Minimum age requirement is 16 years of age.
- D. Must be able to speak, read, and write the English language.

Training:

- A. Minor members will not perform firefighting and certain other related activities expected of adult members. Because they will not perform certain activities they are not required by federal and state standards to have all of the training and/or testing required for other members.
- B. Minor members are not permitted to enter hazardous areas requiring the use of protective breathing apparatus. Therefore, minor members are not required to have a physical examination or respirator fit testing.