

Operating Guidelines

For Travis County ESD#1

Junior Firefighter Programs

- Junior members must be in at least 8th grade and be 14 years of age to join and can participate until 18 years of age.
- Junior members should maintain at least a “C” average in their middle or high school coursework. If parents ask to limit participation at higher averages, their word will always be the last in these cases. In the event a junior member has lower than a “C” average, he or she will be placed on probation until the grade returns to a “C”.
- Junior members under 18 years of age must always obtain full permission from the parent or legal guardian to participate in our programs.
- The Junior Firefighter Program has a Zero Tolerance policy for bullying. If a Junior member ever feels intimidated, bullied or threatened; he or she will immediately notify the Program Coordinator, Ranking Officer or Chief Officer.
- Junior members will, at all times, be respectful to all members of the department and of the Junior Firefighting Program
- Junior members report directly to their Coordinator/Advisor or Officer for all assignments and activities.
- Junior members will receive classroom training in core areas of interest with classes focused on CPR, communications, general fire, rescue and EMS education, and fire safety and prevention.
- Junior members may participate in the following activities:
 - Training/Meetings
 - Ride-Out Program
 - Parades or Special Events
 - Fundraising Events
 - General Standby
 - Fire Safety / Prevention Education and Activities
- Junior members should attend regular bi-weekly meetings or events for youth program participants. These may include basic training coursework, a fixed activity such as one of those listed above, or other activity with the department.
- Junior members may only perform support or auxiliary work at fireground operations, such as setting up and manning a rehab area, truck refill operations, air bottle exchange, retrieving equipment from apparatus, etc.

- Junior members will not operate (drive) any fire department apparatus.
- Junior members are not allowed to respond to an emergency scene in their own personal vehicle.
- When approved to participate in the Ride-Out Program, Junior members WILL NOT respond to any Hazmat Materials incidents. The member must remain at the station.
- If at any time a Junior member does not feel comfortable completing or participating in a “hands-on” evolution; they will immediately notify the Program Coordinator, Advisor or Officer. We will never deliberately place a Junior member in a dangerous situation or a situation they’re not comfortable in.
- If an injury, no matter how minor, is sustained while training, during a ride-out or on an emergency scene; the Junior member will immediately notify the Truck Officer, Batt. Chief and Program Coordinator.
- At no time will a Junior member be substituted for a Certified Firefighter/EMT/Paramedic.
- Junior members will not, at any time, actively engage in fire suppression or rescue operations.
- Junior members can, at the discretion of the scene commander, assist in mop-up operations.
- Junior members are not to enter the living quarters area of any station unless invited by a crew member. The only exception to this is when reporting for a Ride-Out or with the Junior Coordinator or Advisor.
- And most importantly; SAFETY AND SAFE PRACTICES. Everything we do in training and on-scene, this is our number one priority. When we plan for hands-on training, Junior members will always have a safety briefing before we start the evolution.

These are the basic guidelines for participation in the Travis County Emergency Services District #1 Junior Firefighter Program.

One of the biggest guidelines that is not listed above, but is expected; when the Junior member joins the program, they should have a willingness and desire to learn and **have fun!**

If you, the member or your parent/guardian have ANY questions; please don’t hesitate to contact the Program Coordinator.

Parent and Junior Member must sign below stating that they have read and understand the Operating Guidelines. (Please return this page at the next meeting.)

Parent Signature/Date

Parent Printed Name

Junior Member Signature/Date

Junior Member Printed Name

Received by: _____