

Osage City Junior Firefighter Guidelines



Fire Chief: Dan Romine
Lieutenant and Junior Co-Director: Ryan Brooks
Junior Co-Director: Scott Brenner

<http://www.osagefire.com/Jr.html>

Purpose

In 2010, a Junior Firefighter program was established to develop youth with fire training and service. Being a junior firefighter is a rewarding way to learn skills used in firefighting and EMS. Upon learning a minimum number of skills, Juniors can and are expected to respond to emergency calls under the supervision of select firefighters. The duties Junior firefighters perform will free up qualified senior firefighters to perform other crucial tasks. Juniors will learn about the fire service through formal and on the job training. All training and personal protective equipment are provided at no cost to the Juniors.

Being a firefighter can be a dangerous job. Strict laws exist to protect minors from the most hazardous dangers. For example, Junior firefighters will **never** enter a burning building or a scene with hazardous materials. Osage County Fire District #2 takes safety **very** seriously and will **not** tolerate horseplay during training or real emergencies. These actions are grounds for disciplinary actions up to and including dismissal from the program.

Requirements

The requirements for the Junior firefighter program are as follows: Junior firefighters must be at least 14 years old, and in high school. They must be able to follow directions under stressful conditions. They should be in good physical condition to perform essential fire ground activities. Juniors should be willing and able to attend at least 50% of scheduled meetings and required training. Special training activities are optional, but highly encouraged. Juniors must maintain a 70% average or higher in their schoolwork to remain active.

Junior firefighters need to be self-starters and willing to learn. Juniors who regularly strive to learn more and be involved will be rewarded with increasing levels of responsibility and opportunities. Junior members who do not contribute to the department will be removed from active status to allow other members the opportunity to participate. In addition, Juniors who cause distractions or trouble for other members may be released from the program. The fire department is proud of its members, and junior members are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner when representing the fire department. We look forward to some great training and your assistance during actual emergencies.

Welcome to the program.

Rules and Regulations

1. The Junior Firefighters will abide by all federal, state, and departmental rules and regulations.
2. The regular fire department officers and the Junior Firefighter Directors will directly supervise the Junior Firefighters on all training and emergency calls.
3. All Juniors must complete a Junior Safety Brief. This program includes departmental procedures, apparatus orientation, scene orientation, general safety information and command structure.
4. Junior members should not be at the station unsupervised, except during a stand-by for an emergency call that has been dispatched. **DO NOT** bring your friends to hang around the fire station.
5. Juniors are not allowed to talk to any media regarding any fire department subjects unless they are granted permission from the Fire Chief or another fire department officer.
6. Do not respond to calls or come to the station if you are sick or under the influence of medication, drugs or alcohol. If you are found to be under the influence of drugs or alcohol at the fire station, you will be asked to leave and dismissed from the Junior Program. You may also be reported to the Osage City Police.
7. Absolutely no horseplay at the station, during calls, or during training will be tolerated. If you are caught on a fire scene, you will be asked to wait in the fire truck until the scene is terminated. Upon return to the station, corrective actions will be taken – up to and including dismissal from the program.
8. You are responsible for any equipment issued to you. You will be issued a set of bunker gear. This gear is not to be used for anything but firefighting activities. This gear is to be left at the station at all times unless you are participating in a fire activity or given permission by a Junior Fire Director or a fire department officer. You will also be issued a Personal Accountability Tag. This is to be with your gear and must be with you on all fire scenes and training. If you are issued a department t-shirt, you are responsible for keeping it clean and in good condition. You will be required to dress as appropriate for fire department functions. We must present a good image to the public. If you are not dressed appropriately for a department function, you may be asked to leave.
9. Absolutely no foul language during public events.
10. Junior Firefighters are not permitted to go directly to a scene. Juniors must respond to the station following all traffic laws and speed limits. At no time is a

junior member permitted to use colored lights, hazard lights, honk horns or use any other warning devices while enroute to the station. If you are reported for reckless or dangerous driving, you will be suspended from the privilege of running calls. OCFD #2 is in no way responsible or liable for any moving violations or accidents while enroute to or from the station for a call or training.

11. All Juniors will treat members of the fire department, other departments and the community with respect at all times. Disrespect will not be tolerated and will be handled accordingly.
12. If a Junior breaks any rules or protocols, the Junior may be placed on suspension, and not be allowed to run calls for a certain period of time.
13. A Junior will be expected to give up their seat on a responding apparatus to a regular firefighter.
14. Juniors are not allowed to drive department vehicles.
15. If a Junior has an issue with any part of the program, a Director, a firefighter, or an incident, the Junior needs to discuss it with one of the Junior Fire Directors or one of the officers. The department will work to resolve any issues that come up as quickly as possible.
16. Juniors should not discuss people involved in calls they have attended – especially medical calls or car accidents, as this is a violation of H.I.P.A.A. If a Junior is found to be violating this policy, it will be grounds for dismissal from the program.
17. Parents and friends are not allowed on calls.

Protocols

1. A Junior must bring and wear all of their bunker gear during a call or training, unless specified by a Junior Fire Director or officer. The Junior must always wear their helmet and gloves while operating on a fire scene unless in rehab. A Junior must always have their helmet and gloves on while working with or around hoses, even during training. If a Junior fails to bring a necessary piece of gear to a call or training, the Junior will be asked to sit out for their safety.
2. A Junior must wear their seatbelt when riding in a department vehicle.
3. The Junior firefighter must be within speaking (5 feet) distance of their assigned firefighter at all times while operating on a fire scene, unless the Junior has been asked to get something or has been sent to rehab.
4. A Junior firefighter is not allowed to ever enter any kind of burning structure, even during training.
5. A Junior can help with salvage and overhaul only after the structure has been checked for integrity and no holes are present in the flooring by an officer or a Junior Director.
6. A Junior is not allowed to do traffic control without a firefighter, and must wear a reflective vest.
7. A Junior is not allowed to go on the roof of a burning structure at any time. A Junior may not assist in vertical ventilation. A Junior may assist with horizontal ventilation, but must be within touching (2-3 feet) distance of their assigned firefighter.
8. A Junior may be on the nozzle of a hose if they are within speaking distance of their assigned firefighter. Two Juniors may be on the same hose line if they are within touching distance of one of their assigned firefighters. A Junior may operate a pump as long as there is a firefighter within yelling distance (15 feet) of the Junior.
9. On grass or wildland fires, a group of Juniors (no more than 4) may be paired with a single firefighter, but the Juniors must stay within yelling distance.
10. Juniors must be at least 17 and have received prior permission by a Junior Director and/or officer approval to run car accidents and EMS calls. Approval will be based on maturity level and the ability to handle more stressful situations. It will then be at the discretion of the medical personnel or fire department officer to allow the Junior to get out of the truck and assist with patient care.

11. During the school week, Juniors are allowed to run calls between 6:00 and 22:00. If a Junior is already on scene before 22:00, they may stay on scene until they can be taken back to the station. However, they may not answer any new calls dispatched after the deadline. Juniors are not allowed to leave class to respond to any incident. During the summer or any other school holiday, Juniors may respond to calls between 06:00 and 01:00
12. Juniors are not allowed to work in a Haz-Mat zone. Juniors may assist with staging only. It is up to the highest ranking officer as to when Juniors are allowed to assist with staging.
13. If a Junior witnesses/experiences something traumatic on a call or during training, the Junior must undergo an Incident Debriefing by a trained counselor within 4 days of the incident.
14. If a Junior feels that something is unsafe, either on scene or during training, they must report it immediately to a Junior Director and the highest ranking officer.
15. If a Junior is injured during training or on a call, it must be reported immediately to a Junior Director and the highest ranking officer. The Junior must be evaluated by medical personnel. After every injury, an investigation into the incident must be conducted by a team assigned by the Fire Chief.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of the officers or the Junior Fire Directors.

Dan Romine, Chief: 785-231-7771, ksffatreas@embarqmail.com

Ryan Brooks, Lieutenant & Junior Co-Director: 816-289-8910, zipit@mchsi.com

Scott Brenner, Junior Co-Director: 785-528-4514, brennersm@gmail.com

Osage County Fire District No. 2
Officer Contact Information

Dan Romine, Chief: 785-528-5070

Todd Peterson, Assistant Chief: 785-528-4576

Gary Thompson, Captain: 785-528-3185

Tim Degnan, Lieutenant: 785-217-5506

Ryan Brooks, Lieutenant & Jr. Co-Director: 785-528-3689

Acknowledge Receipt of Guidelines

I acknowledge that I and my son/daughter have received a copy of the Osage City Junior Firefighter Program Guidelines and have read and understood them. By signing this, I agree to abide by the rules/regulations/protocols at all times and understand that any violations are grounds for disciplinary actions up to and including dismissal from the program.

Junior Firefighter Signature & Date

Parent/Guardian Signature & Date

I acknowledge that the above received a copy of the Osage City Junior Firefighter Program Guidelines.

Junior Director Signature & Date

Fire Chief Signature & Date

**Osage County Fire Dist No. 2 (OCFD 2) Junior Firefighter Program
Image and Materials Release & License**

For good and valuable consideration herein acknowledged as received, I hereby grant to the OCFD 2 Junior Firefighter Program (OCFD 2 JFP), its legal representatives and assigns, and those acting with its authority and permission, the absolute right and permission to use, re-use, publish, and re-publish photographic portraits or pictures or videos of me and/or my child or in which I or my child may be included, in whole or in part, or composite or distorted in character or form, without restriction as to changes or alterations, made through any medium and in any and all media now or hereafter known. For purposes of illustration but not limitations in print materials, OCFD 2 JFP promotions and/or advertisements, public service announcements, public presentations, online, public displays, internal uses, art, trade, or any other purpose whatsoever. Additionally, if recorded my or my child's voice may be used in conjunction with any other permitted use set forth in this agreement. I understand that my child's name may be used in any publication; and my child's school name, grade level, and/or age may also be used.

I further grant OCFD 2 JFP an irrevocable, royalty free, world wide, all media license to use any material created by me or my child in conjunction with the activities of or in association with OCFD 2 JFP for the purposes of illustration but not limitations in artworks, essays, evaluations, etc.

I hereby waive any right that I may have to inspect or approve the finished product or products that may be used in connection therewith or the use to which it may be applied. I understand and agree that no further consideration is due me or my child from OCFD 2 JFP for the rights granted herein.

I hereby release, discharge, and agree to hold harmless OCFD 2 JFP, its legal representatives and assigns, and all persons acting under its permission or authority or those for whom it is acting, from any liability by virtue of any blurring, distortion, alteration, optical illusion, or use in composite form, whether intentional or otherwise, that may occur or be produced in the taking of said picture or in any subsequent processing thereof, as well as any publication thereof, including without limitation any claims for libel or invasion of privacy.

I hereby warrant that I am of legal age and have the right to contract in my own name and on behalf of my child, and that no additional permissions are required. I have read the above authorization, release, and agreement, prior to its execution, and I am fully familiar with the contents thereof. This release shall be binding upon me and my heirs, spouse, my child's other parents or guardians, legal representatives, and assigns. The term "Child" as used in this agreement shall be my natural born children, adopted children, or children for which I am legal guardian or foster parent.

Parent/Legal Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Print Name: _____

Child's Name: _____

Child's school _____ Grade _____ Age _____