

Midland Park Fire Department

Junior Firefighter Auxiliary Rules & Regulations

1. REQUIREMENTS FOR MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1. Applicant shall be between the ages of 16 and 18 years of age
- 1.2. Applicant shall complete an application to the Midland Park Fire Department using The NJ State Firemen's Association form
- 1.3. Applicant shall obtain parent or guardian permission and submit a Parental permission release form.
- 1.4. Applicant shall be a resident of Midland Park or have a parent and/or grandparent who is active in the Midland Park Fire Department or life member of the Department.
- 1.5. Applicant must complete a physical evaluation, by his/her own physician, using the New Jersey State Firemen's Association form.
- 1.6. The Junior Firefighter Auxiliary applicant and their parent or guardian must appear before the Department's line officers and Junior Firefighter Auxiliary committee for an interview prior to acceptance into the Juniors Auxiliary.
- 1.7. A copy of the rules and regulations of the Midland Park Junior Firefighter Auxiliary will be provided to the applicant and their parent/guardian at the time of interview. The applicant and parent/guardian will sign off on the permission and release form that they are in receipt of the rules and regulation of the Midland Park Junior Firefighter Auxiliary and agree with its content.
- 1.8. Acceptance to the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary Program shall be subject to approval by the Mayor and Council.

2. TRAINING

- 2.1. Training to include instruction concerning:
 - Municipal water systems.
 - Hydrants and alternative water sources.
 - Care and handling of fire hose.
 - Types and uses of portable fire extinguishers.
 - Incident Management System.
 - Fire Department chain of command.
 - Procedures for handling fire alarms.
 - Radio procedures.
 - Care, cleaning, and basic maintenance of apparatus.
 - Preparation of knots for hoisting equipment.
 - Safety measure for riding on apparatus.
 - Use of personal protective equipment and hand tools.
 - Theory of pumps.
 - Use of ground ladders.
- 2.2. Training may also include other aspects of firefighting a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member can perform in a safe and supervised environment as approved by the Fire Department and line officers.

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3. DUTIES

- 3.1. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall obey all lawful orders given to them by any Line Officer, Executive Officer, Trustee, or senior member in authority of the Midland Park Volunteer Fire Department.
- 3.2. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members may wash and roll hose, re-pack hose, clean equipment and put equipment away on the fire ground if they are well away from contaminated areas.
- 3.3. When a Line Officer assigns a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member to assist a firefighter in a task, the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member shall follow all instructions given, provided such instructions do not place the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member in a hazardous area or in other physical danger.
- 3.4. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall attend drills of the Department, except for good cause; (school requirements, religious requirements, sports, band practice or team games, etc.).
- 3.5. Junior Members shall help maintain and keep the Fire Department grounds and equipment always clean.

4. Safety

- 4.1. Junior Members are to follow all orders as directed by personnel on the scene.
- 4.2. The member must be under the direct supervision and control of the Fire Chief, Fire Officer, or a firefighter over 21 years of age. Direct supervision means that the firefighter must be within direct speaking distance of the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member.
- 4.3. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall not perform tasks they are not comfortable in at any time. If a junior member is not comfortable in a roll or task, they should bring it to the attention of the senior member they are assigned to in an appropriate manner.
- 4.4. Junior Members shall not participate or perform in any repair or maintenance to any Fire Department Apparatus.
- 4.5. For the safety of the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member, he/she is not permitted to engage in any of the following or other prohibited activities by law. The law prohibits members under the age of 18 of an emergency service organization from participating in the following activities:
 - Enter a burning structure,
 - Operate any truck or other vehicle of the Fire Department,
 - Operating various types of power-driven saws and shears.
 - Operate the pumps of any fire vehicle while at the scene of a fire.
 - Ascend ladders except during training activities.
 - Participate in operations with incidents involving paint, acid, or poisons.
 - Rooftop ventilation or any work on top of a roof.
 - Entry into a hazardous atmosphere. (Including training)

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5. RULES

- 5.1. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members are subject to the By-Laws and Constitution of the Midland Park Volunteer Fire Department and the rules and regulations of the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary By-laws
- 5.2. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members may observe at a safe distance established by the Incident Commander.
- 5.3. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall not respond to hazardous materials incidents and bomb stand-by's.
- 5.4. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall not assist or participate at any fire or emergency call in any other jurisdiction and shall not board any apparatus dispatched to a call for mutual aid or a cover assignment.
- 5.5. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall not respond to a fire call, be at a fire scene or be on the Fire Department or Municipal premises after 9:00 pm on a school night.
- 5.6. No Junior Member will be allowed to respond to any fire calls on school days while school is in session.
- 5.7. While performing any training duties or riding on the apparatus, or working on the fire ground, all Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall comply with the Department rules and regulations.
- 5.8. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall not direct traffic.
- 5.9. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members (or their parents/guardian), when responding to the fire station are not permitted to display and utilize any type of visual or audible warning devices in their personal vehicles. No Junior Member shall operate any vehicle with any emergency equipment activated; this is to include 4-Way hazard flashers. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members may not use or display emergency identification on their vehicle.
- 5.10. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members may ride on the fire apparatus in seated positions and inside other Department vehicles, safety belts shall be always worn.
- 5.11. If a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member is on the apparatus and an active firefighter needs a seat, the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member shall relinquish their seat.
- 5.12. No Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member shall be in the fire house without the presence of at least two active members. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members cannot invite guests into the fire house.
- 5.13. No Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member shall start, drive, or in any way move, any of the Midland Park Fire Department's fire apparatus or Department vehicle.
- 5.14. The Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member shall not borrow or use any Department equipment or materials for personal use under any circumstances.
- 5.15. Junior firefighter Auxiliary member must abide by the Department's social media policy and are forbidden from taking pictures or video of any incidents while acting in the capacity of the Midland Park Fire Department.
- 5.16. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members may climb ground ladders or aerial ladders for training purposes only under the direct supervision of a fire officer or his or her designee.

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- 5.17. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members may utilize any non-powered hand tool and change SCBA bottles only if the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member has received training to do so. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members must wear personal protective equipment, including but not limited to gloves and protective eye wear, when operating such equipment.
 - 5.18. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members will have no voting privileges at Fire Company meetings and shall not hold any Office.
 - 5.19. The Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member will remain with the apparatus officer or driver until given other orders.
 - 5.20. No Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member while at a meeting activity, or fire department function shall be under the influence or in the possession of alcohol, drugs, tobacco/vape products, or any other controlled substances. Any member found in violation of this rule will be subject to immediate dismissal.
 - 5.21. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member shall act in a mature, professional, and respectful manner at any fire department drill, meeting and or function. Physical violence or destruction of property will not be tolerated.
 - 5.22. No Junior Member will question the authority of a Fire Officer or Chief Officer unless it conflicts with the Fire Department By-laws and Standard Operating Guidelines.
 - 5.23. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members, who do not have a valid driver's license, shall be responsible for arranging transportation to and from the firehouse for all calls, drills, and activities.
 - 5.24. Junior Members with a valid New Jersey State License shall abide by all New Jersey Motor Vehicle Laws.
 - 5.25. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall be required to exercise caution in responding to a fire call with due regard for all provisions of the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Code.
 - 5.26. The Midland Park Fire Department is in no way responsible or liable for any moving violations or accidents while in-route to or from the station for a call or training.
 - 5.27. No Junior Member shall be allowed to drive to any fire scene in their personally operated vehicle unless directly instructed by the Incident Commander.
 - 5.28. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall don their assigned protective gear before boarding any piece of fire apparatus that is responding to a call. Juniors shall wear their assigned protective gear to all calls unless otherwise instructed by the Officer of the apparatus.
 - 5.29. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall not make or issue any public statements on behalf of the Department concerning any emergency incidents. All requests for comment are to be referred to the incident commander or to the Chief of the Department or most Senior Officer on the scene.
 - 5.30. Junior Members shall report to all meetings, drills, and work details on time, if they don't interfere with school/work activities.
 - 5.31. No Junior Member is allowed to gamble on Fire Department property in any form.
 - 5.32. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members are encouraged to attend all Fire Department functions.

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- 5.33. Junior Members must obtain permission and notify the Officer-in-charge before leaving any Fire Department call, meeting, and function.
- 5.34. Junior Members will not begin accruing time towards State Exempt Status recognition until they have been accepted as a full member.
- 5.35. Junior Members are encouraged to become familiar with all equipment on the apparatus. They must, however, have prior permission from a Fire Officer or Senior Firefighter before any equipment is removed from the apparatus.
- 5.36. During drills, Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members are encouraged to participate in all drills, but they are limited to the following training that does not involve fire, smoke, toxic or noxious gas, or hazardous materials or substances; and observing firefighting activities, while under supervision.

6. INSURANCE

- 6.1. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members shall be insured as provided by the Borough's program of insurance with the Bergen Joint Insurance Fund, including Workers Compensation.

7. SUSPENSION AND REMOVALS

- 7.1. The Chief of the Fire Department or Junior Auxiliary Committee may suspend any Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member for good cause including, but not limited to:
 - Disobeying direct, valid, legal orders.
 - Suspension from school.
 - Failure to obey the rules and regulations of the Department.
 - Responding or participating against the explicit instructions of parents (guardians).
 - Failing to maintain a "C" average or better in school.
 - Failure to attend school as required.
 - Conviction of a crime or misdemeanor.
 - Conduct unbecoming to the good reputation of the Midland Park Fire Department.
 - Failure to report an injury sustained on the fire or training ground.
 - Failure to report an accident or damage to equipment or apparatus.
- 7.2. No Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member, under suspension, shall respond to any fire alarm, call, drill, training session or meeting or be in the fire house at any time.
- 7.3. Parents or guardians may request the Midland Park Fire Department to suspend or dismiss any Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member due to school grades or other reasons.
- 7.4. At the request of the Fire Company or Fire Officers, the Chief may suspend and dismiss any junior member for conduct that is detrimental to the fire department policies, goals, and procedures.
- 7.5. In the event of a suspension from the Fire Department, a meeting will be held with the Junior Committee, Chief of the Department, Company Officers, and parents/guardians to determine the length of suspension/removal.

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8. Issued Equipment

- 8.1. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member will be issued a complete set of bunker gear. The helmet will be marked to identify them as a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member.
- 8.2. If there is an available pager one will be issued to the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member. If that pager is needed for a Senior Firefighter, the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member will surrender their pager. A fire department or privately owned pager or radio is not permitted to be in school for any reason. If this becomes an issue, the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member will forfeit the use of the pager. Keys for the firehouse will not be issued to Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member.
- 8.3. The Midland Park Fire Department may issue Junior Firefighter Auxiliary Members a Uniform. That uniform and any department issued Equipment and/or gear is and shall remain property of the Midland Park Fire Department and shall be returned upon request of the Department or upon termination of the Junior firefighter Auxiliary members participation as a volunteer with the Department for any reason. All equipment and gear are to remain in the firehouse unless given permission to remove gear from the firehouse from a line officer or junior auxiliary commit member.

9. ACTIVE STATUS

- 9.1. When a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member reaches his/her 18th birthday, the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member is eligible to apply for membership in the Midland Park Volunteer Fire Department. Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members seeking to join the Midland Park Volunteer Fire Department must satisfy all requirements of the Department and will be considered for membership, in part, based on the Junior Firefighter Auxiliary members performance as a Junior Firefighter Auxiliary member.
- 9.2. Upon reaching the age of eighteen, junior member will complete a new application to the Midland Park Fire Department as required by law and as required by the by-laws of the Midland Park Fire Department.
- 9.3. No Junior member may remain a junior member after their eighteenth birthday.