

DEPARTMENT OF FIRE AND RESCUE SERVICES



GENERAL ORDER

120.03



Originating From	Issue Date	Revision Date	Attachments
Administration	09/03/1997	N/A	N/A

**SUBJECT: Operational Standards for Volunteer Personnel**

**APPLICABILITY: All Personnel**

**POLICY:**

The Howard County Volunteer Firemen's Association and DFRS recognize the need for minimum operational standards for volunteer members in order to provide a safe, quality, uniform level of service. All personnel participating operationally as fire, rescue, and/or emergency medical service providers shall meet the following minimum standards.

1 DEFINITIONS:

- 1.1 Category of Operational Participation Category that designates the approved level of operational participation. (i.e. full performance, EMS provider only, fire/rescue provider only, fire/rescue/first responder provider only)
- 1.2 Minimum Standard The minimum amount of training that must be successfully completed within a specific category of operational participation.
- 1.3 Course Titles: Where course titles are specified, acceptable equivalencies will be considered.

2 GENERAL

- 2.1 The respective Volunteer Fire Chief shall be responsible for the authorization of their members to become operationally active.
- 2.2 Operational participation for all members shall be managed in accordance with this Policy.
- 2.3 All operational personnel shall be covered by Workers Compensation.
- 2.4 Before being authorized to ride, all personnel will be required to have successfully completed Hazmat Awareness, Blood borne Pathogens, and CPR training.
- 2.5 Must be 16 years of age or older.

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2.6 Personnel currently enrolled in Firefighter I or EMT-B Programs may be granted limited permission to ride provided successful completion of mid-term exam and they have met the requirements of 2.4.

### 3 FULL PERFORMANCE OPERATIONAL STATUS MINIMUM STANDARDS

3.1 Successful completion of the MFRI Firefighter I Program

3.2 Possess current certification of the Maryland EMT-B Program

3.3 Meets all requirements of AEmergency Medical Service Providers@

3.4 Possess current AED certification

### 4 FIRE/RESCUE FIRST RESPONDERS OPERATIONAL STATUS MINIMUM STANDARDS

4.1 Successful completion of the MFRI Firefighter I Program

4.2 Possess current First Responder certification

### 5 EMS SERVICE PROVIDERS OPERATIONAL STATUS MINIMUM STANDARD

5.1 Possess current certification as EMT-B, EMT-I or EMT-P

5.2 Possess current Thumper certification

5.3 Possess current AED certification

### 6 FIREFIGHTER OPERATIONAL STATUS MINIMUM STANDARDS

6.1 Successful completion of the MFRI Firefighter I Program

6.2 Must meet all requirements of 2.0 General Section

6.3 Personnel entering Fire Service after July 1, 1997 shall be required to complete the First Responders Program or EMT-B within 2 years from the time they begin their first training class.

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6.4 Personnel operationally active prior to June 30, 1997 will be required to successfully complete the First Responder Program or EMT-B by June 30, 2000 in order to be operationally active.

Approved:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joseph A. Herr".

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Joseph A. Herr  
Fire Chief

Endorsed by:

- Chief Donald E. Watson, Elkridge Volunteer Department, Inc.
- Chief John J. Klein, Ellicott City Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.
- Chief H. Mithcell Day, West Friendship Volunteer Firemen's Association, Inc.
- Chief J. Lee Sirk, Lisbon Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.
- Chief F. Patric Marlatt, Fifth District Volunteer Fire Department, Inc.
- Chief Norman Wines, Savage Volunteer Fire Company, Inc.