

Vehicle Operator Training

600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to enhance the safety of members and the public by ensuring that all Richmond Township Fire Protection District members, who operate firefighting apparatus and other authorized emergency vehicles as part of their duties receive appropriate training.

600.1.1 DEFINITIONS

Definitions related to this policy include:

Authorized emergency vehicle - Vehicles and ambulances of the Richmond Township Fire Protection District (625 ILCS 5/1-105).

Firefighting apparatus - Vehicles designed for the purpose of firefighting. This includes pumpers, ladder trucks and aerial devices, tiller trucks, wildland firefighting vehicles, aircraft rescue firefighting (ARFF) vehicles and mobile water supply (water tender) units.

Rescue vehicles – Emergency vehicles designed, staffed and equipped to respond to, and to assist with the medical emergencies of individuals suffering from injury or illness.

Staff response vehicles – Staff vehicles designed to respond to emergencies with firefighting and medically trained members and equipment for command and control of major emergency situations.

600.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the Richmond Township Fire Protection District that all members who operate any authorized emergency vehicle shall successfully complete the appropriate operator training that meets or exceeds the applicable requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) for the types of vehicles operated, or certification through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal Division of Personnel Standards and Education (OSFM-PSE).

Training should include written, oral and practical evaluations to demonstrate proficiency. The Training Officer shall annually audit and update driver/operator training materials to ensure compliance with local, state and federal requirements.

600.3 PROCEDURES

All members who operate firefighting apparatus, shall have training validating competent operational and driving skills consistent with NFPA 1002, 2003 edition or OSFM-PSE certification as Fire Apparatus Engineers (110 ILCS 365/5).

All members who drive other district authorized emergency vehicles that are not fire apparatus, such as rescue vehicles and staff response vehicles, shall complete driver training that meets or exceeds the requirements of NFPA 1451, 2002 edition or OSFM certification as Fire Service Vehicle Operators.

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600.4 TRAINING OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the responsibility of the Training Officer to ensure that any member required to drive fire apparatus authorized emergency vehicles as a part of his/her normal duties has received all training required for competent, safe operation of the apparatus. The Training Officer shall coordinate with the district member appointed to monitor driver's license status to ensure members have valid driver's licenses, in accordance with the Driver's License Requirements Policy.