

Yamhill Fire Protection District

District Policies, Procedures, & SOG's

MISSION

*Yamhill Fire Protection District is dedicated to
serve and protect our community*

District Procedure

OPERATIONS

OPS-GEN – 403.1

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Apparatus Operator Training and Promotion

Issued: September 9, 2014

Revised: July 11, 2022

PURPOSE:

To establish an operational statement regarding the responsibilities and requirements of the Driver/Operator while operating fire district apparatus for all manner of response types. Safety is the key. The apparatus and personnel must arrive, complete tasks on scene and return safely to the fire station. Citizens place a high regard on fire fighters and those in control of fire apparatus. It is the Driver/Operator's duty to perform safely reducing the risk of accident, injury and loss of life.

To provide a systematic way of training, and checking off members of the district, enabling those members to operate emergency vehicles utilized by the Yamhill Fire Protection District, also allows for the requirements needed by those members to be promoted to the rank of Engineer within the district.

SCOPE:

This Standard Operating Procedure shall apply too all active members of Yamhill Fire Protection District who are at least 18 years of age or older.

Establish how to drive and operate all apparatus in a manner consistent with safety and due regard for the welfare of the public and fire district personnel shall govern the operation of all apparatus.

ENFORCEMENT:

Enforcement of this standard operating procedure is the responsibility of the District's Officers. Any person deviating from the provisions of this procedure may be required, at the discretion of the officer in charge, to submit in writing, within five (5) calendar days, an explanation for such deviation to the requesting officer who will forward the explanation up the chain of command for further review.

DEFINITIONS:

Light emergency Apparatus:

Those vehicles within the Yamhill Fire Protection District that respond to emergencies, such as Brush 4, Brush 41, Car-4, and Car-41.

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Engines:

Those vehicles within the Yamhill Fire Protection District that respond to emergencies such as Engine 41, Engine 42, Engine 43, and Engine 4.

Water Tenders:

Those vehicles within the Yamhill Fire Protection District that respond to emergencies such as Water Tender 4 and Water Tender 41 (Engine 41).

Other Emergency Vehicles:

Those vehicles within the Yamhill Fire Protection District that respond to emergencies, such as Rescue 4.

Other Vehicles:

Those vehicles owned by the Yamhill Fire Protection District that may or may not respond to emergencies, such as duty vehicles and support units.

Apparatus Operator:

The person assigned to an apparatus, during an emergency or training situation that is responsible for the safe and knowledgeable operation of that apparatus.

Company Officer:

The person assigned to an apparatus during an emergency or training situation that is responsible for the safe and knowledgeable operation of that apparatus.

TRAINER:

Any member who holds an Operator status may train other members however a District Officer must complete the driver's check sheet.

Each Trainer shall receive all the necessary information regarding course content and testing requirements for each vehicle involved in the program.

To maintain a Trainer status, the Trainer must be a current Operator of the apparatus.

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TRAINEE:

Every member of the district is designated a Trainee until the member has successfully completed the training and testing program for those District vehicles included in this program.

Each Trainee shall be issued a driver's check sheet. The trainee shall log the driving and pumping time for each of the district's vehicles on a drill roster.

TRAINING:

All members wishing to be considered for Apparatus Operator training must meet the minimum qualifications:

- 18 years of age for the following classification of vehicles... Light Emergency Apparatus, Other Emergency Vehicles, and Other Vehicles.
- 18 with a CDL or 21 years of age for the following classification of vehicles...Engines, and Water Tenders.
- Have completed the IFSTA Driver course.
- Have completed an approved Apparatus Operator Cone course and completed the DPSST Task Book for NFPA Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator.
- Have an insurable driving record for at least three years, as indicated by DMV license checks.
- Have at least one (1) ~~two~~ year of experience as a firefighter with the Yamhill Fire Protection District, or one-year experience with two years, experience at another firefighting agency to drive Engines and Water Tenders.
- Have passed the district's map test and area familiarization test.

The number of hours needed to achieve competency in both the driving aspect as well as the operational aspect of the vehicles will vary depending on both the trainee and the vehicle in which they are training. The following guidelines are to be followed:

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DRIVE TIME:

The Following minimum drive hours for each apparatus; at least Three (3) hours of behind the wheel training with a qualified Training operator or officer for Car 4, Car 41. At least Five (5) hours of behind the wheel training for Rescue 4, Brush 4, and Brush 41. Engines and Tender will require a minimum of Ten (10) hours of behind the wheel Training and all training must be supervised by a Training Operator instructor or Officer. Additional hours may be required by individual needs to accomplish the necessary training.

OPERATION TIME:

This time frame will depend on how long it takes the member to complete both the task book and performance evaluations.

EVALUATION:

The practical examinations are pass/fail for each component.

It is the responsibility of the trainee to schedule the practical component with an Officer and Operator.

The responsibility for safety during the practical examination rests with the Trainer.

The Trainer shall be supplied a list of scenarios that the Trainee must demonstrate proficiency in to successfully complete the examination.

The Trainee may make no critical safety errors during the tests for successful completion of the examination. Should a critical safety error occur, the Trainer shall end the examination and inform the Trainee of the error.

The Trainee may make a maximum of three (3) minor errors. Should the Trainee exceed the maximum number of errors, the examination shall end, and the Trainee will be informed of the errors.

To maintain the validity of the testing process, the Trainer may not prompt the Trainee during the testing process.

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Upon successful completion of the practical examination, the Trainee's driver check sheet shall be signed by the Trainer. The examination check sheets shall be submitted to the Fire Chief for verification and his/her signature. The examination check sheets shall become part of the member's training file.

Any recognized officer or apparatus training operator may work with the individuals working towards their engineer position. At least one officer and Engineer (Note: The Final evaluation must be done by an Officer and Operator that has not be working with the candidate) will perform evaluations. All evaluations and training time must be logged in the individual's logbook and a drill roster must be completed.

RETESTING:

Any member who fails the practical examination must complete any remedial training as directed by the Trainer. Upon completion of the remedial training, it is the member's responsibility to reschedule a practical examination.

FINAL DECISION:

The Fire Chief will make the final decision for **any** member to drive **any** district vehicle. After consulting with the Apparatus Trainers and Officers. No one will be promoted to Engineer without first being discussed at the regular monthly officers meeting.

HARDSHIP CASES:

In the event, that the Fire District, becomes shorthanded in the number of trained apparatus operator's, the Fire Chief may make exceptions to this policy and allow individuals who are currently going through the training process to drive apparatus if needed. Those individuals will still be required to complete all, of the training as described above within a reasonable time frame.

PROMOTION:

Upon completion of all training, evaluations, and final approval, the firefighter's who have completed the training will be eligible to be promoted to the rank of Engineer. This promotion is subject to a twelve-month probationary period.