

# Fair Lawn Fire Department Junior Firefighter Program

## Purpose and History

The Fair Lawn Volunteer Fire Department was established to provide fire protection services to the community. We are proud to be 100% volunteer. Being a Junior Firefighter is a rewarding way to learn skills used in firefighting and emergency medicine. Upon learning a minimum number of skills, Junior Firefighters can and are expected to respond to emergency calls under the supervision of senior firefighters. Junior Firefighters will learn on the job and in training. All training, uniforms, and protective equipment are provided at no cost.

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 operate on top of a roof. The Fair Lawn Fire Department takes safety very seriously and will not tolerate goofing off during training or real emergencies. **YOU SHOULD NEVER INTENTIONALLY BREAK THE LAW, EVEN IN AN EMERGENCY SITUATION.**

The requirements to be a Junior Firefighter are as follows: Junior Firefighters must be at least 16 years old but not older than 18 years old. They must be a resident of Fair Lawn, a citizen of the United States and able to speak and understand English fluently. They must be able to follow directions under emergency conditions. They must pass a medical exam and should be in good physical condition. They should be able to perform essential fire ground tasks. Junior Firefighters will also be required to attend the Junior Firefighter program given through the Bergen County Fire Academy. Other required classes are Right to Know and Blood Borne Pathogen.

Junior Firefighters need to be self-starters and be willing to learn. Junior Firefighters, who regularly strive to learn more and be involved, will be rewarded with increasing levels of responsibility and opportunities. Junior Firefighters who do not contribute to the department will be removed from active status to allow other applicants the opportunity.

The fire department is proud of its members. Junior Firefighters are expected to conduct themselves in a professional manner when representing the Fair Lawn Fire Department.