



# COLUMBIA FIRE DEPARTMENT

STANDARD OPERATING GUIDELINE VOL-020  
Training/Response Guideline for Volunteer Firefighters

EFFECTIVE: August 15, 2005

ISSUED BY: WM. Bradley Anderson Fire Chief

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**RESCINDS:** No previous policy

**SCOPE:** This guideline applies to all CFD volunteer personnel

**PURPOSE:** It is the policy of the Columbia Fire Department to maintain a safe, trained and effective fire ground presence. The purpose of this policy is to outline the volunteer training requirements and response guidelines based on their level of training. In order to communicate the volunteer's training level to all personnel and command at an incident, a system of identification and credentialing will accompany this policy.

## **POLICY:**

### **I. General**

- A. All levels of firefighters will have successfully completed the minimum training for the job or task they will be asked to do. For a means of communications, the Incident Commander on the emergency scene will have a direct and easy way to assess the minimum training of a responder, so a firefighter will not be asked to perform a task or skill unknown to them
  - B. For the purpose of this policy, all career firefighters will possess his/her minimum level of training for firefighting that they received in FF Recruit School and all career senior firefighters will possess the minimum level of required training for driver which they received in Driver Training program.
  - C. The volunteer firefighter will have 8 levels of training and response per his/her standard in which to meet. The purpose for these levels is to allow
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volunteer firefighters to respond to specific incidents while undergoing the training process. This will help to recruit and retain volunteers for the system while providing assistance to the rural areas of the CFD.

## **II. Training requirements**

A. Eight areas of training are defined per this policy

### **1. Probationary**

- a. Has completed the criminal record review, bloodborne pathogens, physical, and firefighter registration

### **2. Medical trained**

- a. Completed ARC First Responder training

### **3. OSHA Firefighter**

- a. Completed SCFA 1152 - OSHA Firefighter

### **4. Firefighter I**

- a. 2722 - Hazardous Materials Operations
- b. Completed 1153 – Firefighter I

### **5. Firefighter II**

- a. Completed 1136 - Flammable Liquid and Gas FF
- b. Completed 3330 – Basic Auto Extrication
- c. Completed 1154 – Firefighter II

### **6. Driver I**

- a. Completed SCFA 1210 – Emergency Vehicle Driver Training
  - b. CFD Brush Truck Operations Class
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7. **Driver II**

- a. CDL with Tanker Endorsement
- b. CFD Water Shuttle Class

8. **Engineer**

- a. Completed 1220 – Pump Operations I
- b. Must have completed all steps in the training guideline.

- B. Training for officer classifications are covered in the SOG's.
- C. Reciprocity/Equivalency may be given to any level based on prior work experience or training from another jurisdiction. Decision will fall to the Assistant Chief of Operations.

**III. Response guidelines based on the 8 levels of training**

- A. Response is based on each of the 8 levels of training. Each level of training considers the job functions and content of the training course.
- B. The Assistant Chief of Operations has the authority to limit the response of a firefighter to a lower level based on his discretion.
- C. It is the responsibility of the firefighter to understand his/her limits and never attempt a skill or task without proper training.
- D. **Response based on training**

1. **Probationary**

- a. No emergency response

2. **Medical**

- a. May respond to First responder calls only
  - b. May not respond to calls with the potential for fire or fire hazards
  - c. May Not Respond to MVA, fires, etc
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- d. May not respond on CFD apparatus, POV only

**3. OSHA Firefighter**

- a. May respond to structure fires, but perform exterior operations only.
- b. May respond to grass and wildland fires, dumpsters and MVAs
- c. Can **not** operate rescue equipment at a vehicle entrapment or operate in the hazard area at a hazmat incident
- d. May ride CFD apparatus

**4. Firefighter I**

- a. May respond to all fires and perform interior operations
- b. May respond to and perform defensive actions at hazmat incidents

**5. Firefighter II**

- a. May respond and operate at the discretion of the IC at all incidents
- b. May operate rescue equipment at entrapments
- c. May qualify for State Mobilization Plan, based on qualifications, listed with department's resources

**6. Driver I**

- a. Can only drive and operate the brush truck for assigned station or alternate station by direction of the Battalion Chief

**7. Driver II**

- a. Can drive and operate the tanker and brush truck for assigned station or alternate station by direction of the Battalion Chief

**8. Engineer**

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- a. Can drive and operate the engine, tanker and brush truck for assigned station or alternate station by direction of the Battalion Chief

#### **IV. Helmet color/markings and credentialing**

##### **A. General**

1. As a means of identifying the level of training and response for a firefighter, they will be issued a corresponding helmet and Identification card for credentialing.
  2. All identification is based on a quick visual from the IC on scene as well as others at the incident.
  3. It is the responsibility of the IC and firefighter to know the color code and adhere to it.
    - a. If a firefighter violates his/her level of training (goes beyond his/her level) or fails to inform the IC or other fire ground officers of his/her limits or fails to have his/her identification visible at all time, he/she may be suspended or limited in response until additional levels of training are complete.
  4. The District Chief will provide documented verification (copies of certificates, transcripts, etc.) of training for the specific firefighter in writing to The Columbia Fire Training Bureau. This can be completed by e-mail or letter addressed to the Chief of Training.
  5. Once verification is received, Logistics will issue the appropriate helmet color or other markings. The equipment issued will remain in the volunteers logistics file until the next level is obtained.
  6. The Columbia Fire Training Bureau will issue the identification card based on his/her highest level of training. The ID card will include the firefighter's picture, station number and a colored bar indicating their completed training level.
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7. Once a Probationary fire fighter has sign up for 1152, gear will be issued in the following manner. The Columbia Fire Training Bureau will verify 1152 enrollment and send a letter to the Logistics Bureau. Once the Logistics Bureau has completed the Fit test for respirator protection the gear for training will be issued.

**B. Helmet colors and credentials**

**1. Probationary**

- a. No Gear
- b. White ID with no color bar
- c. 1152 Training gear Yellow helmet w/ No reflectors

**2. Medical**

- a. No Gear other than BSI gear bag kit to be issued by logistics
- b. Solid Orange ID card or orange Stripe
- c. CFD Star of life sticker on helmet

**3. OSHA Firefighter**

- a. 660 Yellow helmet w/ orange reflectors
- b. Yellow bar

**4. Firefighter I**

- a. 1010 Green helmet w/ yellow reflectors
- b. Green bar

**5. Firefighter II**

- a. 1010 Black Helmet w/ yellow reflectors
- b. Solid Red ID card

**6. Driver I**

- a. 660 Yellow helmet w/ orange reflectors
  - b. Black stripe on ID
  - c. CFD Driver I sticker on helmet
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7. **Driver II**

- a. 660 Yellow helmet w/Orange reflectors
- b. Lt. Blue stripe on ID
- c. CFD Driver II sticker on helmet

8. **Engineer**

- a. 1010 Blue helmet w/yellow reflectors
- b. Dark Blue stripe for FFII Certified

C. Combinations

- 1. The helmet color will always be to the highest training level achieved.
  - 2. CFD Star of Life on both sides of their helmet will indicate that the individual has completed First responder.
  - 3. CFD Driver I and II stickers on both sides of the helmet will indicate that the individual has completed Driver I or Driver II and can only drive a brush truck and or the tanker.
  - 4. Background colors will be one of four colors (White, Orange, Red, and Blue). These colors will only be issued after all steps have been completed in the certain category.
  - 5. Orange reflectors on any helmet are **non-interior** personnel only.
  - 6. The ID may have multiple bars
    - a. Examples:
    - b. A firefighter who is first responder trained and is at the FFI level will have a solid orange ID and green bar on his/her ID
    - c. A firefighter who is first responder trained, at Driver I and is at the FFII level will have a solid red ID with a orange and a Lt. Blue stripe on his/her ID
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## V. Summary

- A. This policy will supercede any and all memos on volunteer training and its intent is to make instant recognition on emergency scenes more available.
  - B. It is not intended and will not replace the passport accountability system in place department wide.
  - C. The District Chiefs and Battalion Chiefs are responsible for the implementation and maintenance of the system with support from the Training and Logistics Bureau.
  - D. As an individual moves from one level of training to the next, it is the responsibility of the District Chief, Battalion Chief and the individual to provide documentation verifying the level of training. Individuals that have completed some of the required training will only have their ID card updated. When all of the required training has been met to move to the next level, the ID card and helmet will be updated to reflect the level of training.
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	Training	Hours	Response	Helmet color and ID (Once the level is Completed)
	Background check, Physical CFD Bloodborne Pathogens		NO response (Station Training and Meetings only)	<b>White ID Card</b>  No Gear
	<b>Probationary</b>			
<b>Medical</b>	First Responder	40 hours	To medical calls only in POV No MVA or other fire potential medical calls	<b>Orange ID Card</b> No Gear <b>BSI Gear Bag Only</b>
	<b>Medical First Responder</b>			
<b>Fire</b>	1152 – OSHA Firefighter	80 hours	To structure fires, <b>(Exterior only)</b> , woods, grass, car fires and MVAs May respond on apparatus	<b>Yellow bar on ID card</b>  660 Yellow Helmet Orange reflectors <b>Medical Trained</b> <b>(CFD Star of Life on both sides)</b>
	<b>OSHA Fire Fighter</b>			
	2722 – Hazmat Operations	24 Hours	Interior Structure Fire Fighter and Hazmat incidents <b>OPERATIONS LEVEL ONLY</b>	<b>Green bar on ID Card</b> <b>(Medical First Responder Min. Training)</b> 1010 Green Helmet Yellow Reflectors Personnel Face Piece Issued
	1153 – NFPA Firefighter I	60 hours		
	<b>Fire Fighter I Certified</b>			
	1136 – Flammable Liquids and Gas Firefighting	8 Hours	All Incidents Mutual Aid and qualify for State FF Mobilization Plan	<b>Red bar on ID</b>  1010 Black Helmet Yellow Reflectors
	3330 – Basic Auto Extrication	16 Hours		
	1154 – NFPA Firefighter II	36 Hours		
<b>Fire Fighter II Certified</b>				
<b>Driver</b>	SCFA 1210 – Emergency Vehicle Driver Training	40 Hours	Can drive and operate Brush truck (No fire Attack) Unless OSHA Trained FF	<b>Black Bar on ID</b> 660 Yellow Helmet (Non Interior) Orange Reflectors
	CFD Brush Truck Operations Class	8 hours		
	<b>Driver Operator I</b>			
	CDL / With Tanker		Can drive and operate Tanker (No fire Attack) Unless OSHA Trained FF	<b>Light Blue bar on ID</b> 660 Yellow Helmet (Non Interior) Orange Reflectors
	CFD – Water Shuttle Training	8 Hours		
	<b>Driver Operator II</b>			
	1220 – Pump Operations I	40 Hours 16 Hours	Can drive and Operate Engine, tanker and brush truck	<b>Dark Blue bar on ID</b> (FFII Min. Training) 1010 Blue Helmet Yellow reflectors
<b>Engineer</b>				