



Cadet Program Introduction

The Beecher Fire Protection District believes that the future of our community rests within the minds and abilities of our youth. Introducing potential and progressive firefighters to the fire service at a young age has been very successful throughout our history. Membership and, most importantly participation in a cadet program can offer those potential future firefighters a real-life, close up look at the true mission of the Fire Service. If you have ever wondered what it is like to be a firefighter, or if you have what it takes to become a firefighter, the cadet program might just be your first step.

The trade of firefighting ranks as one of the most dangerous and hazardous professions performed by people. Introducing young adults to the dangers and hazards that firefighters face on a routine basis needs to be done with great care and precision. While training and education will stand as the main objectives of the program, exposure to emergency scenes is an important component as well. Having the opportunity to see the relationship between the training ground and emergency scene is a vital link in allowing the cadets to see the true purpose behind all of the knowledge and skills they have been learning and developing.

The main education component of the program will cover the history of the Fire Service. This type of training is critical because Cadets need to know and respect how the fire service has come to be; they need to know where the job came from before the job can take them where they want to go. Hands-on training will also be provided in the form of basic skills and tasks. Each skill will be broken down, explained step by step, and demonstrated. Once skills are learned, the Cadets will be shown how these skills translate into job functions that are performed by firefighters at emergency scenes.

The Cadet program is designed around and directed by towards young adults between the ages of 15 and 18 years of age. The Fire Protection District is hoping to find interested prospects before they make other decisions that may lead them down the wrong path. The Cadet Program will provide them a chance to become part of something special; part of a team of young adults with similar goals, beliefs and ethics. In order for this program to be effective, rules and requirements must exist and they must be followed without exception.

As a Cadet progresses through the various levels of the fire service, the rules and requirements become greater, less forgiving, and more demanding; providing a structured atmosphere is a very important element.

The level of dedication we are asking for, if given by the cadet, will put the cadet on a path that will better-prepare them to meet their goal of earning a career in the Fire Service. Further information and requirements of the Cadet Program are attached on the following pages; please review them carefully. If you find the conditions acceptable, and you feel you can meet or exceed them, the Beecher Fire Protection District strongly encourages you to apply today and begin what all of us hope is a long and productive career in the Fire Service. Please feel free to contact us at 708.946.6585 during normal business hours.

Wishing the best of luck to all Cadet Applicants,

Joseph M. Falaschetti Jr.

Fire Chief



Beecher Fire Protection District

711 Penfield ~ PO Box 759

Beecher, IL 60401



Thank you for your interest in the Beecher Fire Protection District Cadet Program. This application is the beginning process to potentially become a member of the Beecher Fire Protection District Cadet Program. To be considered for the program you must be between the ages of 15 and 18 years old and provide all the required documents. Once you complete the application, please return with the required documents, to the BFPD. If you have any questions please contact the BFPD at (708) 946-6585

Application Checklist

_____Application

_____Contact Information

_____Copy of Driver's License

_____Recommendation Letter

_____Copy of Certificates, if applicable

_____Parent/Guardian Consent Form

_____Academic Standards Agreement

Beecher Fire Protection District

Cadet Application

Contact Information

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Cell Phone Provider: _____

Email Address: _____

School: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Age: _____

SS#: _____

Driver's License # or ID: _____

Emergency Contact Information

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Work Phone: _____

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Have you ever been a cadet with another fire or police department, scout troop, etc? If yes, please state the organization and how long you were/have been a member, or why you are no longer affiliated with the organization.

Are you involved in any sports, clubs or other activities at school or in the community?

Have you ever been convicted of a crime other than a minor traffic charge? If yes, please state the nature of the offence and the disposition by the court.

Have you ever received any disciplinary action from your school (i.e. detention, suspension, expulsion)? If yes, please explain:

Do you have any problems with giving up free time to participate in cadet and fire department related activities?

What are some of your future goals?

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Do you currently have any certificates? (CPR Card, EMT, BOF) Please list them below and provide a copy: _____

Do you currently have any family members in the Fire Service? If yes please list name and department: _____

Please list three references that are not family members or teenage friends. Please have at least one of your references write a recommendation letter.

Name			
How you know them			
How long you've known them			
City, State, Zip			
Phone Number			

Please type a brief essay on why you would like to become a BFPD cadet. Return your essay with application.

Note: Failure to answer all questions truthfully will result in the automatic rejection of your application and possible position in the BFPD cadet program.

Any and all information attained through the application and background check will be held in the strictest of security and respect of the application.

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Cadet Application ~ Parent/Guardian Consent Form

Applicants for the Beecher Fire Protection District Cadet Program range from 15 to 18 years of age. In order to participate in the Cadet Program, applicants that under the age of 18 years, are required to have the consent of a parent or legal guardian. Any person signing this consent form as a legal guardian must be 21 years or older, must be a member of the applicant's immediate family, and should only sign this form after reviewing and agreeing to all of the information provided.

This form must be completed, signed and returned with the application form in order for the applicant to be considered for membership and offered an interview. Any applicant that does not return this consent form will have their application placed on hold until **ALL** documents are received. The BFPD not only encourages the young adults of our community to become involved in this program, but also encourages their parents and guardians to support the program as well.

By signing below, you attest that you have read and reviewed the material provided to the applicant, that you understand the goals, objectives, requirements and roles of the Cadet Program and that you grant your full permission and consent for the full participation of the applicant named below.

Applicant Name (print)		
Parent/Guardian Information (print)		
Name:		
Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Date of Birth:	Phone Number:	

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Applicant

Date

Beecher Fire Protection District

Cadet Program ~ Academic Standards Agreement

One of the most important elements of the Cadet Program is to make sure it does not take time away from the study habits, education requirements and school commitments of any member of the Cadet Program. The Beecher Fire Protection District believes that education is the key to overall success and stability in life. While we are proud to have a Cadet Program established within the Fire District, we do not want to be responsible for the decline of grades, productivity and performance of any of our Cadets in the classroom. Spending time at the station to attend and participate in trainings and other events shall come second to the time and commitment needed by the Cadets to complete their school work. We feel that if a Cadet begins to struggle in school because he/she is spending too much time with the Fire District, the Cadet Program will have failed in its overall purpose.

All Cadets participating in the program and those wishing to remain in the program, must maintain an average grade of "C" or better in all classes and courses they are enrolled in during a given school year. In order for the Fire District to monitor the progress of its Cadets, all Cadets will be required to provide proof that they meet or exceed this requirement each time report cards or grades reports are issued. The Cadet will simply need to allow the Fire Chief to view the records and verify that academic standards have been met. The information provided will not be shared with anyone and there will be no requirement for the grade information to be copied, duplicated or otherwise kept on file within our records. Once the information has been verified, the Cadet can take his/her records back home with them.

If a Cadet fails to meet the academic standards set forth in this agreement, the Cadet will not automatically be dismissed from the program. However, the Cadet will have to be put on leave and not be allowed to participate in the program until proof is provided which indicates that the standards have been met. If a Cadet fails to provide the Fire Chief with a grade report, he/she will also be placed on leave until such information is provided. At any time a parent/guardian, or the actual Cadet feels that the Cadet Program is interfering with the overall school performance of the Cadet, the Cadet can voluntarily place him/herself on leave from the program. If the Cadet fails to meet the academic standards set forth in this agreement for two consecutive grade periods, semesters, etc. the Fire District will be forced to dismiss the Cadet from the program; reasoning that the requirements of the program are too much of a distraction on the Cadet's overall school education and it may not be the best time for the Cadet to be involved with the program at this time.

By signing below, both the applicant and their parent/guardian attest that they have read this agreement, understand the requirements and agree to the academic standards as provided.

Applicant Print Name

Parent/Guardian Print Name

Applicant Signature

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date

Date