



# Waterford Ambulance Service Standard Operating Guideline

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Effective January 1, 2014  
Scope: All WAS Staff  
From: Steven D Garvin, President WAS  
Subject: Guidelines for Junior Members.  
SOG:                    Operations    2014    001                    Original Issue  
    Type            Year    Number                    Revision

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## **Purpose**

To set expectations for Junior Members, (those members less than 18 years old) serving in Waterford Ambulance Service. It is key to attract people into the emergency services while they are young so that they form a lifelong connection, whether as a first responder or as a community supporter. Allowing Junior Members to enter the EMS field give our communities youth the chance to learn about emergency medical services response organizations in a safe, controlled, educational, and fun way while providing agencies with an excellent recruitment mechanism.

These requirements do not apply to Junior Members responding with Waterford Fire Departments.

## **Requirements**

Section 31-23, *et seq.* of the Connecticut General Statutes provides for criminal penalties for hazardous employment of persons under the age of eighteen. Although these young people are usually volunteers, they are legally considered to be employees when in service to their respective department or organization.

Waterford Ambulance Service allows Junior Members to “ride along” who are currently enrolled in an EMT class, or who have already successfully completed the EMT program.



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Junior Members not currently enrolled in an EMT class cannot “ride along” in the ambulance, but if arrive at a scene with a fire department, may conduct permitted activities as detailed in the Instructions section.

Waterford Ambulance Service allows Junior Members to “ride along” that have completed Bloodborne Pathogen, Hazardous Materials Awareness, and HIPPA training as a minimum.

Junior Members conducting a ride along shall be supervised by a crew member, and shall follow directions given by the crew, a fire officer, or another supervisory person. If the Junior Members do not follow guidance or orders from the ambulance staff personnel, the “ride along” will be cancelled and specific issues will be documented.



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### Instructions

1. The following lists are not all-inclusive and should in no way be construed as insulating any department, organization, or person from liability under any state or federal law or regulation. Any incident/accident involving a minor will be investigated on a case-by-case basis.
  
2. The following activities are **PROHIBITED** for all persons under the age of eighteen (18) years:
  - Respond to the Interstate Highways or mutual aid calls.
  - Driving any vehicles in emergency mode.
  - Operate a personal vehicle with blue lights.
  - Respond to hazardous materials fires, spills or other events which may expose the minor to a toxic and/or hazardous material exceeding a threshold limit value listed in the tables of section 1910.1000 of subpart Z of CFR 1910. (Allows for small motor vehicle fuel leaks).
  - Perform any activity, except training performed by qualified personnel (after medical certification as required by 29CFR 1910.134), involving the use of self-contained breathing apparatus
  - Enter a confined space as defined in 29 CFR 1910.146.
  - Perform “off shore” ice rescue activities
  - Perform any duty which involves the risk of falling a distance of 6 feet or more (Including the use of ladders).
  - Filling air bottles.
  - Using cutting torches.
  - Marine rescue activities, except in training.
  - Traffic control on public highways.



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3. The following activities for are **PERMITTED** persons aged between sixteen (16) and seventeen (17) years old:
- Sixteen and seventeen-year-old minors may perform these duties between the hours of 06:00 and 2300.
  - Attend and take part in supervised training.
  - The wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or uniform that readily identifies them as a Cadet/Explorer or similar nomenclature
  - May respond to emergencies on ambulances within the Town of Waterford only, after receiving proper training.
  - Participate in functions within the rehabilitation sector
  - Pick up equipment and clean up at the scene after the incident commander has declared the area as safe after receiving proper training.
  - Perform search and rescue operations, not including structural firefighting.
  - Use of pneumatic/power driven saws, shears, Hurst-type tools, or other power tools during training only.
  - Change SCBA bottles at emergency scenes.
  - May take Medical Response Technician (MRT) or Emergency Medical Technician Class.
  - May perform EMS related duties (CPR, external defibrillation, splinting, controlling bleeding, assessment of vital signs, patient care during transportation, providing oxygen, etc.) upon certification from the State of Connecticut, but only under supervision by an EMS provider, over the age of 18 years, of equal or higher EMS certification level.



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4. The following activities are **PERMITTED** for persons aged between fourteen (14) and fifteen (15) years old:
- Fourteen and fifteen-year-olds may perform the above duties between the hours of 0700 and 2200.
  - Attend meetings that conclude no later than 2200 throughout the year.
  - Attend incidents no later than 2100 and *may remain on scene until no later than 2200.*
  - The wearing of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or uniform that readily identifies them as a Cadet/Explorer or similar nomenclature.
  - Receive instruction and engage in training that does not involve fire, smoke (except theatrical/latex smoke), toxic or noxious gas, or hazardous materials or substances.
  - Clean-up service at the scene of a fire (limited too exterior, after the scene has been declared as safe by the incident commander).
  - Participate in functions within the rehabilitation area.
  - May perform EMS related duties (CPR, external defibrillation, splinting, controlling bleeding, assessment of vital signs, patient care during transportation, providing oxygen, etc.) upon certification from the State of Connecticut, but only under supervision by an EMS provider, over the age of 18 years, of equal or higher EMS certification level.

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