

# 2024

## Cadet Manual



Mad River Township Fire and EMS

7/7/2022

Revision: Draft

# MAD RIVER FIRE AND EMS CADET PROGRAM

## OVERVIEW

### 1. Program Overview

The Cadet Program was established to provide young people with an interest in the fire service the opportunity to experience fire service. With a mixture of hands on training and classroom instruction, MRTFD Cadets are instructed in the basics by experienced firefighter mentors. The main goal of our program is to create opportunity for young adults to assist as interns and gain valuable knowledge in preparation for future fire service employment.

The program was started many years ago and was originally an Explorer Post. The program was changed to a Cadet Program to allow a more active role for the Cadets. The training and experience gained as Cadets, members of the program often move up to become a member of the Mad River Township Fire & EMS Department. Graduates of the Cadet program that qualify to become regular members are sponsored by the department to attend Ohio certified training.

As a Cadet, young people will also take part in a controlled ride along program that allows members to ride along on fire apparatus with the MRTFD Crews. This and many other features of our Cadet program prepare those interested in future opportunities in the Fire and EMS Service. Our Cadets demonstrate pride in the community they serve. We help create an example for the community and do our part to keep MRT a beautiful community. Cadets are expected to help with community public events.

### 2. Age Requirements and Breakdown

Potential members must meet all departmental guidelines and be capable of reading and understanding assigned materials. Potential members must be aged 13-18 and live within 15 miles of the MRTFD response area. Each member must remain in school (unless otherwise graduated), and maintain at least a C grade average. After filling out an application, the potential member, with a guardian present, will go through an oral interview process. There will also be a background check and references will be contacted. A medical release form must be signed by the youth's parent/guardian and personal physician. Members will report to scheduled meetings and trainings, absences must be notified to the lead instructor one hour prior to the start of class. Members must also purchase a pair of black work boots and navy blue uniform pants. Members will be dismissed from the program if they are caught possessing or are under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any time, take part in any illegal activities or participate in any actions or behaviors that are judged to be unbecoming of public safety personnel.

### 3. Education Requirements

Must be enrolled in school and must maintain a 2.0 GPA or higher and no truanancies. Grades must be submitted each semester to allow continued participation in the program. Report cards are due 1 week after they are sent home, please turn into a Cadet Advisor. Failure to submit a Report Card will result in a program suspension until a report card has been submitted to a Cadet Advisor.

A parental guardian may request that his/her child be temporally suspended from the program due to poor performance at school, that does not meet the cadet guidelines. A written and signed statement from the parental guardian must be submitted to a Cadet Advisor as soon as possible.

### 4. Ranking and Command Structure

Cadets shall be broken down into crews of 5 to 7 with a Cadet Lieutenant for each crew. The Lieutenant shall be the leader of that crew and will report to the cadet advisor.

There will be at least one trained cadet advisors who will lead and guide the cadets in training and in activities. Cadet advisors will be present during any and all training.

The Cadet Advisory Board will be made up of the fallowing, Training officers of Mad River Fire and EMS, Parents of the Cadets, and the Cadet Advisors.

The Cadet Chain of Command is Cadet → Cadet Lieutenant → Cadet Advisor → Cadet Advisory Board → Fire Chief

### 5. Uniform

During any training event or department function the cadet shall be in uniform. The uniform will consist of:

- Red Mad River Cadet Shirt (Either Tee-Shirt or Job Shirt)
- Navy Blue Work Pants (Dickies or EMS Pants)
- Black Belt
- Black Closed Toe Boots or Work Shoes

Shirts need to be tucked in and cadets are expected to have a professional appearance at all time. No altercations are to be made to the uniform. Mad River Fire and EMS will provide: 1 - Red Cadet Job Shirt (Pull over), 2 - Red Cadet Tee-Shirt, 1 - Red Cadet Ball Cap, and 1 - set of Cadet PPE (Bunker Gear). It is the responsibility of the Cadet to obtain Navy Pants, Black Belt, and Black Shoes.

While on a Run the cadet shall have on their Cadet PPE (Bunker Gear) with Cadet Name plate on, or Cadet Helmet on.

## 6. Activities a Cadet is allowed to go on

Cadets may respond to fire calls, with the exception of highway, HAZMAT, or confirmed fatal runs. While on scene cadets are to be with a Cadet Advisor or approved Firefighter. Cadets are not to enter or climb onto any structure that has smoke or fire involved. Cadets **MUST** identify as a cadet to any person asking for assistance on the fire scene. Cadets may not enter the HOT zone at any time.

## 7. Run Types a Cadet is NOT allowed to go on

Due to the confidentiality of the patients, cadets will not be allowed to respond on medical calls. Cadets are not allowed on the following run types: HAZMAT, Interstate, confirmed fatal, and any run determined not safe for cadets to go on by the OIC or designee. The reasoning behind this is the run is either too high of a risk to the cadets' health or to the cadets Mental Health

## 8. Meetings and Station Times

Cadet meetings are on alternating Tuesdays and Sundays. Cadets need to attend at least 50% of meetings a month. Meeting times on Tuesday nights will start at 1800 and Sundays will start at 1200.

Cadets are allowed to be at the station between the times of 1500 and 2200 on school nights. Between the hours of 1000 and 2200 on weekends. Between the hours of 1000 and 2200 on vacations over 5 days in length. Cadets need to have the approval of the Shift Commander if they want to be at the station for any duration of time. Cadets maybe at the station outside of the established time frames with prior approval by a cadet advisor, department officer, or fire chief.

## 9. Training

Cadets are allowed to attend as many training events and sessions as they can. Cadets can also attend department member training, taking into consideration that school, work, and family takes precedence over all Fire and Rescue Activities.

## 10. Responding times and Vehicles

- Cadets ages 14 and above are allowed to respond on allowed emergency runs.
- At no time cadets shall be removed from school for the purpose of responding to a call
- If a cadet is found to be skipping school to attend a training, event, or to make a call the cadet shall be suspended from the cadet program for a time determined by the Cadet advisor.
- The time stated in the above section is the same requirements for cadets to make runs
  - 1500 to 2200 on school nights
  - 1000 to 2200 on non-school nights
- No Cadet under any circumstances shall drive a vehicle owned by MRTFD

- At no time are cadets allowed to use red, white, or amber lights while responding to the station for a call
- MRTFD is in no way responsible or liable for any moving violations received while Cadets are responding to the station for a call.

## 11. Discipline and Corrective Action

A cadet may be suspended or terminated from the program for any of the following reasons:

- Academic Status
- Failure to follow the cadet rules and guidelines
- Failure to follow a MRTFD Officer Orders
- Acts unbecoming of a Cadet
- Theft of any sort
- Use of any Tobacco and/or Alcohol Product while on duties as a cadet.
- Any form of harassment
- Fighting or failure to follow any department policies or procedures

If a cadet is Terminated from the Program, they are prohibited from reapplying to the program.

## 12. Joining the Department

Once the Cadet reaches the age of 18, the cadet may apply to become a member of Mad River Township Fire and EMS. Cadets that become members are sponsored by the department to attend certified training at Clark State College.

## APPROVAL AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE CADET BI-LAWS

I have read and understand the by-laws of the Mad River Fire and EMS cadet program. Needed signatures are: Cadet, Parental Guardian, and Cadet Advisor.

Name	Signature	Title	Date
		Cadet	
		Parental Guardian	
		Cadet Advisor	

Approved By Cadet Advisory Board Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Fire Chief Approval Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved By Fire Chief Date: \_\_\_\_\_