
Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Training

600.1 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The purpose of this policy is to enhance the safety of members and the public by ensuring that all North Tooele Fire District members who operate firefighting apparatus as part of their duties, receive appropriate training.

600.2 POLICY

It is the policy of the North Tooele Fire District that all members who operate firefighting apparatus shall successfully complete driver training that meets or exceeds the requirements of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1002, 2009 edition or the Utah Fire Service Certification System.

Training should include written, oral and practical evaluations to demonstrate proficiency. The Fire Training Officer shall provide each potential apparatus driver/operator with a position task book (PTB). The Fire Training Officer shall annually audit and update driver/operator training materials to ensure compliance with local, state and federal requirements.

Basic driver training shall be completed before a member is authorized to drive any NTFD vehicle or to drive a privately owned vehicle on fire district business. NTFD shall ensure that the individual is properly licensed and insured and has the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities to operate a vehicle safely.

600.3 PROCEDURES

All members who operate firefighting apparatus shall have certification and training validating competent operational and driving skills consistent with NFPA 1002, 2009 edition or the Utah Fire Service Certification System certifications for:

- Apparatus Driver/Operator/Pumper

In addition to the above certification, to ensure a robust training program that encompasses identified elements of NTFD driving, all members who operate firefighting apparatus shall complete annual competency training. Annual training shall consist of the following:

- 1) Online education through a Training Management System
- 2) Group/lecture review of incidents and/or lessons learned
- 3) Cone Course Performance
- 4) Highway Driving of at least 50 miles
- 5) Individual Position Task Books for staff vehicles, engines, brush trucks/rescue vehicles, tenders and any other vehicles driven
- 6) Utah OHV online education course
- 7) Commercial Drivers License (CDL) – see additional policy guidance specific to this program

600.4 STATION OFFICER RESPONSIBILITIES

It shall be the responsibility of the Station Officer to ensure that any member required to drive fire apparatus as a part of his/her normal duties has received all training required for competent, safe operation of the apparatus. The Station Officer is responsible to see that skills are being tracked in the PTB and the PTB is completed within 12 months of being assigned.

600.5 DRIVERS UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE

Upon completion of the basic driver program, a member is authorized to drive light duty vehicles in a non-emergency mode. This classification includes passenger vehicles, SUVs, vans, and pick-up trucks.

NTFD personnel between the ages of 18-21 are only authorized to drive light duty vehicles and vehicles capable of carrying 250 gallons or less of water.

600.6 PERFORMANCE REVIEW

The District shall periodically review the performance of each member who is authorized to drive fire district vehicles. The authorization to drive may be suspended or revoked as a result of such reviews and/or additional training may be required to maintain driving status.

Members, who repeatedly fail to comply with NTFD driving policies and procedures or violate traffic laws while driving will be re-evaluated or disciplined, if necessary.