

Ride Along Fact Sheet

What is a Ride Along?

A Ride Along is when you come to the station for a period of time, typically not exceeding 8 hours, to observe how our station operates and to ride with a Fire Department Company on emergency equipment while they are responding to calls.

What are the Requirements and Forms required to request a Ride Along?

- You MUST complete a Ride Along Application Form and a Ride Along Program Release and Waiver Agreement
- You must provide the following Form(s):
 - State Issued ID, student ID, or other photo ID
 - Ride Along Program Release and Waiver Agreement

What is Required During a Ride Along?

- When you arrive for a Ride Along, you must report to the captain in charge, or a predesignated member, and provide them with your authorization email.
- For safety reasons, you must always follow the direction and instruction of the Rochester Fire Department staff while on calls or in the station.
- You will be provided with a safety vest which identifies you as an observer and it should be always worn in the station and on calls.
- When on an emergency incident, you are strictly an observer. You may not speak to a patient or participate in their care in any way. Do not speak to bystanders.
- No weapons of any kind, cell phones, cameras or recording devices are allowed. (Items other than weapons can be stored at the station.)
- Patient Confidentiality must be maintained. Any information regarding a patient is strictly confidential and must not be discussed with anyone after the Ride Along experience.
- When riding in any apparatus, you must wear the vehicle seat belt.
- Tobacco use is not permitted while riding or anywhere on the grounds inside/outside the station.

What Else do I Need to Know?

You will receive an email once your request is processed. Please allow up to three (3) weeks for a response.

- Cancellations: If you need to cancel/reschedule your scheduled Ride Along and can provide advance notice of 48 hours, please contact the Fire Administrative Office at 328-2800. If you are a NO SHOW, a Ride Along will not be rescheduled.
- Parking & Access: Please use the designated parking spaces to the rear or side of the station and be sure to lock your vehicle. If the engine bays are not open, you will need to enter the station from the front door.

Ride Along periods may conclude without any emergency incidents.

The Rochester Fire Department reserves the right to terminate any Ride Along due to extreme weather, unusual call load, non-compliance with professional conduct or attire, or for other unforeseen reasons or events.