



University Park Fire Department
698 Burnham Drive
University Park, IL 60484
Phone: 708-235-4821
Fax: 708-534-4820

CADET PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

The Officers and Firefighters of the University Park Fire Department believe that the future of our Village and community rests within the minds and abilities of our youth. Introducing potential and prospective 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 to take.

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 of the program as well. Having the opportunity to see the relationship between the training ground and the 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 actual job functions that are performed by firefighters at emergency scenes.

The Cadet Program is designed around and directed towards young adults between 15 and 17 years of age. The Fire Department 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 with 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 and met 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 in the following pages; please review all of them carefully. If you find the conditions and requirements acceptable, and you feel you can meet or exceed them, the University Park Fire Department 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 me with any concerns at 708.235.4822 on weekdays.

Wishing the best of luck to all Cadet Applicants,

Brian D. Chellios
Deputy Fire Chief
Cadet Division Coordinator



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**CADET
PROGRAM
PARTICIPATION**

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT FORM

Applicants for the Cadet Division of the University Park Fire Department range from 15 to 17 years of age, which means they are not yet legal adults. In order to participate in the Cadet Program, all applicants 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 of age, 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 session. Any applicant that does not return this consent form will have their application placed on hold until all documents are received. The Personnel Board of the University Park Fire Department 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:		
Street Address:		
City:	State:	Zip Code:
Date of Birth:	Phone Number:	

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Signature of Applicant

Date



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CADET PROGRAM COMMITMENT

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 Division. The University Park Fire Department believes that education is the key to overall success and stability in life. While we are proud to have a Cadet Division established within the Fire Department, we do not want to be the ones responsible for the decline of grades, productivity, and performance of any of our Cadets in the classroom. Spending time at the Fire Department 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 so much time with the Fire Department, 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 Department 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 grade reports are issued. The Fire Department has been in contact with the high schools in the area and has knowledge of when such reports are usually issued. All Cadets will be required to bring their grade reports to the Deputy Fire Chief when they are issued. The Cadet will simply need to allow the Deputy 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 Deputy 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 Department 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 that 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



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**CADET
 PROGRAM
 APPLICATION**

Last Name:		First Name:		
Street Address:				
City:		State:		Zip Code:
Date of Birth:		Social Security #:		Driver's License # (if applicable):
Phone #:			E-mail address:	
Gender:	Height:	Weight:	Hair Color:	Eye Color:

How did you learn about the Cadet Program and the application process?				
	Village Newsletter		UPTV	Friend/Relative
	Village Website		Newspaper	Fire Dept. Member

Have you ever applied for membership to the University Park Fire Department in the past?				
NO		YES	If "yes", provide approximate date	

Are you a current member of another Fire Department or Fire District?				
NO		YES	If "yes", name of Department/District	

Have you ever been a member of another Fire Department or Fire District in the past?				
NO		YES	If "yes", name of Department/District	

Have you ever been convicted of a felony crime?				
NO		YES	If "yes", please provide a brief description in the space below	

Have you ever had any negative or punitive contact with a Law Enforcement Agency?				
NO		YES	If "yes", please provide a brief description in the space below	



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Have you completed all elementary/grade/junior high school (K-8) requirements that resulted in the award of a Diploma/GED and placement into a high school? If "yes", provide school name & graduation year.

YES		
NO		

Are you currently enrolled in a high school and taking high school-level academic courses? If "yes", provide the school name & the city/town it is located in (answer "yes" if school is simply out for the summer).

YES		
NO		

Please list any school sports, clubs, organizations, or other commitments you have, or may have, that, on occasion, you feel may interfere with your participation in the Cadet Program.

Please provide a brief description of why you are interested in becoming a member of the Cadet Division. This information will allow us to provide the best possible training to all members.



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Please describe any special skills or knowledge you have, any community work you are involved in, or any special interests you have. None are required; this is simply us trying to get to know you.

Please provide any expectations you have of the Cadet Program, what you are looking to achieve, or any goals you have set for yourself that we may be able to help you achieve as a Cadet.

Provide information for at least two people that can verify your character, beliefs, and the information you have provided in this application; must be adults other than those in your immediate family.

Name:	Name:
Address:	Address:
City/State/Zip:	City/State/Zip:
Phone #:	Phone #:
How do you know this person?	How do you know this person?
How long have you known this person?	How long have you known this person?



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APPLICANT'S STATEMENT

I certify that answers and information given herein are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I authorize the investigation of all statements contained in this application for membership as may be necessary in arriving at a membership decision. This application for membership shall be considered active for a period of time not to exceed one calendar year. Any applicant wishing to be considered for membership beyond this time frame should inquire as to whether or not applications are being accepted at the time. I hereby understand and acknowledge that, unless otherwise defined by applicable law, any membership relationship with this organization is of an "at will" nature; which means the member may resign at any time and the Department may discharge the member at any time; with or without cause. It is further understood that this "at will" membership relationship may not be changed by any written document or by conduct unless such change is specifically acknowledged in writing by an authorized executive of this organization. In the event of membership, I understand that false or misleading information given in my application or interview may result in discharge. I understand, also, that I am required to abide by all rules, regulations, polices, procedures, general orders, and operating guidelines as established by the Village of University Park and the University Park Fire Department. I understand that membership in the Cadet Division of the University Park Fire Department is not a paid position, does not offer salary or benefits, and does not guarantee any paid position within the Village or Fire Department as a result of my participation in this program.

 Print Name of Applicant

 Signature of Applicant

 Print Name of Parent/Guardian

 Signature of Parent/Guardian

 Date of Receipt of this Application

 Date of Submitting this Application

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SECTION-FOR OFFICE USE ONLY			
Received By:		Date:	
Reviewed By:		Date:	
Reviewed By:		Date:	
Application Denied:		Notification Mailed	Date:
Application Approved:		Interview Request Mailed	Date:
Interview Confirmed:	Time:		Date:

 Cadet Division Coordinator Print Name

 Cadet Division Coordinator Signature

 Fire Chief Print Name

 Fire Chief Signature