

If you are age 16 - 17
these activities are **permitted**:
(Must be performed between 6 a.m. and midnight)

- Attending/taking part in adult supervised training
- Wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or a uniform that readily identifies him/her as a Cadet/Explorer or similar
- After receiving proper training, responding to emergencies on emergency apparatus
- Participating in functions within the rehabilitation area
- Picking up equipment and performing cleanup at the scene after the Incident Commander has declared the area safe
- Fighting brush fires (no standing timber) upon receiving proper training
- Performing search and rescue/lost person recovery operations, not including structural firefighting
- During training only, using pneumatic/power driven saws, shears, Hurst-type tools, or other power tools
- Entering the interior of a fire structure after the fire has been extinguished and the Incident Commander has declared the structure safe
- Setting up uncharged attack lines exterior to the structure
- Changing SCBA bottles at emergency scenes
- Operating pumps, less than 300 gpm, at an emergency scene
- Handling charged hoselines up to 1¾" diameter
- Upon receiving proper training, driving department vehicles not greater than 10,000 pounds GVWR, in a non-emergency mode
- Taking Medical Response Technician or Emergency Medical Technician-B courses

If you are age 16 - 17
these activities are **permitted** (continued):

- Marine/boat rescue training activities
- Upon certification from the state of Connecticut, performing EMS-related duties, such as CPR, external defibrillation, splinting, controlling bleeding, assessment of vital signs, patient care during transportation, providing oxygen. Minor must be under supervision of an EMS provider who is over 18 and of equal or higher EMS certification level

These guidelines set the maximum parameters for minors, and are not intended to prohibit any agency from establishing more stringent restrictions.

Each department or agency should contact their respective Workers' Compensation insurance carrier to ensure proper coverage for minors.

Questions regarding guidelines for minors in the workplace? Call the Connecticut Department of Labor's Wage and Workplace Standards Division

860.263.6791

DOL - 82
New 5-08



Guidelines for:

Cadets, Explorers, and Junior members of
Fire, Emergency Medical, & Police Services



This publication is intended to assist you in determining what duties can be performed by individuals under the age of 18 who are exploring careers in the public safety and emergency services fields.

The Connecticut Department of Labor, Department of Public Health, the Commission on Fire Prevention and Control and the Connecticut Fire Chiefs' Association, have worked together to provide the following guidelines that have been developed to protect minors in the workplace, while affording them safe and meaningful opportunities to explore careers in the public safety and emergency services fields.

Under Section 31-23 of the Connecticut General Statutes, criminal penalties can be assessed when persons under the age of 18 are involved in hazardous employment.

Although young people who are cadets, explorers or junior members are usually volunteers, legally they are considered to be employees when in service to a respective fire/police department or any other emergency or medical organization.

The information contained in this brochure is not all-inclusive and should not be interpreted to exempt any department, organization, or person from liability under state or federal law or regulation. Any incident or accident involving a minor will be investigated on a case-by-case basis.

If you are under the age of 18 these activities are **prohibited**:

- Driving any vehicle in emergency mode
- Performing interior fire suppression involving structures, vehicles, or wild land fires, except grass fires
- Operating a personal vehicle with blue lights
- Performing firefighting overhaul duties
- Responding to hazardous materials fires, spills or other events that may expose him/her to a toxic and/or hazardous material exceeding a threshold limit value listed in tables of Section 1910.1000, Subpart Z of 29 CFR 1910 (allows for small motor vehicle fuel leaks)
- Performing any activity involving the use of self-contained breathing apparatus (except training performed by qualified personnel, and only after medical certification as required by 29 CFR 1910.134)
- Entering a confined space as defined in 29 CFR 1910.146
- Performing offshore ice rescue activities
- Performing any duty involving the risk of falling a distance of six feet or more, including the use of ladders
- Filling air bottles
- Using cutting torches
- Operating aerial ladders
- Performing any duties that involve the use of lines greater than 2½" (except 5-6" suction lines during drafting operations)
- Using firearms, except when training with a qualified instructor
- Marine rescue activities, except in training situations
- Providing traffic control on public highways

If you are age 14 - 15 these activities are **permitted**: (Must be performed between 7 a.m. and 10 p.m.)

- Attending meetings concluding no later than 10 p.m. throughout the year
- Responding to incidents between the hours of 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. and remaining at the scene no later than 10 p.m.
- Wearing Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) or uniform that readily identifies him/her as a Cadet/Explorer or similar
- Receiving instruction and engaging in training that does not involve fire, smoke (except theatrical or latex smoke) toxic or noxious gas, or hazardous materials or substances
- After receiving proper training, responding to emergencies on emergency apparatus (must be age 15)
- Observing exterior firefighting activities while under supervision by a certified fire fighter
- Providing cleanup services at the scene of a fire (limited to exterior) after the Incident Commander has declared the scene to be safe
- Participating in functions within the rehabilitation area
- Upon certification from the state of Connecticut, performing EMS-related duties, such as CPR, external defibrillation, splinting, controlling bleeding, assessment of vital signs, patient care during transportation, providing oxygen. Minor must be under supervision of an EMS provider who is over 18 and of equal or higher EMS certification level

