

Who are the explorers?

The Janesville Fire Explorers are young men and women between the ages of 14 to 21 who are interested in careers in the fire service.

What do the explorers do?

Generally, the explorers meet twice per month. Sometimes, there is a special event at the fire department that explorers will be able to participate in, such as JFD recruit graduations or National Night Out.

Training topics regularly include:

Self Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA)

Hoselines

Ladders and ventilation

First aid and CPR

Fire extinguishers

Forcible entry

Ropes and Knots

Special Operations (HAZMAT, Technical Rescue)

Where do explorers go after the program?

Not all explorers continue down the path of Fire and EMS, but those that do find they have been well prepared for the next level. Now, high schoolers can begin their college coursework early, so many explorers graduate high school already certified as firefighters and/or EMTs. There are numerous former explorers now working for the JFD and other fire departments in the area.

Interested in Joining?

Requirements:

14 years old and completed 8th grade, to 20 years old. If there are limited openings, preference will be given to those within the JFD service area, then Rock County residents, then others.

Exploring is a Scouts of America affiliated program. Registration costs \$50 annually. Notify advisor if there is a financial hardship.

Advisor Contacts:

Firefighter/Paramedic Ian McCready:

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Firefighter/Paramedic Tiffany Griffin:

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Janesville Fire Explorer Post 555



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Are you high-schooler interested in a career in Fire and/or EMS? Join the Janesville Fire Explorers!



Confidence

Explorers are exposed to new and exciting challenges throughout the program. They gain confidence that will help them to succeed in future endeavors.

Cooperation

Being an explorer is much like participating in a team sport. Explorers learn to work in a team setting to achieve common goals.

Camaraderie

One of the best things about exploring is meeting peers with similar interests. Exploring is a lot of fun and you will meet new friends along the way.

Citizenship

Explorers learn to play an active role in being a good citizen and stewards of their community. In public service, this is an essential skill.



Hands-on Training

The main goal of exploring is to provide young-adults an experience to closely replicate what the job of being a firefighter, paramedic, or EMT is like. Explorers meet twice monthly to learn and practice skills. They are issued firefighting gear, and get regular practice using the tools and techniques of the fire service. From stretching hoselines to using a defibrillator, explorers receive valuable career preparatory training. After an explorer has met the prerequisites, they can ride-along with the JFD to real emergencies to observe the job first-hand.

Skills for Life

Throughout the program, explorers are lead by an experienced group of Janesville firefighters and paramedics. The advisors are there to provide the best training possible, but also to provide career, academic, and life advice. Many of our advisors were once explorers too. While not every explorer chooses a career in Fire/EMS, the ones that do are well prepared for the next step after graduating high school. Those that choose other careers still gain valuable experience that will stick with them for the rest of their lives.