

CLINTON FIRST AID AND RESCUE SQUAD, INC.
P.O. Box 5265, Clinton, New Jersey 08809
908.735.4012

FACT SHEET

WHO WE ARE

The Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad is a non-profit volunteer-run department that provides Emergency Medical and Rescue services (vehicle extrication, water rescue, collapse, trench, rope and confined-space rescue) to the Town of Clinton, Lebanon Borough, and portions of Clinton Township, Franklin Township and Union Township.

The Rescue Squad went into service on August 1, 1968 with our headquarters at the old Grandin Library building (the old Clinton Firehouse) on East Main Street. With two ambulances and a small group of dedicated members the squad answered 260 calls in our first full year of service.

Today, in our 42nd year of service, the Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad has experienced tremendous growth in our response area population and in the number of calls for our services. We have five ambulances, a heavy rescue truck, a command unit, 3 rescue boats, a special services truck, and a technical rescue trailer. Our members run more than 2,000 calls a year in the 50+ square miles we cover.

In spite of all the growth and changes, the Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad remains dedicated to its primary mission: providing the highest quality professional Emergency Medical Care for the sick and injured.

Our membership fall into four categories:

EMS
Rescue Associate
Water Rescue Associate
Cadet*

Within these categories several statuses of membership also exist:

Probationary
Active
Per Diem
Salaried
Leave (academic, medical, military and personal)
Honorary Exempt

*For information on becoming a cadet member, ages 16 and 17, please contact the Membership Committee for a cadet application.

WHAT IS EXPECTED OF YOU?

As a new member of the Clinton First Aid and Rescue Squad, Inc., you will be assigned to one of the regular duty crews. Duty crews cover calls in 12-hour shifts. Day shift runs from 06:00 to 18:00 hours. Night shift runs from 18:00 to 06:00 hours, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, 365 days a year. The following are the minimum duty time requirements, by type of Membership or Employment:

- EMS Member – 24 hours per month
- EMS Per Diem/Salaried – N/A
- EMS Cadet – 12 hours per month*
- Rescue Associate – 24 hours per month
- Water Rescue Associate – N/A

**Cadet members are assigned to duty crews according to the SOGs and, as a result, duty time availability may be limited. In these instances, the EMS Officers will determine Cadet duty time on a case-by-case basis.*

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In addition, EMS and Cadet members are assigned to four Saturday day shifts each year.

Each duty crew is expected to complete a rig check at the start of each shift as well as respond to calls in accordance with the Squad's standard operating guidelines (SOGs).

Times of the day when calls are not covered by the duty crew, including second calls when the duty crews are busy and calls that require additional manpower, are considered "scramble" calls. Squad members respond to these calls in accordance with the SOGs.

In addition to providing call coverage on both a duty and scramble basis, all CFARS members are expected to attend regular monthly meetings, participate in the relevant scheduled drills and training and take part in special activities, including standbys and open houses.

EMS MEMBERSHIP OR EMPLOYMENT

To become a fully-certified EMS member of the Squad, you must possess a valid New Jersey driver's license and be capable of performing the job responsibilities of an emergency medical technician. This requires certain physical capabilities, such as the ability to lift equipment and stretchers with patients on them; to drive under hazardous conditions; the mental capability to meet and maintain training levels; and emotional capability to deal with often-stressful situations. EMS members must complete a routine agility test as outlined by the SOGs.

EMS applicants must be capable of completing classroom work at the beginning college level. Initial EMT training is the equivalent of a three or four-credit, one-semester college course.

EMT-Bs must also obtain and annually re-certify in a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course for professional health care providers. This course is offered periodically by instructors at the CFARS building specifically for Squad members.

EMT-Bs must re-certify every three years, by completing successfully a refresher course and by obtaining continuing education credits (CEU). CFARS covers the cost of each member's EMS-related training and recertification through CFARS-approved CEU courses.

RESCUE ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

To become a Rescue Associate, you must be a) a fully certified EMS member of CFARS; b) an active EMS member of another rescue squad or c) a fully certified firefighter, with more than twelve (12) months experience in the applicable category.

Rescue Associates must possess a valid New Jersey driver's license, complete and annually re-certify in a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course for professional health care providers, and be capable of performing the job responsibilities of the rescue team. This requires strenuous physical activity, including lifting and using heavy equipment; driving all Squad vehicles in hazardous conditions; mental capability to satisfactorily complete and maintain the training requirements as laid out in the relevant SOGs; and the emotional capability to deal with often-stressful situations. In addition, Rescue Associate members must complete a routine agility test as outlined by the SOGs.

WATER RESCUE MEMBERSHIP

The Squad also has special teams to respond to water rescue emergencies. These teams have unique physical and training requirements. For more information about the Water Rescue Associate category of membership, applicants must contact the Recruiting Officer at 908.735.4012 to arrange a Pre-Interview Meeting prior to submitting an application.

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CADET MEMBERSHIP

Cadet membership is an opportunity for young adults ages 16 and 17 to serve their community while learning about pre-hospital emergency medicine.

Cadet membership requires certain physical capabilities, such as the ability to lift equipment and stretchers with patients on them; mental capability to meet and maintain training levels; and emotional capability to deal with often-stressful situations. Cadet members must also complete the EMS membership routine agility test as outlined by the SOGs.

CFARS is committed to ensuring that our Cadet members remain focused on their priorities outside of the Squad. Cadets must be enrolled in an accredited high school and maintain a C average. In addition, Cadet duty time is restricted to minimize interference with their academic pursuits.

Parent or guardian permission is required for all Cadet applicants. In addition, a parent or guardian must attend the Cadet's membership interview.

PROBATIONARY STATUS

Every Squad applicant's acceptance into Membership or Employment is subject to the satisfactory completion of a probationary period. A probationary status member's duty crew will familiarize the new member with squad-specific protocols and assist him or her in practical application of EMT classroom training, while certain procedures will be explained by specific squad training personnel. Each probationary-status member is provided a checklist to complete which helps to ensure that he or she becomes fully familiar with all squad equipment and its use.

As previously discussed, every probationary member is expected to complete their regularly scheduled duty time as well as their rotating Saturday day shift.

Additionally, all members are expected to abide by squad rules and regulations. These range from those requiring adherence to specific squad call protocols and maintaining patient confidentiality to "housekeeping." Probationary-status members are subject to immediate dismissal if they are found in violation of the Squad's SOGs.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT?

After completing the Membership or Employment application forms in this packet and returning them to the Squad building, your criminal and driving records are reviewed through the police and the state division of motor vehicles.

If satisfactory, you will be interviewed by the Squad's Membership Committee. After your formal interview, the Membership Committee will then determine whether to accept your application.

While CFARS adheres to a policy of non-discrimination in its selection process, including the provision of reasonable accommodations which do not cause undue hardship, it otherwise retains the right to determine, at its sole discretion, whether an applicant would be capable of performing squad duties as outlined in the bylaws and SOGs, and thus acceptable for Membership or Employment.