



FRESNO COUNTY FIRE

PROTECTION DISTRICT

PAID-CALL FIREFIGHTER POLICY & PROCEDURE HANDBOOK

POLICY NO.: 200-09

SUBJECT: RESPIRATORY PROTECTION PROGRAM (RPP)

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 1, 2009

REVISION DATE: October 1, 2013

RESPONSIBILITY: Fresno County Fire Protection District
Paid-Call Firefighter

POLICY/PROCEDURE:

PURPOSE:

To establish a minimum standard, and the procedures to follow, to meet the Federal and State requirements of the respiratory protection program for all Paid-Call Firefighter (PCF) Company members.

POLICY:

The Fresno County Fire Protection District (Fire District) recognizes the importance of annual respiratory protection screening for the health and safety of all personnel who may be subject to working in an atmosphere which may be deemed Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health (IDLH). Fit testing will be conducted annually for all PCF Company members.

In accordance with NFPA Standard 1582, Medical Requirements for Firefighters; CCR Title 8 Industrial Relations, Section 5144 Respiratory Protection; and 29 CFR 1910.134 Federal (OSHA) Respiratory Protection Standard, a full Respiratory Protection Program (RPP) will be maintained for all PCF firefighters serving the Fire District.

The Chief of the Fire District shall have full charge of the administration of this program and shall direct staff, as appropriate, to determine the needs of this program into the future.

The Fire District Administrative Officer is designated as the program administrator for the Respiratory Protection Program (RPP).

Procedure

1. Prior to December 1st of each year, all PCF firefighting personnel assigned to the Fire District shall submit an annual RPP Employee Medical Questionnaire (EMQ) for the purposes of determining their medical evaluation baseline for annual fit testing, and to establish whether or not a full physical examination may be warranted.
2. New hire applicants will be required to submit an individual RPP Employee Medical Questionnaire (CDF 600a) and Health Questionnaire (STD. 610) for evaluation by the District Medical Consultant, and must undergo and successfully complete a physical examination prior to final acceptance for PCF membership and full clearance for fit testing.
3. Employees who submit applications during the months outside of the regularly occurring fit testing cycle (e.g., May through November) will only be required to complete one set of RPP documents and will not have to undergo the process twice in the same year.
4. All annual RPP documents will be provided to PCF Company members, as necessary.
5. PCF Company members requiring further medical evaluation (full physical exams) will be so notified in writing by the PCF Program Administrator. Medical evaluation appointments with the Fire District's medical provider will also be scheduled by the PCF Program Administrator.
6. PCF Company members may choose to have their personal physician conduct further medical evaluation(s) utilizing the Fire District's approved, established standards. All expenses for private exams by personal physicians will be borne by the PCF Company member.
7. The annual Respiratory Protection Program (RPP) will be administered in accordance with the Fresno County Fire Protection District RPP Guidelines.
8. Failure to maintain RPP standards may result in dismissal.
9. PCF Company members, who are also employed as Firefighter 1's with CAL FIRE and returning to PCF status, will be exempt from repeating the RPP process if they have passed the CAL FIRE RPP process within the same calendar year.

POLICY RESPONSIBILITY:

Board of Directors, Fire Chief, District Administrative Officer, Division Chiefs, Battalion Chiefs, Station Captains, Paid-Call Company Officers, Paid-Call Fire Apparatus Operators, Paid-Call Firefighters.