

ANGIER & BLACK RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER GUIDELINES

January 2013

The Junior Firefighter Program was instituted by the firefighters of the Angier & Black River Fire Department. Our training program was initiated for young men and women between the ages of 15-17 interested in serving their community and preparing to become active firefighters. At age 18, the Junior Firefighter is eligible to become a full active member of the Angier & Black River Fire Department.

The Angier & Black River Fire Department recognizes the need for this initiative to reach out to North Carolina's youth and engage them in non-operational roles within emergency departments. Reaching out to people when they are young has long-range effects, and encouraging youth to take part in the emergency services is extremely beneficial to local communities and departments. Benefits of junior programs include:

- Allowing youth to gain insight and interest in becoming long-term members of the emergency services.
- Increasing awareness among youth about volunteering and supporting the fire and rescue services.
- Providing departments with additional help in accomplishing non-firefighting or non-emergency tasks.
- Leadership development for America's youth who will be tomorrow's leaders.
- Educating parents and mentors on the importance of encouraging volunteerism.

Junior Firefighters serve in an important support role for the firefighters at actual emergencies. The Junior Firefighters attend weekly training drills with the department. In addition to the weekly training, the Junior Firefighters will have specialized monthly training exercises when scheduled. An Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire Captain serves as the Junior Firefighter training officer with direct oversight of an Assistant Chief. The Fire Captain he/she is the primary contact person for the Junior Firefighter. This does not preclude all members of the Angier & Black River Fire Department from being knowledgeable of the Junior Firefighter Program Policy and assisting as required. Those selected for this program are expected to act in a mature manner and commit to a demanding, long-term program. The Chief Officers will evaluate the Junior Firefighters and the Junior Firefighter Program every 3 months. This is to ensure that the program is as effective as possible. Junior Firefighters will be able to voice any comments or concerns that they may have in accordance with the Disciplinary Policy.

In both training sessions and actual emergency situations, the safety of the Junior Firefighter is of paramount concern to the Angier & Black River Fire Department. As such, the activities of the Junior Firefighters are limited in scope and the fire officers closely supervise them. The Junior Firefighters quickly become an integral part of the firefighting team during emergencies, serving

in such important capacities as establishing a water supply, supplying equipment for firefighters, changing air bottles, manning exterior hose lines and assisting with clean-up. It should be understood, however, that despite the training and supervision provided, firefighting is a dangerous activity and serious injury is a possibility. The Angier & Black River Fire Department will make every effort to minimize the Junior Firefighters' exposure to danger. It is also the responsibility of the Junior Firefighter to avoid known hazardous situations and act in accordance with this guideline and the Junior Firefighter Program policy.

Due to the inherent dangers of firefighting, strict rules of conduct and tight policy standards have been established. In an actual emergency, it is essential that all firefighters, including Junior Firefighters, act in a calm and efficient manner. The Junior Firefighters are expected to attend training drills to be prepared for the many challenges presented in an emergency situation. Each member is expected to read and understand these requirements and to adhere to the standards. The Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire Officers are available to discuss any questions.

Eligibility

1. Any resident of the Angier & Black River Fire Department fire district, between the ages of 15-17, may apply for membership in the Angier & Black River Junior Firefighter Program.
2. The applicant must be in good academic standing at his/her school at the time of application and during the period of membership as a Junior Firefighter. A minimum GPA of 2.0 ("C") must be maintained.
3. The applicant must complete an application, including a medical authorization and police / background check. Included with the application is a parental consent that must be signed by a parent or legal guardian. The application must be approved by the Fire Chief, Fire Officers and Junior Firefighter training officer.
4. All applicants will be treated equally regardless of race, sex, religion, or national origin.

General Rules

1. The general standard of conduct is to act in the manner of a professional. Junior Firefighters represent the Angier & Black River Fire Department, and are expected to be courteous and respectful to fellow firefighters, emergency service personnel, and all citizens served. The Angier & Black River Fire Department will not tolerate vulgar, offensive, discriminatory or threatening language or gestures at any time. Junior Firefighters may not wear any article of clothing that, in the opinion of a fire officer, would be offensive to the public served. Violations will result in disciplinary action, and may include suspension.
2. The Angier & Black River Fire Department maintains a "**zero tolerance**" policy with respect to drug and alcohol use and violation of public laws. Any possession or use of alcohol or illegal drugs, or being under the influence of alcohol or illegal drugs anywhere, anytime will result in the immediate suspension from the Junior Firefighter Program. Junior Firefighters may not use **any** tobacco products on Angier Fire Department premises or apparatus, emergency scene, training drill, official function, or while in Angier & Black River Fire

Department uniform. Any arrest or conviction for a crime will result in the immediate dismissal from the Junior Program.

3. Junior Firefighters may not use or display emergency lights (red light or any other color) on their personal vehicle. An appropriate fire tag may be displayed on vehicle if issued and authorized by the Fire Chief. Junior Firefighters will only wear clothing identifying them as an Angier & Black River Fire Department firefighter that was approved and issued by the authority of the Fire Chief. Junior Firefighters may not develop, design and/or purchase any item that represents the Angier & Black River Fire Department, unless authorized to do so by the Fire Chief.
4. Junior Firefighters must be accompanied by two (2) members of the department when at the station to conduct training or in an official capacity. At no time will a Junior Firefighter meet with only one firefighter.
5. Junior Firefighters must leave the station no more than 30 minutes following the completion of the emergency response, training drill, department meeting or work detail.
6. Junior Firefighters are not permitted to attend overnight stand-by details. Junior Firefighters may not borrow Angier & Black River Fire Department equipment for personal use unless approved by the Fire Chief (i.e. in support of school program).
7. Junior Firefighters will not operate Angier & Black River Fire Department vehicles.
8. Power tools, hydraulic and pressurized air operated equipment, and cutting devices such as chain saws/roof saws, air bags and extrication tools are to be operated only under the direct supervision of a fire officer or his/her designee. A Junior Firefighter must be at least 17 years old to operate any of this equipment. Power tool use is for training purposes only. A Junior Firefighter will not operate any power tool, hydraulic or pressurized air operated equipment or cutting device at an emergency scene. Full protective gear, including gloves and eye covering, must be worn by the Junior Firefighter when operating any power tool, hydraulic or pressurized air operated equipment, or cutting device.
9. Junior Firefighters may climb Angier & Black River Fire Department ground ladders for training purposes only. Any ladder use must be under the direct supervision of an Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire officer or his/her designee. A ladder belt or safety harness and full protective gear must be worn at all times. Ladders of another fire department may not be used by the Junior Firefighter without the consent of a fire officer from the other department and an Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire officer.
10. Junior Firefighters are not to participate in any Angier & Black River Fire Department activity, including emergencies, during school hours. Junior Firefighters are not to leave school, or a school sponsored activity, for an emergency response. Junior Firefighters are not to respond to any alarm dispatched after 9:00 PM on a school night (Sunday-Thursday). Junior Firefighters are not permitted to carry radios they may have purchased, unless authorized to do so by a fire officer.

11. Junior Firefighters must attend a minimum of 30% of training drills or meetings conducted each year.
12. Junior Firefighters are responsible for the care of all gear issued to them, they are also financially responsible for the loss or damage of any issued gear unless it is damaged in training or on an emergency scene.
13. Junior Firefighters may not fill SCBA air bottles without direct supervision from a fire officer.
14. No firefighter is to ride on a truck step. All firefighters are to be seated and have their seat belts fastened before the apparatus is in motion. Junior Firefighters may not repack hose from the hose bed if the apparatus is in motion.
15. Junior Firefighters are to report directly to the station when responding to an emergency call.
16. Report any injury to an Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire Officer or Safety Officer.
17. Firefighters may not accept monetary payment or gifts for services rendered as a firefighter. Any citizen offering payment of any kind should be advised that payment for firefighting services is not expected. Individuals seeking to make a contribution should be advised to contact the Fire Chief or his/her representative.

Emergency Response

1. Junior Firefighters may respond to emergency alarms, except as outlined in (2) and (3) below. Junior Firefighters should respond to the firehouse or as directed by the Angier Fire Chief or Junior Firefighter Training Officer. Junior Firefighters may ride on Angier & Black River Fire Department apparatus if seats are available and it is in non-emergency mode. Junior Firefighters will relinquish seats to senior firefighters as needed. Junior Firefighters are under the command of Angier & Black River Fire Department fire officers from the time of their arrival at the station or emergency scene until released from duty by an Angier Fire Department fire officer. If no officer is aboard the apparatus, the Junior Firefighter will be under the command of the driver until reassigned to a Angier & Black River Fire Department officer. Junior Firefighters are not to leave an emergency scene without the knowledge and consent of a Angier & Black River Fire Department fire officer (each Junior Firefighter is to speak with a fire officer directly, not via a third party).
2. Junior Firefighters may not respond to an emergency alarm relating to a hazardous material incident, biological or nuclear hazard, explosive device, terrorist incident, crime scene assistance or mass casualty (defined as one likely to involve four or more individuals seriously injured or killed- such as an incident involving a passenger train, aircraft or bus accident). Junior Firefighters will not respond directly to a mutual aid alarm outside of the Angier & Black River Fire Department district unless directed to do so by an Angier & Black River Fire Department Officer.

3. Prior to responding to alarms, the Junior Firefighter must be trained, and demonstrate proficiency in the use of SCBA equipment. The use of SCBA equipment by a Junior Firefighter at an emergency scene is reserved for defensive, purposes only. Junior Firefighters are to remain well clear of an area of operation requiring use of supplemental breathing air.
4. Junior Firefighters must wear appropriate protective gear while riding on the apparatus and at an emergency scene.
5. Under no circumstances is a Junior Firefighter to enter a burning structure, confined space or underground area, or area subject to a collapse hazard. Once a fire has been brought under control, and the building determined to be structurally sound and free of hazardous materials and toxic gas, the Junior Firefighter may enter the building if accompanied at all times by a Angier & Black River Fire Department officer or his/her designee. This must be with the consent of the Fire Chief. Junior Firefighters must remain well clear of a motor vehicle fire or other type fire presenting exposure to flammable liquids or hazardous materials. At an emergency scene, a Junior Firefighter may not climb a ladder or operate from a roof or other elevated position. At an emergency scene, a Junior Firefighter may not operate any power tool, hydraulic or pressurized air operated equipment, or cutting device.
6. Upon arrival at an emergency scene, a Junior Firefighter is not to enter a private dwelling or other structure with senior firefighters for investigation or emergency action of any type, unless expressly instructed to do so by the Fire Chief or a Fire Officer. Junior Firefighters are to remain with the apparatus or in close proximity to the apparatus they arrived on, and await specific orders from an Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire Officer. If the Junior Firefighter receives orders from an officer or firefighter of another fire department, it is incumbent upon the Junior Firefighter to advise that officer or firefighter of his/her status as a Junior Firefighter and the limitations placed upon him/her. If ordered to enter a structure by a fire officer for any type of emergency action, the Junior Firefighter must be accompanied at all times by an Angier & Black River Fire Department fire officer.
7. All orders received from a fire officer are to be obeyed and executed completely. If, due to safety concerns or for any other reason, the Junior Firefighter is unable to complete an assigned task, the officer issuing the order, or another officer in his/her absence, should be immediately notified by the Junior Firefighter who received the order.
8. At an emergency alarm involving downed power lines or gas leak, the Junior Firefighter must remain aboard the apparatus until the area of operation for the Junior Firefighter is determined to be safe by an Angier & Black River Fire Department fire officer.
9. When on-scene at a motor vehicle accident, Junior Firefighters must wear a reflective vest and/or reflective striped turnout coat. At no time will Junior Firefighters be assigned to direct traffic and maintain traffic control.
10. Junior Firefighters are not to make any public comments or make statements to the media at the time of an emergency incident, or following the incident, concerning conditions relating to the emergency scene. Examples of comments to avoid are the cause and origin of a fire,

condition of fire victims, and condition of a home interior or firefighting technique. All public inquiries are to be referred to the incident commander or Angier & Black River Fire Department Fire Chief. Junior Firefighters will not post information (photos, comments etc) about any fire department incident via Social Media (i.e. Facebook, Twitter, My Space, Cell Phone texting etc). It should be understood by the Junior Firefighter that fire inspectors or arson investigators and other governmental officials are required to inspect certain types of damage. Their presence may in no way indicate suspicion of wrongdoing on the part of the property owner. Junior Firefighters must also understand that individuals whose property has been damaged or destroyed and/or family members injured or killed are extremely sensitive to the statements and actions of emergency personnel. Angier & Black River Fire Department firefighters are expected to demonstrate the utmost of respect and compassion for these individuals in both their words and actions.

11. Valuables found at an emergency scene are to be immediately turned over to an Angier & Black River Fire Department officer or law enforcement officer. Theft by a Junior Firefighter will result in an immediate suspension from the Junior Firefighter Program and the appropriate law enforcement will be notified.
12. Junior Firefighters are not to have any direct contact with an injured person or dead body unless properly certified (Medical Responder, EMT), and then only at the direction of an Angier & Black River Fire Department officer or EMS crew chief. Report any accidental contact with blood or other bodily fluid to an Angier & Black River Fire Department officer or safety officer immediately, so that medical treatment can be initiated promptly.

ANGIER & BLACK RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

JUNIOR FIREFIGHTER APPLICATION

(Please print using Black or Blue Ink)

Personal Information

1) Name _____ Phone # _____
Address _____
Birthdate _____
E-mail _____

2) Do you have your parent's permission to apply to be a Junior Firefighter?

Yes _____ No _____

3) Parent/Guardian Name _____ Phone # _____

Emergency Contacts

4) Name _____ Phone # _____
Name _____ Phone # _____

Medical Information

5) Doctor _____ Phone # _____
Preferred Hospital _____
Medical Conditions _____

Allergies

Do you take any medication? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, list the medication and what condition it is for:

(ALL MEDICAL INFORMATION WILL BE KEPT CONFIDENTIAL)

ANGIER & BLACK RIVER FIRE DEPARTMENT JUNIOR FIRE PROGRAM

Parental Consent

My son/daughter, _____, has my permission to be a Junior Firefighter with the Angier & Black River Fire Department. I give my consent to allow my son/daughter _____ to be a Junior Firefighter and do not hold the Angier & Black River Fire Department responsible for any actions caused by my son/daughter that is not under the direction of an Officer.

Junior Firefighter Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

Agreement of Understanding

We have read **ALL** of the Junior Firefighter Guidelines and understand the guidelines set up to outline the purpose of the Junior Firefighters. I and my son/daughter understand that Junior Firefighters serve as support members of the Angier & Black River Fire Department to learn the basics of firefighting and to prepare them to become a full member at the age of 18. We understand that Junior Firefighters are to follow all instructions from members of the Angier & Black River Fire Department and that the general standard of conduct is to act in the manner of a professional. We understand that he/she is expected to be courteous and respectful of other members (Junior and Regular) and to all citizens as they are representing the Angier & Black River Fire Department. We understand there is a “**zero tolerance**” policy regarding drug and alcohol use. We understand that by signing this Agreement of Understanding, we are declaring that any violation of the guidelines is grounds for immediate dismissal. We understand that any acts that violate the guidelines and that are illegal by state law will be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Junior Firefighter Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

Acknowledge Receipt of Guidelines

I acknowledge that we have received a copy of the Angier & Black River Fire Department Junior Firefighter Program Guidelines and have reviewed them prior to signing these documents.

Junior Firefighter Signature and Date

Parent/Guardian Signature and Date

I acknowledge that the above named received a copy of the Angier & Black River Fire Department Junior Firefighter Program Guidelines.

Fire Chief Signature and Date

Officer Signature and Date

Angier & Black River Fire Department Inc.
Junior Fire Program

Thank-you for your supporting role

The Angier & Black River Fire Department would like to take a moment to thank you for allowing your son/daughter to participate in our Junior Firefighter Program. Please be assured that the safety of your child will always be our main concern. By allowing your child to participate in this program you are helping your child build character, create self-esteem and develop a positive self-image. We provide a structured environment that reinforces teamwork, accountability, and trust. Our goal is to help develop the children of today into the next generation of compassionate, dedicated, goal orientated adults of tomorrow. We hope that the Junior Firefighters will continue to serve their community after they become adults. Although some will move away from Angier, the memories that they gained while in the fire service will never leave them. Some of the Junior Firefighters may even decide to follow firefighting as a career path. There are numerous job opportunities in the fire service. Regardless of what your child decides to do in his or her life we are here to help them succeed. We hope that they retain the fact that volunteering today can and does make a difference tomorrow. We want to keep an open line of communication with the parents at all times. With your help and support we will continue to build a larger, stronger community. If you have any questions or comments, please call the Angier & Black River Fire Department at 919-639-6234. There are also spaces below with additional contact information.

Frankie Beasley Fire Chief

Cell # 919-291-0739

Home # 919-552-3546

E-mail afdchief@centurylink.net