

EMS Student & Civilian Ride-Along

EMS Student Ride-Along definition: Someone who has provided the Director with proof of a valid professional rescuer CPR card and a training permit. The student must be enrolled into a school, which contracts with River Falls Ambulance or is involved in a program with River Falls Ambulance. The EMS student may function to their trainee level under direct observation of a preceptor.

EMS Civilian Ride-Along definition: A member of the community who has expressed interest to the Director in riding along to obtain more background/experience in a pre-hospital setting. The civilian must be a minimum of 16 years old. The civilian rider may not engage in any patient care or treatment. The civilian rider may only observe in service operations.

Prerequisites

1. The EMS Ride-Along must fill out and sign a liability waiver form with parent/guardian signature if under 18.
2. The EMS Ride-Along must fill out and sign a WI Background Information Disclosure form.
3. If an EMS student, the school/college must approve of the Ride-Along in order to be covered for insurance. The school/college must have a valid clinical contract with River Falls Ambulance. The only exceptions are for River Falls First Responders, which fall under our ambulance insurance and RF EMS Explorers, which have their own insurance from the Boy Scouts.

Ambulance Calls

1. The rider shall contact the ambulance Director to schedule a ride along shift at least 24 hours prior to the shift start.
2. The rider must follow their appropriate uniform guideline or they will not be allowed to ride.
 - ✓ **EMS Student Uniform:** Navy/gray shirt with navy EMT pants and dark boots or shoes. A uniform supplied by the training center will also be valid.
 - ✓ **Civilian Rider Uniform:** Dark long or short sleeve shirt with dark pants (navy preferred) and dark shoes. *No tank tops, shorts or sandals are allowed.
3. The rider will be required to stay at the EMS station or within a few minutes from it.
4. The rider shall go through a brief orientation process prior to responding on any calls.
5. The rider may temporarily sign out a pager from the EMS station to notify them of calls.
6. The rider will be required to wear a reflective vest signifying “EMS Intern” for EMS student riders or “EMS Observer” for civilian riders when on ambulance calls.
7. The rider may respond to the scene as a passenger either in the ambulance or the quick response vehicle.
8. The rider shall always be in the back of the ambulance with the patient unless instructed otherwise by their preceptor.
9. There shall be only one rider present on an ambulance at a time. Two riders may be scheduled during normal operations, if needed, one for primary crew and one for back-up crew. During special events, one student may be scheduled for each scheduled ambulance.

10. The rider will be assigned to a preceptor to enhance their learning experience. The non-RF EMS rider must be supervised while in the ambulance building.
11. The rider shall follow the direction of their assigned preceptor. Any rider who disobeys orders or interferes with the patient's care, will lose their riding privileges.
12. Upon the completion of a call, the rider shall assist in cleaning and restocking the ambulance. The rider shall be released by their preceptor.
13. No rider shall ever drive the ambulance.
14. The rider shall be drug and alcohol free when doing their ride-along. Any deviation will result in loss of ride-along privileges.

Miscellaneous

1. The rider is required to conduct him/herself in a professional manner. Patients, bystanders and fellow EMT/Paramedic's shall be treated courteously and professionally at all times.
2. The rider is required to keep all information about calls, patients and information discussed confidential. An infraction will result in termination from the program and/or loss of current and future ride along privileges.
3. All clothing, equipment and supplies issued to the rider remain the property of River Falls Ambulance Service.
4. Rider must adhere to current clothing and conduct procedures set forth by the department.
5. RF EMS members that are students may ride anytime as approved by the ambulance officers.
6. Non-RF EMS students/riders may only ride between the hours of 8am to 10pm unless otherwise approved by the director and preceptor for the shift.
7. Riders are scheduled based on first come, first served basis with no bumping once the person is signed up and approved.