

Cedarville Township Volunteer Fire Department

Driving Eligibility and Backing SOG

2025

Driving apparatus requires training, competence, and focus. Well trained drivers prioritize safety and reflect a positive image on the department. This document contains requirements for drivers and directives for safe operation of apparatus.

New Driver Certification:

- Valid driver's license on file
- Valid personal car insurance on file
- Written map test for village and township completed
- EVOG completed (when offered)
- Cone course completed with senior member or officer
- Sufficient drive time completed with a department member, senior member, or officer
- Practical driving test completed with two officers (a senior member may complete one)

Backing:

Many incidents and injuries have resulted from backing apparatus. Whenever possible, backing should be avoided altogether by using roads or larger lots to turn around. When it is required, members should have a plan and be aware of their surroundings.

- Backer positioned at the rear of the apparatus (should not walk behind the apparatus)
- Emergency lights activated
- Driver's window down
- Backup alarm operating
- Eye contact should be maintained with the backer. If the backer moves out of view, the driver should stop the vehicle until the backer indicates it is safe to continue.
- If the use of a backer is not possible due to lack of personnel, the driver should exit the apparatus and make a complete 360 degree survey of the area around the apparatus to determine if any obstructions are present.

Ongoing requirements:

- Members should log driving time throughout the year.
- Minimum two hours of drive time per year required on each vehicle.
- If drive time is not completed, the member must complete a practical driving test with an officer.
- Members must maintain a current driver's license and insurance policy. Updated copies should be turned into the Fire Chief and placed in the member's file.

- Any moving violation received by a member should be reported to the Fire Chief.

Driver status will be suspended or revoked in the following situations:

An individual who has a Class A violation within the past three (3) years will have their driving privileges suspended for a period of up to twelve (12) months and will also be required to be re-certified to operate emergency vehicles through successful completion of our driver training program and VFIS Dynamics of Emergency Vehicle Response program. Examples of Class A violations are as follows:

- Driving while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or drugs
- Homicide arising out of the use of a motor vehicle (gross negligence)
- Reckless endangerment involving a motor vehicle
- Operating during a period of suspension or revocation
- Using a motor vehicle for the commission of a felony
- Operating a motor vehicle without owner's authority
- Permitting an unlicensed person to drive
- Reckless driving

An individual who has a combination of two (2) Class B moving violation convictions and/or chargeable accidents in a three (3) year period will be issued a suspension of driving department vehicles for a period of up to thirty (30) days at the discretion of the Fire Chief. Examples of Class A violations are as follows:

- Exceeding posted speed limit
- All moving violations not listed as Type A violations

An individual who has a combination of three (3) Class B moving violation convictions and/or chargeable accidents in a three (3) year period will be issued a suspension of driving department vehicles for a period of up to ninety (90) days at the discretion of the Fire Chief.

Drivers may have their privileges suspended at the discretion of the Fire Chief and/or the Township Trustees if they show a pattern of disregard for safety in their driving habits. This may include a pattern of accidents or violations, no matter the severity, in a specific period.

Effective April 10, 2025

_____ Date: _____

Kyle E. Miller
Fire Chief
Cedarville Township Volunteer Fire Department