



Trailblazer – Youth Volunteer Program

Central York Fire Services

| PROUDLY PROTECTING THE COMMUNITIES OF NEWMARKET AND AURORA |

Youth Volunteer Fire Services Program

Central York Fire Services (CYFS) is excited to announce a unique volunteer opportunity for high school students to explore the field of emergency services. This opportunity is designed to educate and engage young students in the various aspects of emergency services within the community, with a strong focus on promoting equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI).

Objective

This program will have 20-25 volunteer positions to local high school students from grade 9-12. The primary goal is to involve these students in CYFS events, providing them with firsthand experience in emergency services. We are particularly committed to increasing representation and opportunities for equity-deserving groups, including from racialized and underrepresented communities in emergency services. Volunteers will assist Administration with various tasks, including:

- Preparation and clean-up
- Assisting Administration at events

All volunteers will report to the volunteer coordinator.

Time Commitment

- **Duration:** This will be a 1-year commitment with 2-4 hours of volunteer work each month

Training Opportunities

- **Training Orientation:** Volunteers will receive orientation session(s) designed to introduce them to the world of emergency services, emphasizing the importance of EDI within the sector.
- **Materials Provided:** All necessary training materials will be supplied to ensure proper knowledge and preparedness for CYFS duties.

Benefits

This opportunity is perfect for students interested in pursuing a career in the emergency services or simply looking to contribute positively to their community. It requires hard work, perseverance, and dedication, but CYFS is committed to supporting students throughout this process. Additionally, this program aims to:

- **Promote Career Awareness:** Highlight the various career paths within the fire, police, and paramedic services, emphasizing the value of diversity and the importance of representation in the workforce.
- **Develop Skills:** Provide valuable skills in teamwork, leadership, and community engagement.
- **Build Networks:** Offer networking opportunities with professionals in the fire service.

Why Representation Matters

At CYFS, we believe that a diverse workforce strengthens our ability to serve the community effectively. Representation matters because:

- **It Inspires:** Seeing individuals from similar backgrounds in the fire service can inspire students to envision themselves in these roles.
- **It Enhances Trust:** A diverse fire service can build stronger connections and trust within the community.
- **It Brings Innovation:** Diverse perspectives contribute to innovative problem-solving and improved service delivery.

Application and Selection Process

To ensure a fair and equal opportunity for students, we have developed a standardized application process for those interested in the program. Please see details of the required submissions:

Application Requirements:

1. Personal Summary:

- Candidates are required to submit a written summary about themselves.
- The summary should explain why they believe they are the best candidate for the program.
- Tips for the summary:
 - Highlight personal achievements. What are you proud of?
 - Share any relevant experiences, especially volunteer work, within the community.
 - Discuss your best qualities and how they align with community engagement.
 - If interested in the Emergency Services, please explain that as well.
 - **Note:** There is no minimum word count, but please limit the summary to **one page**.

2. Updated Resume:

- Applicants must provide an up-to-date resume detailing their skills, experience, and education

3. Optional Personal References:

- While not mandatory, it is recommended that candidates include personal references particularly from any volunteer experience, as part of their application package.

Submissions:

The above package is asked to be submitted to:

info@cyfs.ca

Interested students are encouraged to apply, especially those from diverse backgrounds who may not have previously considered a career in fire services. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis, and interviews will be conducted to select the most committed and enthusiastic candidates.

Upcoming Events with CYFS!

Central York Fire Services (CYFS) is excited to announce a series of upcoming events, with more to be confirmed soon. Stay tuned for official dates and join us in celebrating, learning, and engaging with our community.

Upcoming Events (Dates to be Announced):

- Central York Fire Services Recognition Ceremony
- Central Your Fire Services Graduation Ceremony
- York Region Pride Parade
- Canada Day
- Terry Fox Run
- Run for Newmarket
- MPP Annual BBQ
- Movies Moonlight (Aurora and Newmarket)
- Christmas Parade (Aurora and Newmarket)
- And many more to come!

CYFS is proud to launch a new program aimed at educating and engaging youth in our communities. This initiative will provide valuable insights into emergency services, fostering awareness and knowledge in our future leaders. Stay tuned for more information on how to get involved!

We look forward to welcoming you at these events as we inspire the next generation to explore careers in emergency services.