



# Manhattan Fire Protection District

SOP #: 450-1	Effective Date: 06/18/09	Revised Date: 07/08/16
Section: Emergency Response Apparatus		
Subject: Apparatus Driver/Operator Requirements		

## **PURPOSE:**

To ensure that any person that drives a piece of apparatus is properly trained and has completed his/her drive time and job performance requirements. To ensure any personnel that drives a piece of apparatus has the proper training to operate the apparatus proficiently.

## **SCOPE:**

This procedure will apply to all personnel who desire to drive any piece of apparatus, excluding utility vehicles, station cars, or command type buggies.

## **DEFINITIONS:**

**Apparatus:** shall be defined as a motorized vehicle or motor vehicle and trailer combination operated by this fire department.

**Driver Operator:** shall be defined as personnel whom have been properly trained, properly licensed, and given approval to operate specified apparatus of this department.

**Approved Instructor:** shall be defined as any individual with at least 3 years of experience driving and/or a state approved driving instructor.

**Documented Drive Time:** shall be defined as any drive time when in non-emergency mode and a completed training sheet has been filled out.

## **GUIDELINE:**

The Initial Driver/Operator Program must be completed for any member that is a new Driver/Operator for the Manhattan Fire Protection District. A sign-off book and the Initial Driver/Operator Credential with all of the requirements will be assigned out by the Training Division. They must meet the requirements listed below.

The 1 month Driver/Operator Program must be completed for those members that have previous experience driving and pumping and meet the requirements listed below. A sign-off book and the 1 month Driver/Operator Credential with all of the requirements will be assigned out by the Training Division.

The Tender Operator Program must be completed for those members that do not meet all of the requirements listed below. Completion of this program will only allow the member to drive/operate the Tender. The sign-off book and Tender Operator Credential with all of the requirements will be assigned out by the Training Division.



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The Requirements for the Driver/Operator programs are as follows:

- Must have a valid driver's license for utility vehicles, station cars, and buggies.
- Must have a valid class B non-CDL for all other apparatus.
- Must be 21 years of age.
- Must have Fire Service Vehicle Operator (FSVO) to operate the Ambulances.
- Must have Fire Service Vehicle Operator (FSVO) AND Fire Apparatus Engineer (FAE) to operate the Engines and Squad.

Those that don't meet the requirements to drive, but want drive time while on their permit, shall be tested by an approved instructor. Snow removal operations shall only be conducted by those designated people that have previous experience operating a snow plow. The road test will be completed by those who are certified by the state to do so. Any and all driver operators must maintain the mandated driving hours, courses and pump training throughout the year per the state and the Manhattan Fire Protection District. All drivers must also complete the VFIS Competency Course annually.

### **SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS:**

None

### **SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

A Mentor should be assigned to each new Driver/Operator assigned to the programs. This should be a seasoned Driver/Operator that is willing to help and has experience in driving and pump operations. Mentors will be assigned by the Training Division.

**Approved By:**

**Signature:** *Daniel Forsythe*

**Date:** *07/08/16*