

The logo is a Maltese cross with a red border. The top arm contains the word "ROSSFORD" in yellow, and the bottom arm contains "FIRE" in yellow. The center of the cross features a circular emblem with a fire hydrant and a fire engine. The right arm contains the number "790" in white. The background of the cross is purple.

**City of Rossford
Fire and Rescue
Department
Explorer Post 790**

Application Packet

Updated March 20, 2013

Dear Parent/Guardian(s):

I would like to thank you for allowing your young adult to participate in the Rossford Fire Explorer Program. Please allow me to further introduce myself; I am Lieutenant Andrew Vascik, Explorer Advisor for the explorer program. I am a ten year veteran of the Rossford Fire Department. I also work for Pemberville-Freedom Fire and Springfield Twp. Fire Departments, and instruct at Owens Community College in Fire Science Technology program. I am a national and State of Ohio certified Paramedic, Firefighter level II trained, Incident Safety Officer, and Assistant Fire Instructor. I am especially proud of being an alumnus of this explorer program and being able to continue the Explorer Post mission and its traditions.

I would like to share a brief history of the Rossford Fire Explorer Post with you. The explorer post was the combination of ideas from two firefighter brothers for the City of Rossford; Robert Vascik, Jr. and Richard Vascik. Both had serviced our county with the United States Air Force on the west coast in the early 1970s' were they had firsthand knowledge and experience working with the Boy Scouts of America Exploring Program. In early 1992 Robert Vascik, Jr. noticed the increasing interest in the fire service with the young adults his youngest boy was friends with. After talking and bouncing the idea of an explorer program at the Rossford Fire Department with his brother Richard Vascik they approach the then Chief of the department, Tony Jackson. They were given permission to continue to find out more information and talk to the Toledo Boy Scout Council. On June 1, 1992 their hard work had become a reality with the formation of the Rossford Fire Explorer Post 790 and its original five young adult explorers. It didn't take the post long to learn the skills need to support and help the fire department on fire scenes. During the Christmas break of 1992 they were activated for the first time for an occupied house fire in the 200 block of Elm Street. The explorer post continued to train and grow; and in 1994 they partnered with Northwood Fire Department to extend the post services and training.

For the past 20 years the explorer program has grown from its original five members to as many as 27 members in the late 1990s'. The explorers have gone from using ¾ pull up boots, long coats, and plastic helmets to firefighter bunker gear of pants and short coats with FRY-Glass™ helmets. They are also allowed to ride along with Rossford and Northwood fire departments' day shift crews. The explorer program continues to train its members to the State of Ohio Volunteer Firefighter level, EMS First Responder level, build knowledge and experience with various types of firefighting vehicles and equipment. With leadership and team building, exposure to a diverse work environment, and respect for others and leadership at the explorer program's training core.

I am excited for your young adult's participation in the explorer program. I have personally been witness to how this program can change the life of the willing young adult. Change in explorer's personal attitude and respect for others, they are less likely to get into trouble at home, school, and with friends, with grades and leadership skills improving as well. Many members have gone on and told the Advisors years later that "you guys have changed my life; I am no longer hanging out with the wrong people, it has given me a new direction in my life."

Tradition is an important part of the explorer program. Many of which you and your young adult will be witnessed to during their time in the program. One tradition with the explorer program which we are most proud of is how many of our members have gone on into the public safety field. This is not just limited to becoming a member of a local or out of state fire department; but, includes service to our country in our armed forces, a police officer, a nurse, or an EMT/paramedic. The post currently has 26 members which were on or still on fire departments nationwide and have soon to be four currently servicing our county in the Armed

Forces. For some past members they have chose to come back to the explorer program to teach and pass on their knowledge to the newest generation of explorers.

Also throughout the past 20 years of the explorer program we have encouraged the parents and/or guardians to help out when needed, come to a few drills and meeting to learn and see what exactly your young adult is learning in the program. We do many fundraisers and events throughout the year were your help would be appreciated. We hold an annual awards banquet where the program's youth members are honored for their time of service, dedication, commitment, and leadership to the program. This is also the time when the youth leadership is promoted. The explorer program also has another annual event; it's our big scenario and competition weekend. This is where the explorers put the skills learned to the test during simulated emergency scenarios and competitive events with other area fire and police explorer post. During this weekend we also invite alumni of the post back for a reunion on Saturday night.

A few questions you may have about the post. Who are the adult leaders of the program and can I trust them with my young adult? All of the adult advisors in some way have been part of the fire service at one time. There are many of them currently on an area fire department, some have been with the program since the beginning, and so are retired from the fire service. Also all of the adult advisors go through a back ground check with the Boy Scouts of America and every two years have to go through a youth protection class. The adult volunteers for the program also have to go through the same youth protection class. What happens if my young adult gets sick or injured at an explorer event? The explorer program has supplemental insurance through Erie Shore Council. This insurance covers any monetary fees which your insurance company does not cover if they get sick or injured at an explorer event. Documentation of the sickness or injury must be at the program level and at the council level for your young adult to be legible for this insurance. If your young adult needs to be transported to the hospital at anytime during an explorer event a phone call to you will be placed to advise you of the situation and ask what hospital you would like them transported to.

If you have any question or concerns at anytime during your young adult's involvement with the Rossford Fire Explorer program please do not hesitate to call me. I have attached my business card with contact information to this packet. Thank you again for allowing your young adult to be a member of this explorer program.

Sincerely;

Lieut. Andrew Vascik
Rossford Fire & Rescue Dept.
Explorer Advisor
Rossford Explorer Post 790



Prospective Explorer Application

APPLICANT'S INFORMATION

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____ MI: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____ Age: _____ Gender: Female Male

Address (Street): _____ Apt. / Lot #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____ Best Contact #: (____)____-____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address (Street): _____ Apt. / Lot #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home #: (____)____-____ Cell #: (____)____-____ Work #: (____)____-____

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

Name of School Attending: _____ Phone #: (____)____-____

Current Grade Level: _____ GPA: _____ Year of Graduation: _____

BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA / GIRL SCOUTS OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA EXPERIENCE

Do you have any experience with the BSA or Girl Scouts? Yes No

If yes; please list organization and any responsibilities or rank you may have received: _____

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND

On a separate piece of paper please respond to the following questions if you indicate yes.

Have you ever been arrested? Yes No

Have you ever been charged with a crime other than speeding? Yes No

Is there anything that can disqualify you from being an explorer with RFRD? Yes No

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

List any extracurricular activities, hobbies, awards, and community service projects, in which you have received or are involved in. (A separate piece of paper can be used if there is insufficient room.)

ESSAY QUESTION

In essay form in no less than 300 words on a separate piece of paper, please explain why you want to be a RFRD Explorer. How could you benefit this program, and how could it benefit you? Please be thorough and add as much detail as possible.

REFERENCES

Please provide three references that we may contact other than relatives.

Name: _____ Contact # (____)____ - _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Contact # (____)____ - _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Contact # (____)____ - _____ Relationship: _____

SIGNATURES AND DISCLAIMER

I, _____ state that the information given is truthful, honest, and given to my best recollection. I understand than any falsification on this application can hinder me from becoming a RFRD Explorer, or have me permanently expelled from the post. Upon leaving the post, I will return all Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Explorer Post equipment within five days. Failure to do so can and will result in Legal and Criminal actions brought against me. I understand that this application does not constitute a contract between myself and the Rossford Fire & Rescue Department, or any other employee. I understand that this is only an agreement for voluntary services, and I can leave anytime on my own free will. I understand that my voluntary services can be revoked or terminated at anytime, at the discretion of the Fire Chief or his designees.

Name (Print) _____

Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date: ____/____/____

Thank You for your interest in the Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Explorer Post 790. Please mail your application with all required documents to Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Explorer Post 790, 133 Osborn St. Rossford, Ohio 43460. Your application will be processed as quickly as possible. We will be contacting you and your parent/guardian(s) to set up a time for an interview.



Rossford Fire & Rescue Department
Fire Explorer Post 790
133 Osborn Street, Rossford, Ohio 43460
www.rossfordpost790@gmail.com

Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Parental Agreement

As a parent of a Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Explorer, we rely on you to help us in molding your child into future leaders! We value your involvement and opinion, and utilize it to make your child the best that they can be. Please fill out the basic information below in order for us to process the application. Thank you for trusting the Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Explorer Post 790 with your child's future!

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address (Street): _____ Apt. / Lot #: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Home #: (____)____-____ Cell #: (____)____-____ Work #: (____)____-____

Occupation: _____ Work Address: _____

Is there anyone else who is allowed to pick up or interact with your child in your absence? Yes No

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Address _____ Contact #: (____)____-____

Does your child have any physical, mental, or social ailments that may prevent them from fully participating in this program? Yes No If yes, please explain below:

I, _____, profess and claim to be the parent/legal guardian of _____ . I understand that the Explorer program is a leadership program that encompasses paramilitary type training, and training in many facets of fire and emergency medical services. I understand that my child will be involved in physical activity that may involve running, jumping, defensive tactics, fire and EMS scenarios, and other types of training. I understand that the Explorer post is designed to help mold my child into future leaders, with positive goals and quality of life excellence. I commit to work with and support the Rossford Fire & Rescue Department Explorer Post 790, to aid in the improvement of my child's goals, character, integrity, work ethic, profession, and quality of life. I realize that I am an integral part of my child's life, and the Explorer Post may utilize me to help in all facets of their positive development.

Print Name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: ____/____/____