

Belfast Fire Department

Youth Firefighter Training Matrix

New York State OFPC – Basic Exterior Firefighter Operations (BEFO)

Training Levels Overview

Training Area	Ages 13–15 (Junior)	Ages 16–17 (Active Youth)	18+ (Adult)
Classroom Fire Service Education	✓	✓	✓
Equipment Familiarization	✓	✓	✓
Hose Handling (Exterior)	✓ (Training Only)	✓	✓
Ladder Operations	✓ (Training Only)	✓	✓
Exterior Fire Suppression	✗	✓	✓
Interior Fire Suppression	✗	✗	✓
SCBA Use (IDLH)	✗	✗	✓
Emergency Vehicle Operation	✗	✗	✓
NYS OFPC Classes	✗	✓	✓

BEFO Training Matrix (Ages 16–17)

BEFO Module	Classroom	Practical	Permitted to Perform
Firefighter Safety	✓	✓	Exterior Operations
PPE Use and Limitations	✓	✓	PPE (No IDLH)

Fire Behavior	✓	✗	Awareness
Hose Lines & Nozzles	✓	✓	Exterior Fire Attack
Ladders	✓	✓	Exterior Placement
Water Supply	✓	✓	Hydrant & Drafting Support
Tools & Equipment	✓	✓	Hand Tools Only
Incident Command (Intro)	✓	✗	Awareness
Ventilation	✓	✗	Awareness Only
Salvage & Overhaul	✓	✓	After Fire Control

Training Restrictions (Ages 16–17)

- No interior structural firefighting
 - No SCBA use in IDLH environments
 - No live fire interior evolutions
 - No hydraulic or powered rescue tools
 - No technical rescue or hazmat operations beyond awareness
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Training Documentation

- All training shall be documented in department records
 - OFPC course certificates shall be retained in member files
 - Training completion does not override age-based restrictions
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Approval and Oversight

- All youth training is subject to Fire Chief approval
 - Instructors must be OFPC-certified where required
 - Training may be suspended at any time for safety concerns
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