

Ames Fire Department Standard Operating Guidelines

Book: 1 - Organization
Section: IV – General Administration
Chapter: 1 – **Personal Protective Clothing**
Date Approved: 03-17-2016 Revision No.:2 Approved by: 
Review Date: 2019

PURPOSE:

This guideline provides direction in personal protective clothing issued or made available to members of the Ames Fire Department.

POLICY:

The City of Ames, and specifically the Fire Department, desires to maintain the highest standards of safety. Thus, the Ames Fire Department will make protective clothing meeting or exceeding current safety standards available for its members, as practical.

These additional departmental policies clarify and *do not supercede* procedures within the guidelines of the City of Ames Personnel Policies and Procedures and the Agreement: City of Ames and International Association of Firefighters, Local 625.

PROCEDURES:

Members of the Ames Fire Department will be issued the following protective clothing items:

- Fire helmet (including eye protection, chinstrap, and leather helmet front), with colors assigned by rank:
 - White for chief, deputy chief, shift commander, training chief
 - Red for lieutenant, fire inspector
 - Black for firefighter
 - Yellow for probationary firefighter
- Safety glasses
- Nomex® hood
- Bunker coat
- Bunker pants and suspenders
- Fire gloves
- Structural firefighting boots
- EMS winter jacket
- Uniform protective boots
- SCBA facepiece
- Ice cleats

Additionally, members of the Ames Fire Department may be provided access to the wearable protective equipment items (e.g., N95 respirator, SCBA, safety vest, etc.)

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It is a company officer's and ultimately each individual member's responsibility to ensure that protective clothing is worn at appropriate levels and under appropriate conditions.

This may include, but not be limited to the following:

- Exposure to harmful products of combustion or hazardous substances (e.g., chemicals, blood, glass, debris, etc.) is a potential, suspected, or anticipated;
- Technical rescues (e.g., confined space, rope rescue, ice rescue, etc.);
- Incidents with established hazard zones (e.g., haz-mat, collapse, etc.);
- Inclement or severe weather conditions (e.g., cold, ice, snow, darkness, etc.).

Miscellaneous

- Clothing will be kept clean and in good repair following manufacturer's guidelines. Apparel may be inspected on a periodic basis to ensure proper maintenance and replacement needs.
- Modifications (other than fit alterations) to City provided uniforms and/or protective clothing is expressly forbidden without prior Fire Administration approval. This includes any modifications that may:
 - Detract from the look of departmental uniformity (e.g., stickers, patches, etc); and/or,
 - Void safety protection precautions/warranties.

REFERENCES:

- Agreement: City of Ames and International Association of Firefighters Local 625
- City of Ames Personnel Policies and Procedures