

Fountain Valley Fire Department Paramedic Membership Program



Fountain Valley Fire Department New Paramedic Membership Program

As the costs of medical care rise, it is important to make sure your family is covered in the event of an emergency. The City of Fountain Valley is offering a program that is designed to help you during emergency situations.

The Paramedic Membership Program is an official program of the City of Fountain Valley Fire Department, which offsets the cost of emergency assessments by a paramedic. *By participating in this voluntary program you can receive Paramedic coverage for a very moderate annual cost. The annual cost of a household membership is \$60.*

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Paramedic Membership Program?

To ensure that the city provides high quality, modern pre-hospital care when 9-1-1 is called, the Paramedic Membership Program was created. The Paramedic Membership Program offers the residents of Fountain Valley an opportunity to participate in an annual \$60 membership that provides unlimited paramedic advanced assessments. The city charges \$300 each time a patient receives an advanced assessment by a paramedic and is transported to the hospital within an ambulance. Residents can avoid the \$300 charge by becoming a member of the Paramedic Membership Program.

2. Who is covered by the Paramedic Membership Program?

All family members that reside within your home anywhere within the City of Fountain Valley 24 hours a day.

3. What if someone needs emergency medical attention at my house?

Your membership extends to guests at your household and will cover anyone who is injured or sick at your property.

4. How do I sign up for the Paramedic Membership Program?

You have several ways to sign up. You may:

- Call us at (714) 593-4436 or email us at pmmember@fountainvalley.org and an enrollment form will be sent to you.
- An enrollment form can be found at the end of this document for residents to complete.
- Go to www.fountainvalley.org and click on Quick Links/Paramedic Membership.

5. How do I pay for the Paramedic Membership Program?

- A check or money order made out to "The City of Fountain Valley" can be sent in with your completed enrollment form.
Mailing address: Paramedic Membership Program
Fountain Valley Fire Department
10200 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, CA 92708

- If paying by credit card, you will need to come to City Hall to make payment. The cashier will accept Discover, Master Card and Visa. Again, please make sure you have a completed enrollment form with you when making payment.

6. Why aren't my taxes paying for this service?

The cost of 9-1-1- hospital care has increased significantly since the inception of paramedic services in the late 60's. Providing emergency medical services is an additional service that the fire department provides and has far exceeded typical city revenue sources such as, but not limited to property tax. Paramedics are highly trained emergency medical technicians that provide pre-hospital care. The revenue from this program offsets some of the costs associated with providing contemporary 9-1-1 pre-hospital care to our community.

7. Doesn't my insurance carrier cover emergency responses by the Fire Department?

Every insurance carrier is different. You will need to check with your carrier to see if the Fire Department's emergency medical advanced assessment is a covered benefit. Many times the ambulance charge is covered but not the Fire Department charges. In recent times, we noted that fewer carriers are including this charge in their covered benefits.

If your insurance carrier provides coverage, there may be a deductible that is higher than the \$60/household annual fee you would pay for our program.

8. Are ambulance services covered by this program?

No. The City contracts with a private ambulance company to provide ambulance transportation to the hospital when needed. The associated costs for ambulance transportation are billed separately. The ambulance company will bill for basic life support (BLS) and advanced life support (ALS) transport. The Paramedic Membership Program does not cover BLS or ALS transports.

9. Do other cities' programs cover me if I am enrolled in Fountain Valley?

No. We do not have reciprocity with other cities' programs.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Fire Department Administration office: 714-593-4436

Email address: pmmember@fountainvalley.org

**Mailing Address:
Paramedic Membership Program
Fountain Valley Fire Department
10200 Slater Avenue
Fountain Valley, Ca. 92708**