

EAST OF ENGLAND AMBULANCE SERVICE
COMMUNITY FIRST RESPONDERS – BASIC FACT SHEET

- Website: www.eastamb.nhs.uk/get-involved/community-first-responders
- A Community First Responder is a volunteer who is trained by the ambulance service to attend emergency calls in the area where they live or work.
- Their aim is to reach a potential life threatening emergency in the first vital minutes before the ambulance crew arrives on scene.
- They live or work in area where a group is set up and can get to an incident in just a few minutes while an ambulance resource is on its way.
- Their role is to help stabilise the patient and, in doing so, keep the patient alive until the arrival of the more highly skilled ambulance crew, who are trained to undertake further life saving techniques.
- Anyone can become a community first responder but you must:
 - Be physically fit
 - Aged between 18 - 70
 - Agree to a criminal record bureau check
 - Have a sympathetic, caring nature
 - Agree to undertake training
- Each community first responder scheme is always looking to increase their team members, so, if you have spare time and would like to get involved, we would like to hear from you.
- Each community responder group will be issued with a mobile phone to enable them to respond on behalf of the East of England Ambulance Service.
- When we receive a 999 emergency call, the call is prioritised to establish if it is suitable to send a Community First Responder to the call. Once this has been established, the nearest available responder group is notified by the provided telephone to alert them to a call within their area. An ambulance will always be mobilised to every call that the responder group attends.
- Being in the local community, the average time to reach the patient should not normally exceed 3-4 minutes, depending on location.
- If you use your own vehicle you will be expected to notify your own vehicle insurance company that you are undertaking the role. Failure to do this may invalidate your insurance.
- Prior to being accepted onto a training course, you will be expected to:
 - Undertake an enhanced disclosure and barring service check (DBS). This was previously known as criminal records bureau disclosure or CRB.
 - Agree to the East of England Ambulance service policies and procedures of community response
 - Be declared fit for the role by the Trust's occupational health department.

You will then attend an intensive 18 contact hour training usually held at weekends.

- Having completed the training you will undertake a written exam followed by practical scenarios.

If you have some spare time and you might be interested please e-mail:

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Thank You!