Program Mission: The Pathways to Public Safety Program is a partnership between the RCSD and the City of Rochester to increase minority representation in its uniformed divisions, while increasing the awareness of career opportunities within the Public Safety departments (Police, Fire, 911, EMS) of the City of Rochester.

Program Vision: To offer all 11th and 12th grade RCSD students throughout the district, who meet identified criteria, an awareness and opportunity in choosing a career path in the field of Public Safety. The program will provide training and education in the fields of law enforcement, fire safety, emergency communications and emergency medical services, assisting students in becoming viable candidates and providing city entities with qualified and prepared candidates of diversity and local residency.

Program Overview: The preliminary goal of the Program is to recruit 50 students that meet the criteria of the program and offer preparatory training that impacts school retention and graduation rates, influences a student to attend a post-secondary institution to further their education and/or initiates desire to serve the community. In whatever direction a student chooses, it will benefit the Community of Rochester and its residents.


Rural/Metro Corporation
Rural/Metro is the City of Rochester’s emergency ambulance service provider and one of the largest providers of ambulance service nationwide, serving communities in more than 20 states. We have a strong presence in the communities we serve and are driven by a passionate staff of unsung heroes both in the field and in our offices. With Rural/Metro it’s more than just a career, it’s the opportunity to impact a life, every single day.

Salary Range $22,880 to $63,408

Benefits
- Paid vacation
- Paid holidays
- Life insurance
- Uniform allowance
- Dental and medical insurance
- 401k retirement
- Non-traditional work schedule

Requirements
- High School Diploma/GED
- Valid NYS Driver’s License
- Pass a Drug Test
- Must be 18 years or older for NYS Exam
- No felony convictions
- Good moral character
- Good Physical Condition

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Career Pathways to Public Safety

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It’s more than a job.

It’s my career.
Rochester Fire Department

Tradition and pride have been the hallmarks of the Rochester Fire Department since its inception more than 100 years ago. Much has changed throughout the history of the Rochester Fire Department, but one thing has remained consistent -- its commitment to excellence.

Program Criteria

Student must:
• be a Rochester City School District student entering 11th or 12th grade in the upcoming school year.
• be in good standing in both academics and attendance.
• be passing all core courses.

Salary Range
$41,327 to $77,914

Benefits
• 13 paid holidays
• Vacation time
• Life insurance
• Uniform allowance
• Dental and medical coverage
• Pension
• Non-traditional work schedule

911 Emergency Communications

We’re here first when seconds count. If you thrive under pressure, think fast and clearly when others are prone to panic; and have an ability to extract important details from a rush of information, this is the job for you. Every phone call is a call for help and a new adventure.

Salary Range
$29,268 to $51,314

Requirements
• High school diploma/GED
• Good physical and psychological condition
• Drug free
• 18 years old at time of appointment
• Valid NYS Driver’s License

Benefits
• 13 paid holidays
• Vacation time
• Life insurance
• Uniform allowance
• Dental and medical coverage
• Pension
• Non-traditional work schedule

Salary Range
$41,985 to $73,315

Requirements
• High school diploma/GED
• United States citizenship
• 19 1/2 years old to apply. 20 years old at appointment date
• Valid NYS Driver’s License
• Good physical condition
• Vision corrected to 20/30
• No felony convictions
• Good moral character

Benefits
• 13 paid holidays
• Vacation time
• Life insurance
• Uniform allowance
• Dental and medical coverage
• Pension
• Non-traditional work schedule

Rochester Police Department

The citizens and visitors of Rochester enjoy the service and protection of one of the nation’s premier law enforcement agencies, the Rochester Police Department. It is for this reason that the RPD motto, Serving with Pride, is much more than words.

Program Criteria


We're here first when seconds count. If you thrive under pressure, think fast and clearly when others are prone to panic; and have an ability to extract important details from a rush of information, this is the job for you. Every phone call is a call for help and a new adventure.

Careers within the career.

Public safety careers open doors to a wide range of specialized fields, or opportunities for a “career within a career.” Firefighters can become experts in emergency first aid or swift-water rescue for instance. Police Officers can aspire to join the Mounted Patrol or work in the K-9 unit. And the workers in the 911 emergency call center are driving many of the changes in the telecommunications industry. EMT’s can become paramedics or pursue careers in medicine such as R.N. or physician. A career in public safety can hold your interest, no matter what it is.