

Emergency Services Cadet Program

# Cadet Information Booklet



*The Emergency Services Cadet Program is accredited with the Australian Council for Children and Youth Organisations*

Thinking about becoming  
a cadet with the Emergency  
Services Cadet Program?

Here is some information  
you may find useful...

## What is the Emergency Services Cadet Program?

---

The Emergency Services Cadet Program introduces you to forms of emergency services related training, which aims to better equip you for community life. The program helps to develop life skills that will enable you to better participate in your local community. It builds initiative, leadership, self-discipline and loyalty.

The skills and knowledge you learn in the program will enhance the safety of your community.

If you are thinking of a career in the area of emergency services such as the State Emergency Service, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service or the Queensland Ambulance Service, then the skills you will learn in the Emergency Services Cadet Program will be a big plus.

---

# The Mission of the Emergency Services Cadet Program is...

---

To support Queensland's communities by providing youth development opportunities to you – Queensland's young people – through a volunteer emergency service skills development program.

## Values of the Emergency Services Cadet Program

---

- Providing Queensland's young people with access to a structured program enabling them to obtain nationally recognised training in a safe environment;
- Providing a practical approach in learning for the positive development of young people;
- Putting the community's needs first;
- Focusing on the needs of our clients;
- Ensuring the highest professional standards and ethical conduct;
- Valuing and developing our people as our most important asset;
- Promoting teamwork; and
- Respecting and valuing the contributions of others.



# Why does Emergency Services have a Cadet Program?

---

To develop:

- Life skills and encourage participation in local communities.
- Initiative, leadership, self discipline and loyalty.
- Skills and knowledge to enhance community safety.
- A recruitment pool for emergency services.

# What can I do as a Cadet?

---

As an Emergency Services Cadet you can participate in lots of fun and interesting activities including:

- Attending cadet training where you get to learn about different types of emergency services via a mix of practical and theory lessons;
- Attending camps where you can put your knowledge to good use, challenge yourself and have a great time;
- Participating in public relation duties such as school fetes, field days, gala days, fundraising events and sausage sizzles, etc.; and

- Helping out in low risk activities for real emergency service operations such as providing support in co-ordination centres as an operational assistant which may include:
  - › Operating communications systems;
  - › Acting as messengers in a headquarters environment;
  - › Providing assistance in the logistics support area;
  - › Provision of assistance in welfare (catering, etc).

## What can't I do as a Cadet?

---

As an Emergency Services Cadet your safety comes first. For this reason there are some things you cannot do such as:

- Attend an operation; and
- Train in dangerous activities such as vertical rescue, flood rescue and road accident rescue.

## What is involved in Emergency Services Cadet training?

---

As a cadet in the Emergency Services Cadet Program you will get involved in heaps of cool activities! These include learning first aid, fire prevention and awareness, general rescue, building safer communities, cadet communications and mentoring.

Depending on what your group chooses to do for its elective modules, you could be learning anything from basic rescue skills to bush craft! The Emergency Services Cadet Program upholds youth friendly practices.

All the training is life skills based which means you will be able to use the skills learned as an Emergency Services Cadet in your everyday life.

## **Where can my Emergency Services Cadet training take me?**

### **Certificate II Qualifications**

As a cadet you may be able to attain a Certificate II in Public Safety in the Emergency Services Cadet Program.

These qualifications are directly linked to the relevant programs within the Emergency Services Cadet Program training framework. Upon satisfactory completion of the required assessment associated with a range of training programs and workplace experience you will then be awarded the appropriate qualification.



## Other Skills

All of the skills you learn as a cadet may assist you to find employment. You are constantly developing your skills in the areas of teamwork, communication, leadership, following instructions, problem solving and community service.

The personal skills you develop from becoming a cadet may include confidence, self-esteem, commitment, self-discipline, leadership qualities, teamwork, reliability and loyalty.

These are the types of attributes, skills and knowledge that employers look for. Don't underestimate the training that the Emergency Services Cadet Program can provide.

## Is there a Rank Structure in the Cadets?

---

Each Cadet Group decides on whether they will have a rank structure and how it will work. Some Cadet Groups choose to have the following ranks:

- Cadet
- Deputy Cadet Section Leader
- Cadet Section Leader
- Cadet Instructor.

# What is the Cadet Program environment like?

The Emergency Services Cadet Program is committed to the safety and well being of all young people accessing our program, and to the education of adult members to ensure they are aware of their role in protecting young people. We support the rights of young people and actively work to ensure a child safe environment is maintained at all times. We also support the rights and wellbeing of our staff and volunteers and encourage their active participation in building and maintaining a secure environment for all participants.

The Emergency Services Cadet Program is committed to creating a youth friendly environment where young people are

- safe;
- protected;
- respected;
- valued;
- listened to;
- encouraged to participate;
- involved in decision making; and
- have their best interests and well-being upheld.

---

## What are the requirements for enrolment as a cadet?

---

To qualify for enrolment as an Emergency Services Cadet you must:

- Have commenced grade 8 at high school but not reached the age of 16 years;
- Have your parent's or guardian's permission to enrol;
- Be a resident of Australia; and
- Be certified by your parent or guardian as being capable of carrying out the normal duties and activities of the Emergency Services Cadets.

Young people 16 years and over are not eligible to join as a cadet.

## What happens when I turn 16 years of age?

---

Cadets who turn 16 years of age during the year may continue on until the end of that school year.

At the completion of the school year you have a choice of the following options:

- You can apply to become an assistant adult member with the Emergency Services Cadet Group if you are under 18 years of age and have progressed through the cadet system

having gained sufficient knowledge, skills and experience to undertake this role;

- You may be able to continue as a member of the Emergency Services Cadet Program and undertake additional training such as instructional training and leadership training.

This option is dependent on the local Cadet Group's decision to retain members up to the age of 18; or

- You can make an application to join a Local Emergency Service Organisation.

## How do I apply to become a cadet?

If you wish to enrol in the Emergency Services Cadet Program you must complete a Cadet Enrolment and Medical Details Form. Either your parent or guardian will need to be present at the time of enrolment to sign permission forms. Cadet Groups hold sign-on nights for parents and young people to attend.

If you decide you would like to enrol in the Emergency Services Cadet Program, your parent or guardian will need to complete a medical details form that must be submitted with your Cadet Enrolment and Medical Details Form.

If you have a medical condition, it is essential that you provide a medical certificate, signed by a doctor which states if there are to be any restrictions upon your activities within the Cadet

Group of which we need to be made aware. It should clearly state whether you are sufficiently fit to participate in the activities that the Cadet Group undertakes. The certificate should also clearly define the types of activities that you cannot participate in. This medical certificate is to be obtained at your own expense and should be attached to the Cadet Enrolment and Medical Details Form.

## What are the conditions of service?

---

As a cadet in the Emergency Services Cadet Program you and your parent/guardian are required to read and sign the Emergency Services Cadet Program Code of Conduct for cadet members. This is an agreement that you as a cadet will abide by the standards of conduct for cadets in the Emergency Services Cadet Program.

As a cadet you must abide by the Code of Conduct. Failure to do so will result in disciplinary action and the possible termination of your membership.

When you enrol as a cadet in the Emergency Services Cadet Program you are required to complete a six week probation period. At the end of that period, the Local Cadet Coordinator and another adult member will conduct an interview with you to determine if you are suitable to continue.



## When do Cadet Groups meet?

---

This varies from group to group but all Cadet Groups meet on a regular basis and are required to attend one training camp per year.

Some groups meet once every week and one Saturday or Sunday each month during the school semester. Check with the Cadet Group that you are interested in joining for further details regarding meeting times and requirements.

## Will it be dangerous?

---

The role of a cadet is adventurous, but not dangerous. Qualified instructors will always be present to supervise any training. You may even get a chance to help adult volunteers during emergency operations by performing duties at headquarters with things like administration support and operating radios.

Safety issues are continuously stressed and ALL adult members assist in their enforcement. Adult members of the Emergency Services Cadet Program are required to observe all safety instructions laid down in the Emergency Services Cadet Curriculum as well as be up-to-date with any relevant training policies and appropriate provisions of the Workplace Health and Safety Act.



## The Legal Info...

---

Adult members have a legal, moral and ethical duty to ensure that you, as a cadet, are cared for properly and not exposed to unnecessary risks. This means that as part of program planning or conducting any activity, adult members are aware of any potential risks, and will stop or cancel an activity if the risk to you and your Cadet Group is considered too great.

The Queensland Government Insurance Fund (QGIF) covers all cadet members enrolled in the Emergency Services Cadet Program while you and your Cadet Group are undertaking any activities approved by the Emergency Services Cadet Program. This includes camps, activities and general training.

# Will I get to wear a uniform?

YES! After completing your probationary period (during which you can decide whether you enjoy the Cadet Program) you will be issued with a uniform, which includes:

An Emergency Services Cadet Program:

- Dress shirt;
- T-Shirt;
- Trousers;
- Broad Brimmed Hat;
- Cap;
- Belt;
- Socks;
- Boots; and
- Overalls.

This means that you don't have to purchase any uniforms. The only time you will be expected to provide clothing is when wet or cold weather gear is necessary.

It will be your responsibility to maintain these items, and when you leave the cadets you will be required to return all the items issued to you.

---

## What will it cost?

---

Not much in dollars but heaps in commitment! The Emergency Services Cadet Program is free to join and there are no ongoing fees. Uniforms and working clothes are supplied free of charge.

Your parents may be asked to supply some food and transport for the twice-yearly camps.

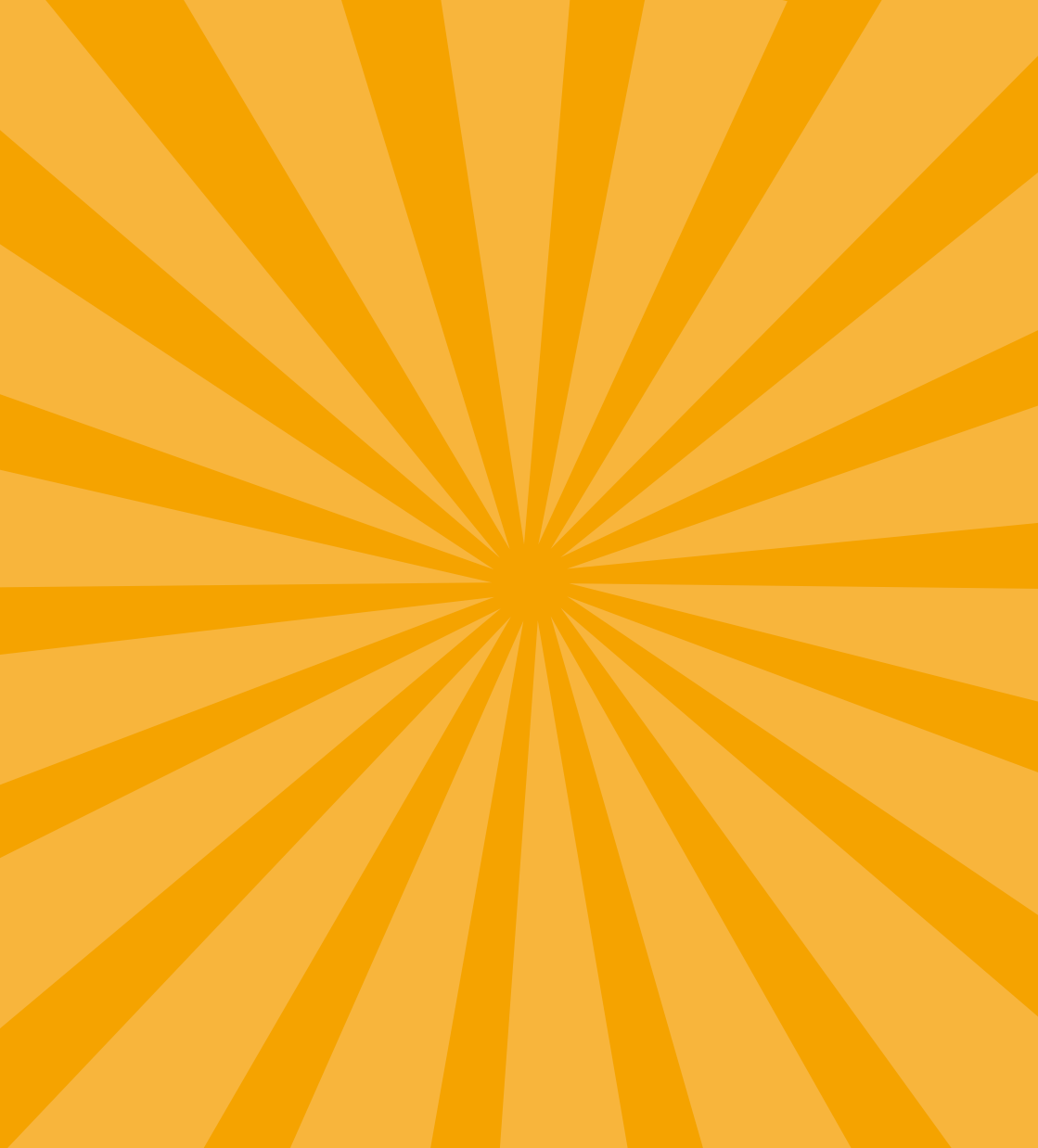
## Where can I get further info?

---

If you are interested in joining the Emergency Services Cadet Program or have any questions regarding the cadets, contact the Youth Development Officer in the Region closest to you.

- Far Northern Region (07) 4039 8022
- Northern Region (07) 4799 7114
- Central Region (07) 4938 4996
- Mackay Area Office (07) 4965 6654
- South Western Region (07) 4616 1582
- North Coast Region (07) 5420 7563
- South Eastern Region (07) 3287 8557
- Brisbane Region (07) 3287 8557

Further information can be obtained from the Emergency Services Cadet Program website at [www.emergency.qld.gov.au/cadets](http://www.emergency.qld.gov.au/cadets).



808EM(Qo-1/2008



*The Emergency Services Cadet Program is accredited with the Australian Council for Children and Youth Organisations*