

Schiller Park Fire Department



**2019
Annual Report**

Letter from the Fire Chief

Honorable Mayor Nick Caiafa
Village of Schiller Park Board of Trustees
Residents and Businesses

The Schiller Park Fire Department presents its 2019 Annual Report chronicling our accomplishments over the past year and an insight into our workings.

Our Fire and EMS personnel ran 2,276 calls for this past year. This included 1,107 fire calls and 1,259 EMS calls. This is a slight decrease, of 37 calls, from the previous year. Members respond not only to Fire and EMS calls, but to Technical Rescue, Water Rescue, Hazardous Materials, Fire Prevention Bureau and Fire Investigation calls both in Schiller Park and within our Division 20.

We are very proud of our personnel as they are the backbone of our organization. This past year we saw a changing of the guard in several positions. After 38 years of service Battalion Chief Charles Leiser retired. With his retirement several members received new assignments. Lt. Jerry Budnik was assigned as a Battalion Chief, FF/PM Adam Niemand was promoted by the Fire and Police Commission to Lieutenant. The Fire Commission swore in FF/PM Kevin Cynwar as our newest probationary Firefighter/Paramedic and FF/PM Dan Linehan completed his probationary period. We are currently still one member short of full-staffing.

The Fire Department recognized FF/PM Nick Santiago as our 2018 Firefighter of the Year and we mourned the passing of retired FF Denny Ireton.

In 2019 the Village Board commissioned an assessment study from the McGrath group looking at the operations and efficiency of our department. We await its final report. The Village Board also passed several ordinances to assist in code enforcement. These included a Recovery Ordinance for services provided by the fire department (formerly called Spiller Pay), and a new fee structure for the Fire Prevention Bureau.

The Schiller Park Fire Department was awarded a low interest loan by the Office of the State Fire Marshal that will allow us to replace a 2003 fire pumper engine. A fire department committee was formed to design the vehicle and we expect delivery in late 2020. We re-named Squad 5 to Engine 6 and we are rotating vehicles to even wear and tear on our fleet. The Village also sold its oldest ambulance and placed in service a new 2019 ALS ambulance. We also were informed that our pension funding is getting better as we surpassed the 56% funding mark.

Internally, we also have continued to progress. We reviewed and issued new General Orders to the department. This is done every five years to stay current and evolve as an organization. We have adopted a modified Clean Concept for the safety of our members by not bringing contaminated gear into the passenger areas of our apparatus. The Foreign Fire Fund and Village jointly purchased a Water/Ice Rescue boat and 3 new Mobile Data Terminals (MDT's) were installed in our vehicles.

The Division also re-located two assets to Schiller Park an all-terrain gator and the Incident Command trailer are now both stored at our station on 25th along with the Division light tower. All these are readily available for our use. We also participated in the O'Hare multi-agency disaster drill and provided members to the Division Hazardous Materials Team when Vice-President Pence was here.

Our most significant fire occurred at a self-storage facility in 2019 that was elevated to a third alarm and caused extensive damage to over 50 units. A first in Schiller Park Fire Department history also occurred in 2019 when members decided to unionize. Local 5230 is now the recognized bargaining unit and will be working with the Village on its first contract.

Our Fire Department Newsletter, the Booster Line, completed 25 years of informing not only our members of what is going on in the fire department, but also other Village employees and the general public. I encourage everyone to stay in touch with us by reading the monthly issue.

I hope that each of you who reads this synopsis of 2019, will get a flavor of what we do and what we have accomplished. We are always moving forward, even in hard times, as we carry out our vision and mission.

Sincerely,

Peter Chiodo
Fire Chief



Personnel

The Schiller Park Fire Department is a diverse group of men and women from different backgrounds who all bring a unique flavor to our department. The Department is made up of 28 full time sworn members and 12 part time civilian paramedics. This includes 21 members who are cross trained as Firefighter/Paramedics, 3 Lieutenant/Paramedics and 3 Battalion Chiefs who are also paramedics and a Fire Chief.

Members are assigned to one of three shifts, Black, Red, Gold, working a 24 hour On-duty shift followed by 48 hours Off-duty.

	Black Shift	Red Shift	Gold Shift
Years on the Job	93	85	93
Average years of Experience	10.3	9.4	11.6
Average Age	38.2	36.5	38.6

RETIREMENTS

After 38 years of service to Schiller Park, Battalion Chief Charles Leiser decided to retire. Charlie followed in his father's footsteps who was the first paid firefighter for Schiller Park. Charlie also saw in his career his son follow in his footsteps and be promoted to Lieutenant. During Charlie's career and as he rose through the ranks, he obtained most Office of the State Fire Marshal certifications. He held posts in the fire department and Village as Fire Prevention Coordinator, Training Officer, Hazardous Materials Coordinator, Housing Coordinator and Fire Investigations Coordinator. Charlie also served as the Administrative Assistant. Charlie was a "homegrown boy" who was born and raised in Schiller Park. He had the fire service in his heart and soul and was a dedicated member throughout his career. He mentored every current member of our department and was a very active participant in organizing and planning fire and Village events. His experience, leadership and character will be missed.



PROMOTIONS AND ASSIGNMENTS

A new promotion and assignment were some of the results of a retirement. Chief Peter Chiodo made the assignment of moving Lt. Jerry Budnik to the position of Battalion Chief after reviewing and evaluating the submitted resumes. The Fire and Police Commission promoted FF/PM Adam Niemand to the rank of Lieutenant/Paramedic.



**Battalion Chief/
Paramedic
Jerry Budnik**



**Lieutenant/
Paramedic
Adam Niemand**

NEW HIRES

With the retirement of B/C Leiser, the Fire and Police Commission swore in our newest Firefighter/Paramedic Kevin Cwynar who was one of our former part-time civilian paramedics. During 2019 Kevin attended the NIPSTA Fire Academy before returning to shift. Probationary Firefighter/Paramedic Dan Linehan completed his probation in 2019



**Fire and Police Commission
Chairman Glenn Rawski
swears in Kevin Cwynar**



**FF/PM Daniel Linehan
Completed his
probation in 2019**





In Memory of those Gone Before Us

The Schiller Park Fire Department has throughout 2019 honored those that have gone before us. We have joined with the Schiller Park Police Department keeping in our thoughts and prayers those that have served not only this community but communities throughout the country. We honor those that have given their all in the line of duty and those that have served us and lived a good life both while in the service and after retirement. Over the last few years, both the Fire and Police Departments have lost members of Full-time Firefighters, Full-time Police Officers, Paid on Call Firefighters and Part-time/Reserve Police Officers. We will not forget the service these individuals have given to this community and may they Rest in Peace.



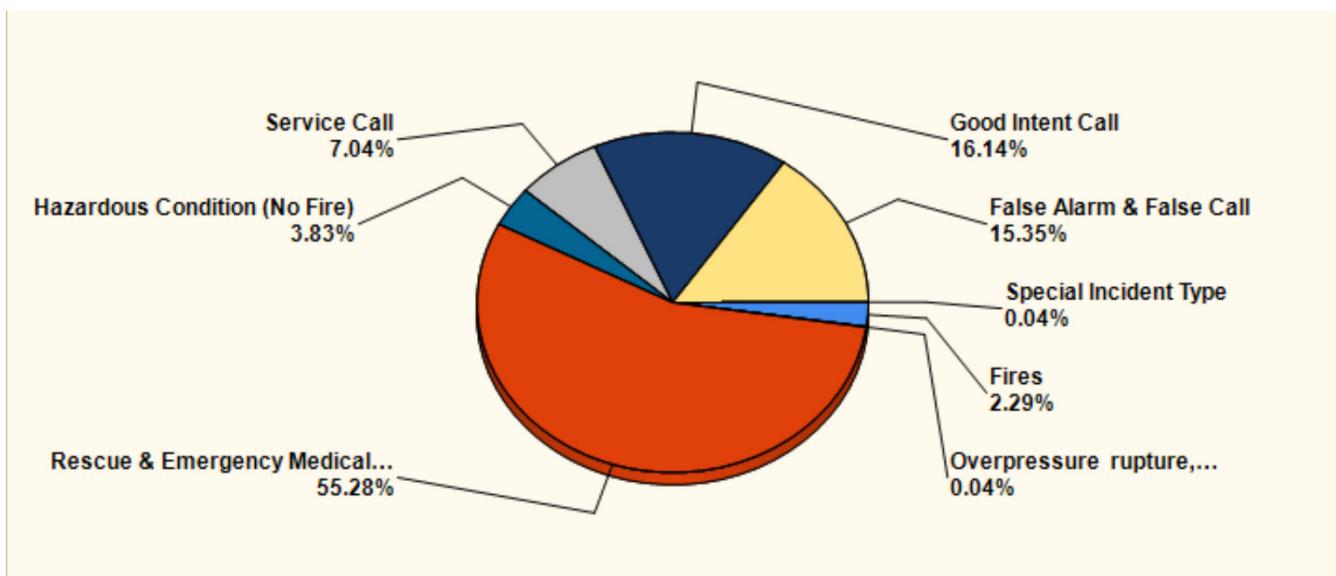
2019 had the passing of retired Firefighter Denny Ireton. Denny served our community for just over 30 years. Denny was sworn in February of 1973 and retired in May of 2003.

Denny was not only a great firefighter, but mechanically inclined and helped keep our fleet running. He was well read, a man of few words but a giant on the department.



Operations Division

We are considered an “All Risk” Fire Department and the Operations Division, which consists of Fire Chief Peter Chiodo, Battalion Chiefs Michael Cesaretti, Anthony Hatcher and Jerry Budnik. The Operations Division has the overall responsibility for providing the highest level of quality emergency services to the Village of Schiller Park residents, businesses and visitors. This is accomplished by coordinating the efforts of multiple aspects of the department to ensure seamless operations in emergency activity. The Operations Division is responsible for overseeing training and evaluation of personnel, tools and equipment, apparatus, buildings and grounds, fire prevention and public education. The Operations Division is charged with the responsibility of providing prompt and efficient emergency response to fires, hazardous conditions, rescue, illness, or any other condition where the health, safety and welfare of the public is in peril through constant review of current policy and creation of new policy when deemed necessary. Proficient and appropriate results require interaction with other Village departments, local businesses and cooperation with Federal and regional public safety agencies. This type of interface necessitates ongoing pre-incident planning and coordination, which is a part of the day-to-day activities of the Operations Division.



MAJOR INCIDENT TYPE	# INCIDENTS	% of TOTAL
Fires	52	2.29%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overhear - no fire	1	0.04%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	1257	55.28%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	87	3.83%
Service Call	160	7.04%
Good Intent Call	367	16.14%
False Alarm & False Call	349	15.35%
Special Incident Type	1	0.04%
TOTAL	2274	100.00%



Emergency Medical Services

The Schiller Park Fire Department's EMS Bureau is coordinated by Lieutenant Greg Swiontek. Lt. Swiontek is responsible for managing the bureau through scheduling of continuing education, legal matters pertaining to EMS, quality control and EMS personnel. Our department is staffed with 27 Firefighters who are cross trained as Paramedics and supplemented by 12 part time civilian paramedics. This past year, our EMS personnel responded to 1,509 calls for service.

As part of our fleet improvement program, we were able to purchase and put in service a new 2019 Ford REV ambulance. Schiller Park operates two Advanced Life Support Ambulances that are rotated out of front-line service every seven years. This allows us to extend the life of our ambulances up to 14 years before replacing.

Our members work with Loyola University's paramedic program and Triton College's EMT program to have students ride as interns throughout the year. Students are paired up with mentors to evaluate their skills and training before full licensure in Illinois. All paramedics are subject to continuing education to maintain their paramedic license. Schiller Park also has set up our Engine to be an advanced Life Support vehicle (non-transport).

The Village of Schiller Park also reviewed its billing and adjusted the rate. The rate had not changed since 2011. This fee helps offset the actual cost of EMS calls.

	<u>2019</u>	<u>Previous 3 Year Average</u>
Total Responses	1,509	1,462
ALS Transports	537	590
BLS Transports	346	335
Refusals/MPR's	319	259
Other Non-Transport	62	62
Fire Calls	265	214
Average Responses Per Day	4.13	4.01



Division of Fire Prevention

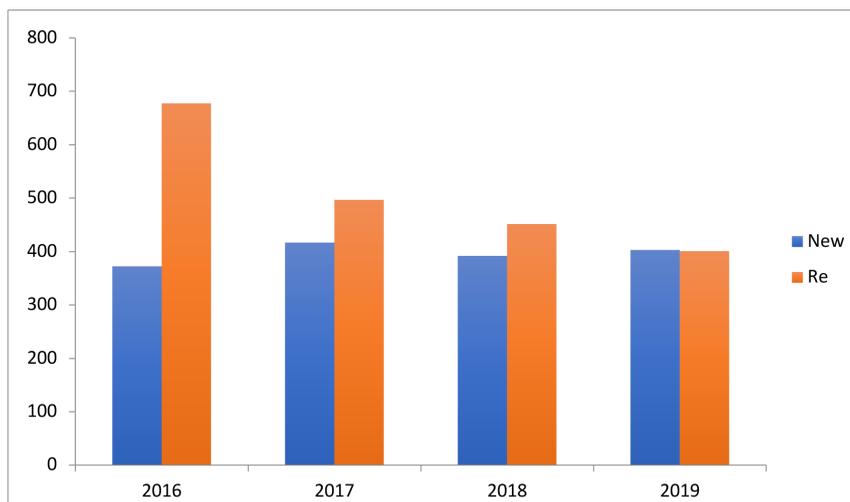
The Fire Prevention Bureau is responsible for scheduling all fire prevention inspections in Schiller Park. Led by Battalion Chief Anthony Hatcher, all businesses in Schiller Park are inspected annually and if necessary re-inspected.

Battalion Chief Hatcher is also responsible for fire plan review, acceptance testing on fire alarms and sprinkler systems, hydrostatic testing witnessing, code enforcement, court appearances for noncompliance and works in conjunction with the Community Development and Building Department.



In 2019 the fire department completed 403 new fire inspections. The majority of inspections are done by trained Firefighter/Paramedics who work on shift and hold certifications from the State Fire Marshal in Fire Prevention Principles, Fire Inspector I and Fire Prevention Officer.

Fire Inspectors followed up with 401 re-inspections in 2019.



Additionally, the Fire Prevention Bureau is a continuance of the commitment of the Schiller Park Fire Department to protect and serve our community. In recognition of the continual improvements of nationally recognized codes and standards, the Fire Prevention Bureau with the support of the Village of Schiller Park is dedicated in reviewing and adopting new International Code Council codes and standards. Furthermore, in response to the Office of the State Fire Marshal's adoption of the 2015 NFPA 101 Life Safety Code, we would like to adopt and train all personnel on the changes from the previous adopted 2003 edition.



Incident Report

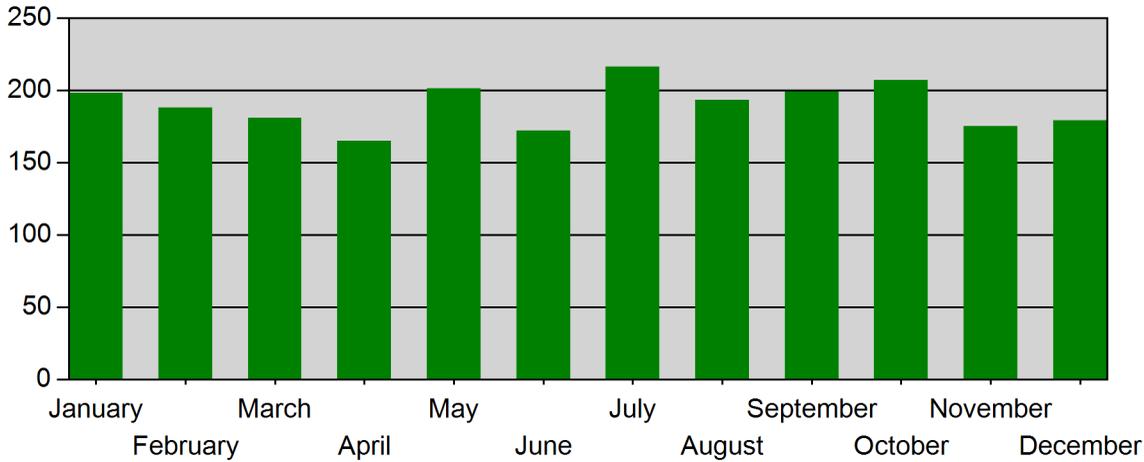
Schiller Park Fire Dept.

Schiller Park, IL



Incidents by Month for Month Range

Start Month: January | End Month: December | Year: 2019



MONTH	INCIDENTS
January	198
February	188
March	181
April	165
May	201
June	172
July	216
August	193
September	199
October	207
November	175
December	179



Incident Report

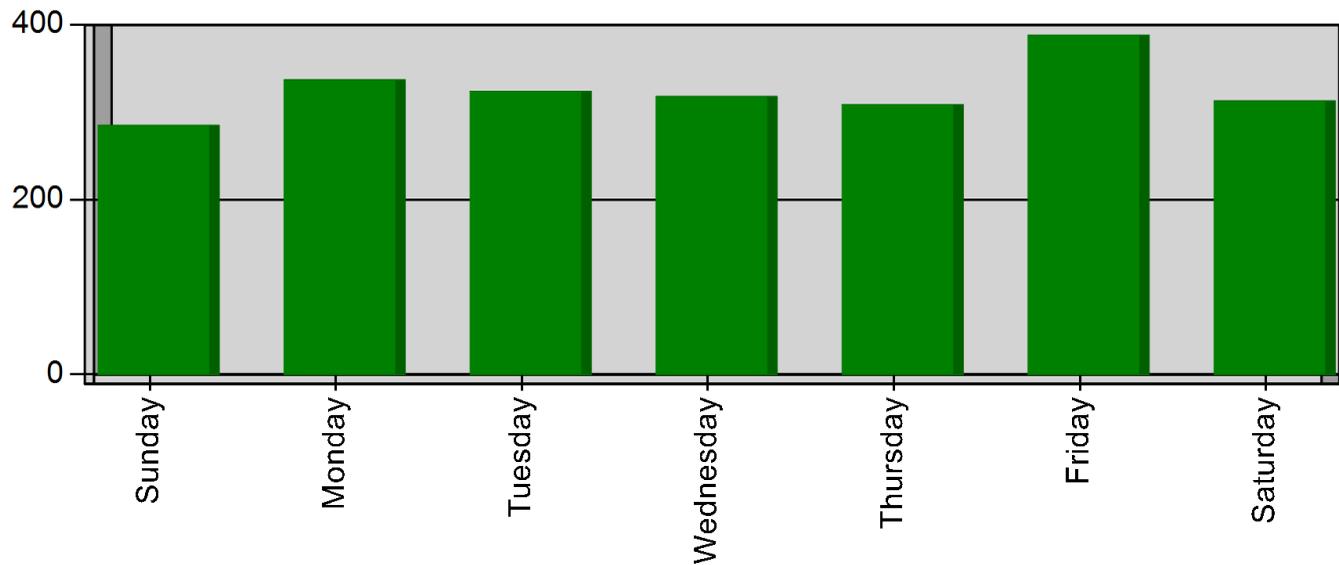
Schiller Park Fire Dept.

Schiller Park, IL



Incidents by Day of the Week for Date Range

Start Date: 01/01/2019 | End Date: 12/31/2019



DAY OF THE WEEK	# INCIDENTS
Sunday	285
Monday	337
Tuesday	324
Wednesday	318
Thursday	309
Friday	388
Saturday	313

TOTAL 2274



Incident Report

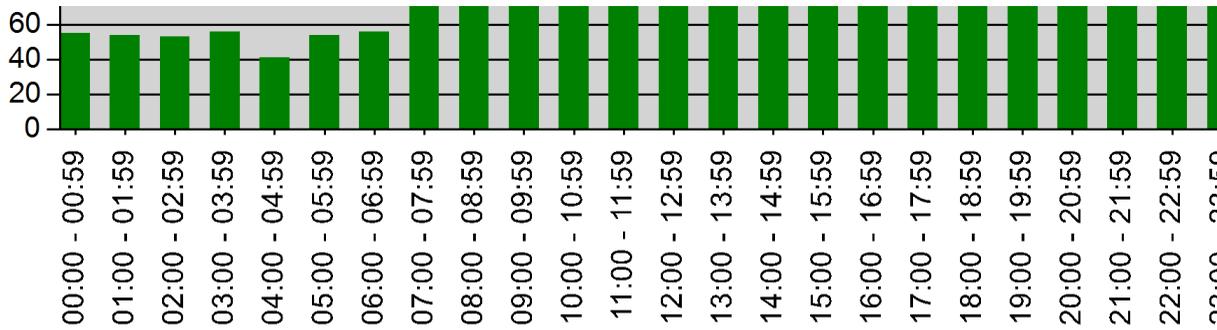
Schiller Park Fire Dept.

Schiller Park, IL



Incidents by Hour for Date Range

Start Date: 01/01/2019 | End Date: 12/31/2019



HOUR	# of CALLS
00:00 - 00:59	55
01:00 - 01:59	54
02:00 - 02:59	53
03:00 - 03:59	56
04:00 - 04:59	41
05:00 - 05:59	54
06:00 - 06:59	56
07:00 - 07:59	85
08:00 - 08:59	100
09:00 - 09:59	98
10:00 - 10:59	118
11:00 - 11:59	132
12:00 - 12:59	123
13:00 - 13:59	134
14:00 - 14:59	130
15:00 - 15:59	125
16:00 - 16:59	141
17:00 - 17:59	129
18:00 - 18:59	127

Only REVIEWED incidents included

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Emergency Management

The Division of Emergency Management was taken over this past year by Lieutenant Adam Niemand upon the retirement of Battalion Chief Leiser. The Emergency Management Division is responsible for keeping current and refining the Village of Schiller Park Disaster Plan, ensuring that all appropriate Village employees are National Incident Management System (NIMS) compliant, work with the Cook County Emergency Management and Regional Security department, working on the mass notification system, grants and grant writing, and working with the Federal government (FEMA).

During 2019 the Emergency Management division worked with the Cook County Emergency Management to come up with a Multi-Jurisdictional Hazard Mitigation Plan and had the Village Board adopt the plan. This plan was filed and submitted to the County and approved. Lt. Niemand has also been working with the Cook County Department of Public Health on the Pharmaceutical Distribution program. This program would be implemented in the event of mass distribution of antibiotics or other drugs as outlined by the county and the Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Lt. Niemand is also responsible for writing and distributing all Incident Action Plans (IAP's) for the Village. This is part of the Incident Command System (ICS) where pre-plans and contingency plans are coordinated amongst the various Village departments.



Training Division

The Training Division is headed by Lieutenant Jeffrey Leiser, who ensures the Schiller Park's Fire Department's training mission is followed to ensure all personnel are able to safely and effectively perform the critical tasks required of their position and rank. To this end the annual training program is designed to meet professional standards, satisfy state and federal mandates, and provide a broad range of education and skill development through hands-on evolutions and classroom lessons. Based upon their essential job functions, each employee achieves specific training objectives, and obtains required levels of certification through the Illinois Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM). The Schiller Park Fire Department achieved planned training objectives for the year; and members significantly enhanced their firefighting, rescue, and emergency medical service capabilities.

The Schiller Park Fire Department again this year has had one member, Dan Linehan, complete their probationary period in late summer and had one new member join the department in the spring of 2019. With Dan joining the department with his Basic Operations Firefighter certification from the Romeoville Fire Academy he was immediately placed on shift where he was evaluated for his skills and where his career will take root. While new personnel have presented some expected challenges, it also has invigorated our officers and senior firefighters to share their knowledge by taking it upon themselves to do extra training, to complete several Job Performance Requirements (JPR's), demonstrating successful achievement of department standards, and prepare the recruit for his new role as firefighter. The newest member, Kevin Cwynar, of our department comes to us with minimal firefighting experience and did attend Northeast Illinois Public Safety (NIPSTA) Fire Academy this past fall. After completing the academy and graduating near the top of his class, the probationary firefighter has reported back to shift where he will fine tune his skills and continue to be evaluated throughout his probation. Over the next three years both new members must obtain additional OSFM certifications including becoming certified Fire Apparatus Engineers and Fire Prevention Inspectors.

Training Hours By Activity	3 Year Average	2019
Number of Sworn Members	27	27
Avg. Annual Hrs. of Training/ Sworn Member	192	142.5
Emergency Medical Services Average per member	30	40
Fire Apparatus Engineer Average per member	20	30
Firefighter II / Basic Average per member	100	100
Firefighter III / Advanced Average per member	150	150
Hazardous Materials Average per member	15	25
Technical Rescue Average per member	15	25



Training

Learning is supported each month through scheduled daily training, which provides specific training objectives, promoting consistency and performance among each shift and station. The training program addresses basic and advanced firefighting skills, emergency medical services, emergency vehicle operations, fire prevention, specialized disciplines, and officer development. Training is not only conducted in house amongst the members but also with other departments within Division 20 and regularly with automatic aid companies to ensure smooth operations at emergency scenes. Members are encouraged to expand their capabilities in specific areas of expertise, such as: hazardous materials mitigation, fire investigation, swift water rescue, and technical rescue, which entail further education and certification. Members who possess these extra certifications also perform continuing education outlined by the OSFM to stay proficient in these skills. Personnel seeking promotion attend fire officer certification courses to prepare them for supervisory positions.

In 2019, the Illinois OSFM awarded 21 certifications to Schiller Park Fire Department personnel with completion of various firefighter and fire officer courses. Members completed 294 training drills and exercises. This translated to members having 3,848 hours of training. Members also attended numerous classes outside of the OSFM certification classes and averaged over 140 hours of training for the year on a wide range of subjects through both in house and outside training. Company Officers, Shift Instructors and members of the Training Division contributed significantly to the successful administration and implementation of the Department's training program.





