

You are invited to join Sheridan Fire District FireMed.

Sheridan FireMed is a membership program that protects you from the unexpected cost of emergency ambulance service. Anyone living in the Sheridan Fire District Ambulance Service Area is welcome to join. For \$75 per year, you and your family are covered if you face a life-threatening medical emergency.

Sheridan Fire District has partnered with Life Flight. You can also enroll in air coverage for an additional charge. (\$75 for air only or \$140 for ground and air.)

How do I join?

It's easy to become a FireMed member. Stop by the central fire station at 230 SW Mill Street in Sheridan to pick up an enrollment form, download a form attached to our website, or visit our partner Life Flight (www.lifeflight.org) for enrollment information.

How does FireMed work?

FireMed is not insurance but rather a membership program. If you are transported by ambulance for a medical emergency, we will bill your insurance provider(s), and the rest of the bill will be written off. We will accept what your insurance pays as payment in full. You will not have any additional out-of-pocket transportation expenses.

FireMed is an investment

Your \$75 investment for ground-only transport stays right here in our community. Professional training for our paramedics and EMTs is expensive but essential. The equipment we use in the ambulances is also very expensive. We can invest membership fees in our organization to strengthen our services. Hopefully, you will not have a medical emergency and need to be transported, but if you do, we've got you covered. An average ambulance transport cost is \$2,000 and often includes a deductible or co-pay. FireMed is an easy way to provide peace of mind during unexpected emergencies.

Is there an open enrollment period as in the past?

No, our partner Life Flight administers the program year-round. You can join the program any time of the year. New or lapsed memberships become effective 72 hours after payment has been received.

What if I don't have medical insurance?

No insurance? No problem! As long as you live in Sheridan Fire District and pay your membership dues, you are covered for emergency transportation.

Does FireMed cover all ambulance transports?

No. FireMed is only for emergent medically necessary ambulance services. We do not provide non-emergency transfers to or from a doctor's office or when a non-medical agency can transport you or your family member (i.e. wheelchair van, taxi, Uber, or a private vehicle.) When a patient is transported, it is up to our skilled crews to determine the nearest appropriate hospital and take you there.

Does FireMed cover public assists? No, FireMed is for emergency transportation. Sheridan Fire District does believe that our taxpayers deserve the best care, and we will come to help you if you or a family member have fallen and need assistance getting up. Remember that although we do not charge for this service, we will charge if you call us often to help you. We want to make sure we are available for emergency calls, and we want to make sure you are in a safe environment.

Who in my household is covered?

A membership covers you, your spouse or registered domestic partner, and all unmarried children under the age of 21 who live in your residence. If you can claim the person on your taxes as a dependent, they can be included. Elderly (65+) or disabled family members residing in the same household are also covered.

What communities are included in the Sheridan Fire District Ambulance Service Area?

The Sheridan Rural Fire Protection District serves 103 square miles in Yamhill and Polk counties. In addition to the City of Sheridan, the communities of Ballston, Buell, Bellevue, and the surrounding areas fall within our boundaries. If you aren't sure, give us a call.

What if I'm not in Sheridan Fire District when a medical emergency occurs?

Many fire districts and fire departments in Oregon offer FireMed and honor memberships from other areas. If you are in another ambulance service area during an emergency, ask if they have FireMed and let them know you are a FireMed member with Sheridan Fire District. Areas served by private ambulances, such as the Oregon Coast and the Portland Metro Area, do not offer FireMed, but the vast majority of the state does. (See the attached map on the FIREMED webpage.)

If I need an ambulance, what do I do?

Call 9-1-1! If you are unsure if it is an emergency, call, and our skilled crews will come to check you out and help you make an informed decision. Please do not call the fire station as it will only delay our response.

What if I still have questions?

We are here to help you! We try to have someone available to answer the phone from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. But do keep in mind we are an emergency service. If no one answers, we may be out helping someone. Please leave a message, and we will return your call as soon as possible.

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