

FIREFIGHTER

General Statement of Duties

Performs fire equipment operational duties on a shift in the Fire Department; trains volunteers in firefighting response activities and assumes command at fire scene when needed.

Distinguishing Features of the Class

Employees in this class are responsible for the maintaining and operating firefighting equipment, directing volunteers, performing general firefighting duties, for providing medical treatment within level of certification, overseeing volunteers in firefighting and equipment operation activities, and serving as incident commander when needed. Work involves driving a fire vehicle to the fire scene, fighting fires, and preparing the fire vehicle, lines, and equipment for use by other firefighters. Work also includes related departmental duties such as doing pre-fire plans and participating in fire prevention activities, as well as cleaning the station and equipment and restocking vehicles. Work is often performed under stressful emergency conditions and frequently involves personal hazards. The employees are subject to hazards associated with firefighting and emergency care including working in both inside and outside environments, in extreme temperatures, and exposure to various hazards such as exposure to high heat, exposure to chemicals, and in the proximity to moving mechanical parts, electrical currents, and working in high places. Employees are also exposed to atmospheric conditions and are subject to the OSHA requirements on bloodborne pathogens, and are sometimes required to wear a respirator, and may be required to work in close quarters. The position is considered a safety sensitive role. Work is reviewed by the Fire Chief through observation and discussions concerning the quality and effectiveness of fire and rescue efforts and through evaluation of the completion of training activities.

Duties and Responsibilities

Essential Duties and Tasks

Receives and responds to fire alarms; drives the fire vehicle to the fire scene; connects hoses to hydrants and uses hoses to apply water or chemicals to fires; serves as operator of fire equipment at fire scenes

Provides responses to emergency calls and provides medical treatment of at least the first responder level, working within certification.

Connects pump to water source and hoses to the pump; maintains the correct pressure for the nozzles based upon the sizes and lengths of hoses, fire conditions, and activities of the fire scene; ensures that all equipment is available for use by fire personnel.

Participates in post-fire operations of cleaning and salvage.

Works closely with volunteers; serves as incident commander when needed.

Performs routine maintenance and servicing of equipment including washing and waxing trucks, checking batteries, checking fuel and oil levels, cleaning and drying hoses, inspecting hose and hose connections for damage and wear.

Researches and documents pre-fire plans; conducts hydrant testing.

Performs inspections and maintenance of equipment to include SCBA's, generators, power saws, fire hose, nozzles and appliances; performs building and grounds maintenance and repairs; assures proper uniforms and turnout gear is maintained by volunteers.

Assists in field training of personnel in fire related duties; serves as specialized fire instructor.

Completes related fire and equipment records as required.

Additional Job Duties

Participates in public relations activities such as tours, classes, and open house.

Maintains training hours as required by department policy

Performs related duties as required.

Recruitment and Selection Guidelines

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

- Considerable knowledge of the operation of firefighting equipment.
- Considerable knowledge of modern firefighting principles, practices, and procedures.
- Considerable knowledge of the geography of the Town; working knowledge of the location of hydrants and fire alarm boxes.
- Considerable knowledge of and skill in administering emergency medical procedures and techniques and maintenance and repair of fire and first responder equipment.
- Considerable knowledge of OSHA and safety requirements.
- Considerable knowledge of the principles of hydraulics applied to fire suppression.
- Skill in the use of firefighting equipment.
- Ability to exercise sound judgment in routine and emergency situations.
- Ability to accept firefighting discipline and operational routine.
- Ability to maintain vehicles, equipment and facilities.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees and the public.

Physical Requirements

- Must be able to physically perform the basic life operational functions of climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, reaching, standing, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, fingering, grasping, feeling, talking, hearing, and perform repetitive motions.
- Must be able to perform heavy work exerting up to 100 pounds and more of force occasionally, and/or up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or up to 20 pounds of force constantly.
- Must possess the visual acuity to operate trucks and other equipment, file reports, make inspections of equipment and apparatus, and observe and support fire personnel at fire scenes and emergency medical situations.

Desirable Education and Experience

Graduation from high school and considerable experience as a Firefighter and Fire Equipment Operator and in first responder medical care; or an equivalent combination of education and experience.

Special Requirements

Possession of a valid North Carolina CDL license; certification at Firefighter within specified period of time; medical responder or higher.

Base Salary

\$39,705 DOQ