

FIRE FIGHTER

DEFINITION:

During an assigned tour of duty extinguishes fires; performs rescue operations; aids in emergency situations involving hazardous or toxic materials; administers emergency medical treatment; maintains all related equipment, buildings and grounds; does related work.

NOTE: The examples of work for this title are for illustrative purposes only. A particular position using this title may not perform all duties listed in this job specification. Conversely, all duties performed on the job may not be listed.

EXAMPLES OF WORK:

Attends daily roll call and briefing.

Extricates victims from entrapment.

Performs rescue operations such as searching for victims, identifying searched areas and guiding or carrying victims.

Aids victims at scene of emergency by administering emergency medical treatment such as first aid, CPR or EMT treatment after period of training.

May request advice from hospital physician or emergency department.

Radios the dispatcher for additional help if needed.

Reports to the dispatcher the nature and extent of injuries to ensure prompt medical care on arrival.

May prepare victims for transportation in an ambulance after period of time.

May be required to transport victims to hospital or other emergency treatment facility.

Loads and unloads equipment.

Selects best route to scene of emergency.

Drives and maneuvers fire apparatus for optimal firefighting position.

Maintains radio communications with emergency personnel and relays information to facilitate firefighting and rescue operations.

Identifies fire source and type and anticipates fire behavior.

Searches for indications of fire cause and protects this evidence for later scrutiny.

Interviews persons at scene of fire and writes down responses.

Shuts off utilities at fire scene.

Lays and connects hose to hydrants, standpipes and intake and discharge valves.

Directs water stream at or as near as possible to source of fire or other target to extinguish fire or to cool given target and to prevent ignition.

Transports tools, equipment and/or people by specialized rope harnesses.

Performs preparatory operations for the delivery of water to discharge lines and determines required pump pressure to provide appropriate pressure.

Replaces and/or makes temporary repairs to damaged hoses and other apparatus.

Locates and exposes hidden structural fires.

Raises, lowers, positions and stabilizes straight ladders, aerial ladders or basket trucks.

Operates master stream appliance or deluge gun.

Operates portable generating equipment.

Identifies and removes or provides special protection from flammable or hazardous materials.

Removes or reinforces weakened structural parts.

Secures or covers openings created by fire or firefighters.

Removes and pumps out flooded buildings and structures to prevent potential health and safety hazards and further structural damage.

Covers or removes petroleum products on roadway to reduce fire hazard and slippery road conditions.

Tours site and notes locations of firefighting resources, corridors, exits and hazardous materials.

Makes periodic inspections and issues citations to ensure compliance with safety regulations.

Maintains records and files.

Possesses telephone and box alarms and determines nature of emergency, alarm box nearest the scene, company responsibilities and records information.

Monitors radio frequencies and relays relevant information.

Maintains daily log of all house activities such as time and nature of alarms, units responding, arrival and departure times, names of visitors, time and nature of phone calls and time and nature of any unusual events.

Inspects and inventories equipment such as first aid supplies, foam supply, batteries and hand tools and prepares replacement or repair lists.

Promotes community fire prevention activities such as conducting and timing school fire drills, demonstrating apparatus at schools, parades and other community events and serves as resource person.

Explains firefighting activities and fire prevention practices.

Maintains and makes minor repairs to firehouse and grounds and performs typical household tasks.

Maintains apparatus, tools, equipment and protective gear in proper working order and satisfactory condition.

Maintains and performs minor repairs on fire vehicles.

Checks all tools and equipment on fire apparatus at start of shift and on return to quarters from emergency.

Inspects and maintains air pack, hoses and other fire apparatus.

Will be required to learn to utilize various types of electronic and/or manual recording and information systems used by the agency, office or related units.

KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

Ability to use and maintain firefighting equipment and to learn the theory necessary for effective firefighting and equipment operation after a period of training.

Ability to apply basic techniques of fighting fires after a period of training.

Ability to perform strenuous physical activities such as lifting heavy firefighting equipment, climbing standard and aerial ladders, lifting and carrying people and equipment for rescue and salvage.

Ability to work under conditions of heavy physical exertion in extreme heat and dust in high and confined areas and smoke filled spaces, and in all kinds of weather, and to maintain physical activity for prolonged periods of time.

Ability to understand and apply principles of emergency medical and first aid treatment after a period of training.

Ability to administer first aid, CPR and other emergency medical care after a period of training.

Ability to prioritize emergency medical treatment needs after a period of training.

Ability to understand and apply techniques used to administer pulmonary and cardiac resuscitation after a period of training.

Ability to understand and apply techniques used to administer oxygen after a period of training.

Ability to apply appropriate emergency treatment depending on the patient's condition after a period of training.

Ability to think clearly and to apply knowledge under stressful conditions and to handle more than one task at a time.

Ability to remain calm in an emergency situation.

Ability to establish rapport with the patient.

Ability to understand and carry out instructions.

Ability to record information in written form.

Ability to function independently and without direct supervision.

Ability to work closely with people including functioning as a team member and to exercise tact or diplomacy and display compassion, understanding, and patience.

Ability to learn to utilize various types of electronic and/or manual recording and information systems used by the agency, office, or related units.

Ability to read, write, speak, understand or communicate in English sufficiently to perform the duties of this position. American Sign Language or Braille may also be considered as acceptable forms of communication.

Persons with mental or physical disabilities are eligible as long as they can perform essential functions of the job with or without reasonable accommodation. If the accommodation cannot be made because it would cause the employer undue hardship, such persons may not be eligible.