
Job Description: FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC, LATERAL

PRIMARY FUNCTION:

This is skilled firefighting work in combating, extinguishing, and preventing fires; in rendering medical assistance at medical and other emergency scenes; and in operating and maintaining Fire Department equipment, apparatus, and quarters.

Work involves responsibility for the protection of life and property through performing firefighting, rescue, Emergency Medical Service (EMS) Advanced Life Support, and related duties. Work is performed as a team; including training and participation in the use of firefighting and emergency medical apparatus, performance of which may be hazardous under emergency conditions. Work may require strenuous exertion under such environments as smoke, fire, heat, confined spaces, and infectious disease.

When not engaged in firefighting, this position provides patient care and treatment in medical emergencies under the authorization of the Yale Center for EMS Medical Director, and within the scope of the Connecticut Department of Public Health Office of Emergency Medical Services Statewide EMS protocols.

In addition to the general duties of firefighting and paramedic activities, a significant portion of time is devoted to drill and studying methods and techniques, inspecting premises for fire hazards, routine duties in the care of station and equipment maintenance, and other departmental duties as assigned.

Specific orders and assignments are given by a superior officer, in both firefighting and at the fire station, and performed under close supervision in accordance with established policies and procedures. However, performance of the work requires initiative and thorough understanding of firefighting methods and emergency medical care as learned on the job and in training.

REPORTS TO: Superior officer.

SUPERVISES: This position has no direct reports.

TYPICAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Administer basic or advanced emergency medical care and assess nature and extent of injuries and illnesses to establish and prioritize medical assistance.
- May administer medication intravenously, use equipment such as EKGs, or administer advanced life support to sick or injured individuals in prehospital settings.
- Coordinate work with other emergency medical team members or police or fire department personnel.
- Observe, record, and report to physician the patient's condition or injury, the treatment provided, and reactions to drugs or treatment.
- Transfer patients to the emergency area of the hospital or other healthcare facility.

In addition, duties include all duties & responsibilities of a Firefighter, including but not limited to:

- Responds to fire alarms with a company; drives apparatus; operates and uses pumps and ladders, uses chemical extinguishers, bar, hooks, lines, and other equipment.
- Ventilates burning buildings by opening windows and skylights or by cutting openings in roofs and floors; removes persons from danger; administers emergency medical care to ill or injured persons.
- Performs salvage operations by placing salvage covers, sweeping water and removing debris.
- Performs emergency medical assistance to fire victims and/or as first responders to medical and other emergency situations until arrival of other medically qualified personnel.
- Participates in daily training sessions; reads and studies assigned materials regarding firefighting, emergency medical care, fire prevention and related subjects, studies the theory and techniques of firefighting, emergency medical care, hydraulics, fire chemistry, and related subjects; participates in a variety of drills and instructions.
- Inspects buildings and premises for familiarization; checks for fire hazards; participates in the inspection and maintenance of fire hydrants, cleaning away snow, ice, and grass for accessibility.
- Operates fire apparatus and may assume command of a fire company on occasional basis.
- Participates in pre-planning survey of commercial, industrial, and institutional structures.
- Performs general maintenance work in the upkeep of Fire Department property; cleans and maintains fire stations and equipment; performs other maintenance duties.
- Performs fire prevention and public fire education work.
- Performs other related work as required.

NOTE: *The above description covers the principal duties and responsibilities of the job and shall not be construed as a complete listing of all duties or as a contract.*

EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS & EXPERIENCE:

At time of application, must:

- Have graduated from high school or possess State Equivalency Diploma (GED);
- Possess a valid driver's license;
- Be at least 18 years of age.

KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE, SKILLS, & ABILITIES:

- Ability to learn a wide variety of firefighting duties, evolutions, and methods within a reasonable working test period.
- Ability to climb ladders and work at considerable heights.
- Ability to learn locations of streets, principal buildings, and other physical features of New Haven.
- Ability to act quickly and calmly in emergency situations.
- Ability to follow oral and written instructions.
- Ability to establish and maintain an effective working relationship with other employees and the public.
- Ability to learn emergency medical care techniques.
- Skilled in mechanical aptitude and manual dexterity.
- Ability to demonstrate physical strength and agility and the ability to perform arduous tasks under strenuous and adverse conditions.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Required at time of application:

- Valid Paramedic Certification/License (from any State).
- Valid Current National Registry Certification as a Paramedic.
- Must Possess Firefighter 1 & 2 from an accredited regional school or fire academy.
- Must possess Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations from an accredited regional school or fire academy.

Additionally:

- If Paramedic License is not from CT, you must obtain CT Paramedic License within 1 year from date of hire and maintain that certification for 10 (ten) years from the date of hire (per the collective bargaining agreement).
- If not medically authorized from Yale Center for EMS, you must obtain medical authorization through Sponsor Hospital within 1 year from date of hire and maintain in accordance with collective bargaining agreement.
- Candidates for this classification must be able to meet established educational, physical, and medical requirements.
- Trainees must pass all Fire Academy curriculum and obtain all necessary certifications and/or licenses as required by the Fire Department for graduation from the Academy.
- Must also obtain appropriate State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicle driver's license as required by nature of assignment.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS & WORKING CONDITIONS:

Physical Requirements	Amount of Time			
	None	Under 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	Over 2/3
Stand				X
Walk				X
Sit				X
Use hands to touch, handle, or feel				X
Reach with hands and arms				X
Climb or balance				X
Stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl				X
Talk or hear				X
Taste or smell				X
Lifting or force to be exerted?				
How much and how often?	Amount of Time			
	None	Under 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	Over 2/3
Up to 10 pounds				X
Up to 25 pounds				X
Up to 50 pounds				X
Up to 75 pounds				X
Up to 100 pounds				X
More than 100 pounds			X	

Working Environment	Amount of Time			
	None	Under 1/3	1/3 to 2/3	Over 2/3
Wet or humid conditions (non-weather)				X
Work near moving mechanical parts				X
Work in high, precarious places				X
Fumes or airborne particles				X
Toxic or caustic chemicals				X
Outdoor weather conditions				X
Extreme cold (non-weather)				X
Risk of electrical shock			X	
Work with explosives		X		
Risk of radiation		X		
Vibration			X	

SALARY, BARGAINING UNIT & APPLICABLE TERMS OF EMPLOYMENT:

Terms of employment governed by collective bargaining agreement with Local 825, International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO. New hires who have med control in the City of New Haven and are compliant and current with local protocols and required certifications at the time of hire into the Academy shall be hired at the Firefighter Second Grade, Third Year salary. New hires who obtain med control and become compliant and current with local protocols and required certifications within one year of their hire into the Academy shall be bumped to the Firefighter Second Grade, Third Year salary.