

FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled firefighting work combating and extinguishing fires as well as responding to medical and related emergencies.

Work involves responsibility for the protection of life and property through firefighting and Advanced Life Support Emergency Medical activities, usually performed under close supervision and in accordance with established operating procedures. Work requires the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions which may include strenuous exertion under such handicaps as smoke and cramped surroundings. A large percentage of the working time is spent in supervised training activities, inspection and maintenance of equipment, and cleaning and maintaining station house; participating in a variety of public educational programs and topics related to fire prevention and related areas; and inspecting commercial buildings to gain compliance with fire codes. An employee in this class is required to employ special firefighting skills learned on the job and through various training programs. Assignments are received from supervisory and command fire personnel at the scene of a medical emergency or working fire. Supervision is received from a Fire Captain with work being reviewed in the form of adherence to standard operating procedures and effectiveness of fire suppression, prevention, medical and educational activities.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Responds to emergencies with engine or truck company; lays and connects fire hose; holds nozzles and directs water streams; ventilates buildings by opening windows, doors and roofs and through the use of positive pressure ventilation (PPV); raises and climbs ladders; and uses chemical extinguishers, forcible entry tools, ropes and other equipment in performing firefighting and rescue activities.

Responds to a variety of medical emergency calls including heart attacks and seizures as well as home, business and automobile accidents; administers cardiopulmonary resuscitation and related ALS emergency medical care; obtains vital signs, patient's medical history and other pertinent information; and utilizes emergency medical equipment in providing emergency medical services.

Performs rescue and extrication operations including searching burning structure for trapped and/or unconscious victims, and operating power extrication tools and equipment.

Drives an engine company, truck company, or ambulance as assigned; operates water pump and regulates pressure in accordance with hydraulic principles and directions from a superior officer; and operates aerial ladder in accordance with fire scene needs and standard operating procedures.

Drives and operates specialized units such as air unit, Haz/Mat unit, and other support vehicles.

Inspects commercial buildings and premises to gain compliance with fire prevention laws and ordinances and to become familiar with the building, its contents, and the surrounding area.

Performs salvage operations including placing salvage covers over furniture and removing water and debris from building.

Participates in group and individual training and drill sessions related to firefighting, emergency medical services, rescue and related topic areas.

Develops and participates in a variety of public awareness and public educational programs including slide shows and other informational material regarding public fire education.

Performs general maintenance work in the upkeep of assigned fire station including cleaning and washing walls and floors; washing and reloading fire hose; and cleaning and maintaining firefighting equipment and fire apparatus.

An employee in this class may be temporarily reassigned to a higher level classification as necessary.

Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, AND SKILLS

Knowledge of the street system, principal buildings, business districts, and physical layout of the City.

Ability to identify symptoms and provide ALS emergency medical care to victims of vehicular, fire, and other injury causing accidents.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to learn and to apply a variety of firefighting principles and techniques, and to learn the operation of firefighting equipment and apparatus.

Ability to operate and maintain firefighting apparatus, equipment and tools.

Ability to think and act quickly, calmly, and appropriately in emergency situations.

DESIRABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE

Graduation from senior high school or equivalent supplemented by college course work from an accredited vocational or technical college with a degree in fire science or technology plus some experience performing firefighting, hazardous materials response, and emergency medical activities. Hazardous Materials Awareness, Operations, or Technician certification is desired. Possession of a valid National Registry Para Medic certification.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from senior high school or equivalent; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills. As per Lincoln Municipal Code section 2.76.220 (b), all applicants for this class must be at least nineteen years of age. Candidates must also meet such physical requirements as are established by the City.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Possession of a valid driver's license when operating a vehicle is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

Possession of State of Nebraska certification as a Fire Fighter I within 120 days of appointment.

Possession of a valid Emergency Medical Technician-P Para Medic certification at the time of application and Nebraska Emergency Medical Technician - P within 180 days of appointment and successful completion of the Lincoln EMS system certification for ALS within 1 year of appointment is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

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