

FIRE APPARATUS OPERATOR

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 First Responder Emergency Medical activities usually performed under close supervision and in accordance with established operating procedures. This class is distinguished from a firefighter in that an incumbent drives assigned fire trucks to and from the scenes of fire, medical and other emergencies and operates related equipment as required. 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 such as firefighting and emergency medical care, geography of the City and surrounding area, fire hydrant location, and efficient operation of equipment and apparatus. Assignments are received from supervisory and command fire personnel at the scene of a working fire or medical emergency. 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 and prevention activities, and equipment operation.

EXAMPLES OF WORK PERFORMED

Responds to emergencies as Fire Apparatus Operator of engine or truck company; places equipment in most efficient position; directs hose connections at pump; operates pumps, making sure proper nozzle pressure and water flow is maintained; operates ladder power lift and other equipment as required; operates life saving equipment and aerial ladder in accordance with fire scene needs and standard operating procedures.

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 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.

Performs general firefighting and rescue duties as assigned.

Participates in training and attends regular classes in firefighting, emergency medical care, equipment operation and care, and related activities; spends considerable time studying street, fire hydrant and principle business locations to assure familiarization with assigned area.

Cleans and services assigned apparatus and equipment and maintains it in readiness condition; reports mechanical failures or difficulties to a superior.

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

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 and physical layout of the City including location of fire hydrants and principle businesses within assigned area.

Knowledge of hydraulic principles relating to the proper and efficient operation of fire apparatus.

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.

Ability to learn and 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.

Skill in the operation of firefighting apparatus and related equipment.

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 activities which includes the safe and efficient operation of fire apparatus and related equipment, hazardous materials response, and emergency medical activities. Hazardous Materials Awareness, Operations, or Technician certification is desired.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduation from a senior high school or equivalent plus some experience performing firefighting and EMS activities; or any equivalent combination of training and experience which provides the desirable knowledge, abilities and skills.

NECESSARY SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

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

Current certification as a Fire Apparatus Operator in the Emergency Services Division of the Lincoln Fire Department.

Possession of State of Nebraska certification as a Fire Fighter I or equivalent.

Possession of valid Nebraska Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic certificate at time of appointment is necessary to the satisfactory performance of assigned duties.

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