

FIREFIGHTER - PARAMEDIC

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This work is of a hazardous nature, involving responsibility for fire fighting and prevention, salvage and rescue operations and requires mental acuity and physical stamina in the performance of duties. When functioning as a Paramedic, incumbents respond to other emergency situations, providing emergency medical treatment to individuals who are sick or injured in a pre-hospital setting. This position requires sound judgment and the ability to diagnose moderately complex to complex medical conditions and administer appropriate emergency treatment. An employee in this class will be expected to perform the duties of a firefighter or a paramedic based on the daily assignment by the officer in charge. Firefighting and fire prevention duties are performed under the direct supervision of superior officers. Routine maintenance work and custodial work on the station house and equipment is performed under general supervision and inspected upon completion. An employee in this class may also be required to drive motorized fire apparatus, ambulances and other emergency response vehicles. Does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

When assigned as a Firefighter:

Responds to fire alarms and emergency calls with a fire company;

Lays and connects hose lines and nozzles, turns water on and off;

Holds fire hose and directs stream;

Erects and climbs ladders to enter burning buildings when necessary;

Makes openings in burning buildings for ventilation and entrance;

Removes persons from burning buildings;

Performs salvage operations at scenes of fire, such as covering furniture with tarpaulins and cleaning away debris;

Operates portable radio and/or other radio equipment at fire or rescue scenes, when necessary;

Selects appropriate size, strength, type and length of rope and ties appropriate knot when required by a firefighting or rescue task;

Learns and practices new methods of fire prevention and fire fighting;

Drives and operates fire apparatus;

Assists in giving emergency first aid treatment to injured persons;

Makes periodic inspections of buildings for fire hazards;

EXAMPLES OF WORK (Illustrative Only) (Cont'd.):

When assigned as a Firefighter:

Cleans and maintains firefighting equipment;

Performs a variety of tasks in connection with the maintenance and repair of fire department buildings, equipment and grounds;

Performs miscellaneous clerical work when assigned;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments.

When assigned as a Paramedic:

Responds to emergency medical requests, makes diagnoses and provides emergency medical treatment in accordance with established protocols and policies;

Provides medical treatments as appropriate, which may include starting of intravenous fluid lines, intubation of the patient, use of cardiac monitors and defibrillators, and administration of various drugs;

Stabilizes patient with life or health threatening problems such as trauma, cardiac or other medical emergencies (i.e. extrication, splinting, immobilization, suctioning of airways, hemostats);

Administers medications as prescribed by a monitoring physician (i.e. oral, intramuscular, intravenous, intracardiac, drip, titrate);

Operates and maintains biomedical/telemetry equipment on patients;

Assesses, monitors and deciphers human life vital signs of heart, respiration, blood pressure and pulse;

Collects blood specimens for diagnostic testing if indicated while initiating IV therapy;

Performs other direct medical actions on monitoring physician's order, such as carotid sinus massage, rotating tourniquets, cardioversion and repeat defibrillation;

May perform triage at mass casualty incidents;

Accompanies patient to the emergency department, monitors and treats the patient during transportation and reports orally to the physician or nurse;

Prepares written reports of emergency calls handled, outlining diagnoses and treatment provided in accordance with New York State and police department guidelines;

EXAMPLES OF WORK (Illustrative Only) (Cont'd.):

When assigned as a Paramedic:

Communicates with patient's family at the scene and with other health team members in the community and at the hospital;

Drives ambulances and other emergency response vehicles as necessary;

Maintains, cleans and decontaminates ambulances and ancillary medical equipment;

Maintains required level of AEMT-P proficiency and New York State certification through regular training and testing requirements;

Maintains an inventory and safeguards drugs and medical supplies;

Works with others to develop and implement operational plan for major catastrophes and natural or man-made disasters;

Performs miscellaneous clerical work when assigned;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Mechanical aptitude; ability to understand and carry out complex oral and written instructions; ability to operate an automobile or other vehicles as required; working knowledge of first aid methods and the ability to apply them; ability to operate portable radio and/or other communication equipment found in fire/emergency apparatus and fire stations; ability to tie and/or assemble appropriate rope knot when required by firefighting/rescue tasks requiring use of rope; thorough knowledge of EMT-Paramedic procedures and protocols; ability to perform all functions of an EMT-Paramedic; ability to understand medical procedures and properly apply them to emergency situations; ability to operate Biometric Telemetry and radio equipment; ability to perform calmly and efficiently in crisis situations; ability to maintain records and prepare reports; ability to read, write, understand, and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential functions of the position; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software; ability to get along well with others; good reasoning skills; sound judgment; tact; courtesy; strength, stamina and endurance to perform rescues; conscientiousness; mental alertness; dependability; physical condition commensurate with the duties of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of current and valid certification as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic (AEMT-P) as issued by New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

AGE: Eligibility for appointment begins when candidates reach their 18th birthday.

EDUCATION: At time of appointment, possession of either a high school diploma, a high school equivalency (GED) diploma, or a report from the United States Armed Forces certifying completion of the tests of general educational development, high school level.

PHYSICAL AND MEDICAL TESTS: Candidates must pass qualifying medical and physical fitness screening tests consistent with NFPA 1582 standards, prior to appointment.

TRAINING REQUIREMENT: Completion of the authorized training course for Firefighter and receipt of the appropriate training certificate within 18 months of the date of hire before permanent appointment can be granted.

DRIVER'S LICENSE: At time of appointment, possession of a valid license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of New York. The appointing authority is responsible for verifying and ensuring that the candidate meets these conditions at time of appointment and throughout the course of employment.

PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATION: At time of appointment, possession of a valid certification as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic (AEMT-P) issued by New York State Department of Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. The appointing authority is responsible for verifying and ensuring that the candidate meets these conditions at time of appointment and throughout the course of employment.