

FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of the fire department. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and other tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, operating fire equipment, performing rescue work, driving fire apparatus, and maintaining fire department equipment and vehicles. Firefighter/Operators respond to all emergency calls and provide first aid and emergency medical care to the sick or injured at the scene. Employees of this class receive specific instructions for most duties and are directly supervised by a Fire Captain. This class ranks immediately below that of Fire Captain.

EXAMPLES OF WORK

Examples listed below are illustrative only. They are not intended to include all duties which may be assigned, neither are they intended to exclude other duties which may be logical assignments to this class.

Responds to all fire and medical emergency calls received by the department. Trains for, performs, and maintains proficiency in fire suppression and safety. Drives or rides in fire apparatus or emergency vehicle to and from the scene. Communicates with dispatcher and fire vehicles using two-way radio. Ensures a timely response to the emergency scene by reporting address and details to officer in charge, evaluating any navigational problems, and taking shortest route available. Observes the burning structure and fireground and assists in determining the most efficient method of attack. Assists in evaluating the potential effects of environmental conditions on the fire. Assumes duties of acting officer at the fire scene in his absence. Places apparatus at the fire scene, determines if a position is safe for firefighting crews, and makes recommendations to superior officer regarding appropriate equipment and procedure. Dismounts apparatus, pulls hose from bed and connects hose lines to hydrant or other water supply source. Primes and operates pumper to supply adequate pressure to the nozzle. Inspects charged hose line for kinks and repairs or replaces burst hose sections. Performs automatic sprinkler and standpipe system operations. Participates in ventilation operations. Operates appropriate class of fire extinguisher. Observes and responds to changing fireground conditions, notifying officer in charge. Performs salvage and overhaul. Maintains awareness of other firefighters' efforts and assists them to ensure a safe and coordinated performance. Recognizes signs of arson, observes spectators for suspicious behavior, notifies officer in charge, and preserves evidence.

Notifies occupants or neighbors to vacate premises due to safety

concerns. Maintains limited crowd and traffic control at the scene until police arrive. Performs search and rescue operations. Moves heavy objects and cuts open vehicles or machinery in order to remove people from life-threatening situations. Carries or assists victims away from danger and examines them for signs of injury and medical alert tag. Administers basic or advanced first aid as well as emergency medical care to victims at the scene or on the way to the hospital. Notifies dispatcher of need for additional medical help.

Cleans, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting tools or equipment. Tests communication equipment and performs daily radio checks. Performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure. Inspects hydrants for defects and performs routine maintenance, flushing periodically as needed. Makes note of equipment or apparatus missing or in need of repair or replacement.

Participates in training and drills, and learns and maintains proficiency in department equipment, tools, special emergencies such as HAZMAT incidents, and the principles of fire behavior. Participates in critical evaluations of departmental response to each fire. Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols. Provides occasional informal training for new employees. Practices with apparatus and equipment under supervision. Studies direct routes, location of streets, water mains and hydrants in response area. Studies laws and documents related to emergency medical services. Completes assigned forms and records. Makes entries in daily log for the department.

Reports to work well-groomed, on-time and in proper attire. Maintains satisfactory interpersonal relationships with other department members. Provides for the maintenance and upkeep of station house and grounds, and performs minor maintenance and housekeeping duties such as preparing meals, cleaning rooms and floors, and making coffee. Receives telephone calls, assists visitors and conducts tours at the fire station.

Performs related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements must be met by the filing deadline for application for admission to the examination.

Must meet all requirements of the Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Law, including being a citizen of the United States and of legal age.

After offer of employment, but before beginning work in this class, must pass a physical examination, the selection and administration of which shall be authorized by the Appointing Authority, designed to demonstrate good health and physical fitness sufficient to

perform the essential duties of the position, with or without accommodation.

Applicant must possess one of the following: high school diploma, high school equivalency certificate, high school transcript, affidavit from the issuing high school, associate's or bachelor's degree, or college transcript, any one of which must indicate that graduation has occurred or a degree awarded. A certification of completion shall not be sufficient to substitute for a diploma or equivalency certificate.

Must possess a valid driver's license.

Must not be less than twenty-one (21) years of age.