

## **FIREFIGHTER/OPERATOR**

(Competitive Class)

### **DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS**

The class of Firefighter/Operator comprises entrance level positions in the fire suppression division of fire department operations. Employees of this class receive training in and perform firefighting and fire suppression tasks such as controlling and extinguishing fires, performing rescue work, and driving, operating, and maintaining fire department vehicles. Employees of this class receive specific instructions and direct supervision from the Fire Chief. This class ranks immediately below that of Fire Chief.

### **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.

Trains for, performs, and maintains proficiency in firefighting and rescue tasks such as connecting, carrying, and operating hose lines; directing fire streams; forcible entry; ventilation; and using ladders, lines, and other equipment to aid in fighting fires or removing fire and accident victims to safety. Administers first aid and emergency care to victims of fires, accidents, drowning, poisoning, and drug overdose.

Drives fire apparatus to and from fire. Communicates with dispatcher and fire vehicles using two-way radio. Positions apparatus and connects to supply source. Operates pumper to supply adequate pressure to the nozzle. Calculates required water flow, friction loss, and discharge pressures necessary for fire suppression.

Reads and recognizes HAZMAT symbols to identify flammable or hazardous materials. Acts to contain hazardous material spill or control spread. Removes containers of flammable or hazardous materials at the fire scene under direction of a superior officer.

Performs salvage tasks necessary to protect property, using covers, tarps, or other materials. Constructs catch-alls and chutes to trap and dispose of water. Locates and extinguishes hidden fires and hot spots. Removes debris and charred waste. Tears down or shores up weak and dangerous structural components.

Participates in assigned training drills either as an individual or as a member of a group. Attends special schools or courses

as assigned. Reads and studies assigned material related to performance of work. Studies direct routes, location of streets, water mains, and hydrants in response area.

Participates in fire investigation and fire cause determination. Informs officer in charge of suspected arson. Observes witnesses at the fire scene and questions witnesses to determine fire cause. Testifies in court when required.

Performs fire prevention and fire inspection tasks such as inspecting fire hydrants, sprinkler systems, or portable fire extinguishers, studying the district to become familiar with the location of fire plugs or water lines, interpreting or enforcing fire laws, ordinances, and regulations, and related duties. Monitors water pressure in assigned areas or zones. Periodically inspects fire hydrants, conducts flow tests, and flushes hydrants to remove rust and sediment. Updates hydrant maps and vital building books. Conducts fire drills in schools and businesses.

Cleans, dries, tests, inspects, and properly secures any assigned fire fighting equipment such as fire apparatus, communications equipment, hoses, hand tools, portable breathing apparatus, turn-out equipment, ladders, or related equipment. Performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure. Makes minor repairs to equipment and tools. Maintains inventory of tools and equipment on apparatus using checklist or knowledge of equipment.

Performs tasks necessary for the proper maintenance of the station and grounds such as cleaning floors and windows, emptying trash cans, changing bed linens, and mowing grass. Assist in preparing meals for firefighters at the station and cleans kitchen area. Provides for the security of the station by locking station doors and securing valuable items. Inspects fire station and notifies officer in charge of needed repairs.

Performs public relations duties such as calming excited citizens at a fire scene, receiving and responding to questions and complaints from the public, and providing information to the public concerning the work of the fire department. Conducts fire station tours and explains fire equipment and firefighting techniques to visiting public. Works with local youth groups and other community groups, delivering lectures or demonstrations on fire prevention or fire safety.

Completes any forms, records, or reports as required.

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.

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.

Must have a high school diploma or a valid certificate of equivalency issued by a state department of education.

Must have a valid driver's license.