

FIRE EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

(Competitive Class)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS

This class encompasses the first level of supervisory positions in the suppression division of fire department services. Employees of this class are responsible for driving fire apparatus to and from the scene of a fire and for operating pumps and other equipment as required. Employees of this class supervise and assist volunteer firefighters in the performance of their duties, both at the station and at the scene of a fire or other emergency. Fire Equipment Operators assume command at the fire scene until relieved by a superior officer. Fire Equipment Operators perform routine tasks independently, receiving assignments and direct supervision from a Fire Captain in charge of an assigned fire company. This class ranks directly 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.

Trains for, performs, supervises and maintains proficiency in emergency scene operations including fire suppression, size-up, rescue, pumper operations, forcible entry, ventilation, salvage and overhaul, emergency medical procedures, and hazardous materials. Responds to emergency and non-emergency calls. Operates and rides in fire apparatus to and from fire or emergency scene. Evaluates and overcomes navigational problems such as narrow roadways. Directs or assists in the positioning of apparatus. Notifies officer in charge of new information on conditions and makes recommendations regarding procedure or equipment. Performs the duties of acting officer at the fire scene in his absence. Maintains awareness of firefighters' efforts and assists them as needed. Operates appropriate class of fire extinguisher and applies fire streams and agents for the most effective fire extinguishment. Assists other firefighters with controlling hose line and directs hose line where needed. Searches for and assists any victims at the fire scene. Drives emergency medical vehicles to and from emergency scene and administers basic first aid, CPR and first responder services as needed.

Fire Equipment Operators are responsible for taking an active part in response planning and preparation, such as vigilantly studying direct routes, locations of streets, water mains and hydrants in the area. Plans for fires in commercial and residential areas by studying locations of hydrants, building layout and structure, and noting occupancy patterns and areas of high risk for person and property. Listens to the radio for pertinent information from other shifts and monitors conditions such as weather that may affect the station area. Participates in critical evaluations of fire response.

Keeps detailed records in compliance with departmental policies and regulations. Compiles data and writes reports. Provides for the maintenance of department records. While on duty at the station, receives telephone calls or refers caller to appropriate person or agency. Receives and responds to complaints from the public. Completes any assigned forms, such as activity and payroll reports, maintenance records, fire incident or casualty reports, and preliminary investigation reports.

Maintains up-to-date training on fire fighting techniques and ensures that staff are well informed. Maintains proficiency in the use of tools and the location and purpose of all equipment. Participates in any training or drills. Learns and maintains proficiency in procedures for special emergencies, such as HAZMAT leaks. Learns and maintains proficiency in the purpose of all alarm systems, the structural components of buildings, and in basic fireground operations. Studies laws and regulations pertaining to firefighting. Reaches out to the community in public relations service, by lecturing and demonstrating to community groups about fire prevention principals and steps that individuals can take to reduce the likelihood of injury during a fire.

Oversees and provides for the maintenance and upkeep of equipment and apparatus, including hoses, fire pump, aerial ladders, and other equipment to make sure they are in proper working order. Repairs or replaces any hose sections using appropriate tools. Drains, rolls or folds hose sections and loads on apparatus after fire is extinguished. Conducts required safety checks and inspections on fire department apparatus and equipment, including Air Pack, hose line, emergency lighting and electrical equipment. Inspects and maintains ground and aerial ladders, performs periodic tests of apparatus pumping capacity and pressure, and tests hoseline nozzle for smoothness and ease of operation.

Maintains an inventory of all tools and equipment, and ensures that the station is adequately stocked with supplies. Attends to maintenance of station, including upkeep to station and grounds, changing linens and making own bed. Maintains proper attire and grooming during tour of duty. Cleans, waxes, and polishes fire apparatus and removes any dirt, mud, or grease. Transports equipment as needed to other stations and informs superior officer of equipment movement.

Performs any other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Unless otherwise specified, all requirements listed below 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 have at least two (2) years experience as a member of a fire department immediately preceding the closing date for application to the civil service board.