



Volunteer Firefighter

Classification under FLSA

Non-Exempt

Summary/Objective

Under the supervision of the Fire Chief, the Volunteer Firefighter performs advanced firefighting work in preventing, combating, and extinguishing fires, responding to hazardous materials incidents and emergency calls which include but not limited to; special rescue situations such as vehicle and steep angle rescue.

Work involves training for and participating in duties of protecting life and property through the performance of firefighting and emergency service activities. Volunteer Firefighters are required to learn and participate in the operation of apparatus and the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions which may require strenuous exertion under such handicaps as smoke, fire, heat, and confined spaces. Participation in 30% of department calls for service in a calendar year is required to remain as a Fire Department member. Although firefighting and emergency services work constitutes the primary and most difficult and responsible area of work, the volunteer is also required to attend a minimum of 40% of all scheduled training. Training can range from essential firefighting techniques, EMS training, vehicle extrication, hazmat preplans, and all other aspects of the job the firefighters are required to know. Time spent at the station may consist of studying, custodial care, and a wide variety of maintenance of departmental facilities, apparatus, and equipment. Work is usually performed and supervised under explicit instructions and well-defined procedures by the Lieutenant(s) and/or Captain(s); however, performance of the work requires initiative and the exercise of independent judgment.

The Fire Department prides itself on being community- oriented and at times will volunteer for community projects. These projects include but are not limited to; Volunteering at the movie theater, help with parade set up, work different events lead by civic organizations and schools.

Essential Functions

Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

- Ability to enter a building or confined space in full protective PPE, which includes an air pack and face mask, under adverse fire conditions such as, smoke, extreme heat, no visibility, while maintain your composure searching for fire victims by feeling only, walking or crawling, and if victim(s) are found must have the ability to drag or carry to safety.
- Ability to fight interior, exterior, vehicle, grass, and other types of fires, while following departmental and NFPA 1001 (Firefighter 1 Standard) guidelines, along with other calls for service such as, elevator malfunctions, severe weather, standbys, etc.

- Responds to fire alarms or other emergencies in accordance with department procedures and must have the ability to go from a sound sleep to full activity and exertion within a matter of minutes.
- Ability to complete firefighter, emergency rescue functions and tasks that are physically demanding over a period without breaks and recover quickly when given short breaks.
- Ability to carry ladders weighing approximately 75 pounds, to raise and extend the ladder, assist victims down the ladder and carry fire hose and other heavy equipment up and down ladders and stairs.
- Raises and climbs ladders, uses chemical extinguishers and a variety of other portable and related equipment.
- Ability to communicate effectively and clearly to a diverse range of people in person or on the radio.
- Respond to verbal orders, calls for assistance and radio.
- Ability to identify and respond to various sounds in an environment of substantial background noises, such as sounds produced by structural collapses, back-drafts, breaking glass, fire, other firefighters, sirens, traffic, and victims.
- Ability to shout orders, warnings, and responses when necessary.
- Ability to move and advance a charged hose line of approximately 180 pounds into a burning building, while standing or crawling on the floor.
- Ability to operate a wide variety of power tools to remove walls, ceilings which requires pulling, pushing with arms extended overhead for a period of time, forcing entry into a building and in a variety of positions such as, overhead, on a sloping roof and from a ladder.
- Ability to operate extrication equipment for removal of patients from vehicles.
- Ability to lift, carry patients over rough and uneven terrain for a considerable distance. Bend, strain, stretch, contort, push, pull, twist, all the while walking with weight of a victim and lift to remove victim from a motor vehicle and place them on a stretcher.
- Ability to hold flowing hose line for extended periods of time and shut off a flowing line while maintaining control of the hose.
- Participates in training sessions and attends classes in firefighting, hazardous materials, rescue, emergency medical treatment, and related subjects.
- Responds to calls for emergency services, prepares to perform life saving techniques and other on-site care of victims if required.
- Responds to emergency calls for various rescue situations such as drownings, accidents and natural or other catastrophes.
- Performs a wide variety of general custodial and maintenance upkeep of department apparatus, equipment, and station. washes, hangs, and dries hose, cleans walls and floors, polishes apparatus as well as other duties assigned by the Fire Chief or Ranking Officers to help prolong the life expectancy.
- Willingness to perform other duties as deemed necessary.

Supervisory Responsibility

Employees do not exercise supervisory responsibility over other employees, reports to the Fire Chief and Ranking Officers.

Physical Requirements

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is regularly required to talk, hear, respond verbal orders, calls for assistance and radio communications. This position is very active and requires standing, walking, running, bending, kneeling, stooping, crouching, crawling, and climbing for extended periods of time. The employee may be exposed to emergency and disaster situations, which may include exposure to inclement weather. Exposure to hazardous chemicals/materials, electrical hazards, dangerous animals, and communicable diseases/biohazards is to be expected. The employee may be exposed to moving equipment and will be required to operate assigned equipment and vehicles. The employee must frequently lift and move items over 100 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and ability to adjust focus.

Education and Experience

- High school diploma or G.E.D and experience working with animals.
- Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid Kansas Class C driver's license.
- Applicants may reside outside of the city, subject to response times as administratively determined and required for each department.
- Must be able to obtain and maintain the standard qualifications laid out in the NFPA 1001 (Firefighter 1 Standard), within two (2) years of employment with the department. Continuing education is expected and encouraged.

Preferred Education and Experience

- Once certified, must have the ability to drive a large fire apparatus during both the day and night, using depth perception and peripheral vision in emergency situations involving speed more than posted limits, in congested traffic and in unsafe road conditions caused by factors such as fog, smoke, rain, ice, and snow.
- Once certified, must have the ability to identify hazardous materials in accordance with NFPA 1072 (Standard for Hazmat) and Department Guidelines.

Other Duties

Duties, responsibilities, and activities may change at any time, with or without notice.

The employee signature below constitutes the employee's understanding of the requirements, essential functions, and duties of the position.

This job description was last updated September 2024.

Print Name

Signature

Date