



CITY OF ALBANY FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Under general supervision, performs various duties to protect life, property, and the environment including responding to emergency medical, fire, rescue, and hazardous materials alarms and public service calls; performs the full range of fire suppression duties; provides basic life support emergency medical assistance; conducts and participates in firefighting, fire prevention, public education, disaster preparedness, and related training activities.

In addition to the duties of a firefighter, provides Advanced Life support care in accordance with Alameda county EMS protocols; responds to emergency calls and provides immediate paramedical care to critically ill and/or injured victims; operates an ambulance and transports critically ill and/or injured victims to a medical facility; and performs related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives general supervision from the Fire Captain. Exercises no direct supervision of staff.

Class Characteristics

Firefighter/Paramedic is distinguished from other classes within the fire suppression series in that in addition to fire suppression duties, incumbents in this class are assigned responsibility for rendering immediate paramedical care, for stabilizing victims at emergency scenes, and for transporting injured and ill victims to a medical facility.

Examples of ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)

Management reserves the right to add, modify, change, or rescind the work assignments of different positions and to make reasonable accommodations so that qualified employees can perform the essential functions of the job.

- Responds to fire, emergency medical, rescue, and hazardous material alarms and emergency calls to protect life, property, and environment; performs tasks to suppress or control fires, limit damage, and reduce injury and death caused by fires, accidents, or other calamities; responds to non-emergency calls for service as necessary.
- Assists in all phases of fire suppression; places fire hoses; sets ladders; ventilates and enters burning structures to extinguish fires and rescue victims; operates pneumatic and auxiliary equipment such as generators and pumps.
- Assists in inspecting vehicles, equipment, and apparatus for proper operating conditions; assists with annual equipment testing; performs routine and minor repairs and maintenance; identifies needs for major repairs; maintains records of maintenance work performed.
- Assists with the cleaning and reloading of all equipment, tools, and apparatus upon completion of fire or emergency response activities.
- Prepares, submits, and maintains reports on incidents, apparatus maintenance, and inventory.
- Orders station and emergency medical supplies; ensures inventory of medications are not expired.
- Assists in the investigation of fire scenes to determine causes; preserves evidence and provides observations to investigators.
- Responds to medical emergency calls and provides immediate care to critically ill and injured victims; stabilizes victim at emergency scene; assesses the nature and extent of illness or injury and establishes priority of required emergency care; renders emergency care in accordance with the provisions of 1.480-1485, Health and Safety Code.
- Maintains skill levels, new equipment, procedure familiarization, and certifications that are relevant and/or required for assigned responsibilities; participates in drills and training exercises, classes,

and activities including but not limited to those related to fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency medical service, hazardous material response, technical rescue, extrication, physical fitness, and other related areas.

- Participates in public relations, fire/safety education activities, and fire prevention activities including station tours, fire safety/fire suppression education away from the station, school education programs, group activities, fire drills, courtesy walk through visits, and phone inquiries.
- Presents classes and other training to various groups including other employees, volunteers, and members of the general public in subjects related to fire service.
- Performs general maintenance work in the upkeep of fire station facilities and equipment; installs, maintains, and repairs electrical, electronic, and communication equipment on vehicles and in the station, as necessary; cleans living quarters, kitchen, bathrooms, and other areas of the fire station.
- Responds to hazardous materials incidents; performs hazardous materials containment.
- Performs special projects, as necessary; assists in developing plans for special assignments such as emergency preparedness, hazardous communications, training programs, firefighting, hazardous materials, and emergency aid activities.
- Responds to emergencies during non-duty hours, as necessary.
- Performs related duties as assigned.

Knowledge of:

- Fire science theory, principles, and practices and their application to a wide variety of emergency service operations including fire suppression, fire prevention, and fire investigation.
- Principles, practices, and procedures used in modern firefighting and in the protection of lives and property.
- Operating characteristics, uses, and maintenance requirements of firefighting and emergency medical apparatus and equipment.
- Methods and techniques of basic life support and rescue.
- Principles and practices of disaster preparedness, response, and recovery.
- Hazardous materials and chemical spill response techniques.
- Mechanical, chemical, and related characteristics of a wide variety of flammable and explosive materials and objects.
- Principles of combustion and cause of fire.
- Principles of building construction and fire protection systems.
- Current Alameda county EMS protocols and the ability to render paramedical aid and transport victims in an efficient and safe manner.
- Geography and street layout of the City and surrounding area.
- City water system, fire hydrant locations, fire sprinkler/standpipe systems, and preventive maintenance of said systems.
- Current safety practices as they relate to equipment and procedures involved in the fire service.
- Pertinent federal, state, and local laws, codes, and regulations.
- Methods and techniques of public relations.
- Mathematical concepts and principles.
- Basic record keeping principles and practices.
- Radio procedures.
- Modern office practices, methods, and computer equipment and applications related to the work, including word processing, database, and spreadsheet software.

Ability to:

- Perform a variety of fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency medical response, and technical rescue activities.
- Render emergency medical care as necessary.
- Inspect, troubleshoot, and repair a variety of fire suppression, emergency medical, and associated vehicles, apparatus, and equipment.
- Demonstrate mechanical aptitude as required in the operation of firefighting equipment.
- Deal effectively with upset or emotional persons or patients.
- Retain presence of mind and act quickly and calmly in emergency situations.
- Analyze emergency situations and develop appropriate courses of action.
- Interpret and apply applicable federal, state, and local policies, laws, and regulations.
- Prepare and present public information and educational programs.
- Respond to requests and inquiries from the general public.
- Complete and prepare a variety of forms and reports.
- Work varied shifts, on weekends, or during holidays.
- Demonstrate physical endurance, agility, strength, and stamina in the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions.
- Observe and follow safe firefighting, EMS, and other work practices.
- Understand and follow oral and written directions promptly and accurately.
- Deal politely and effectively with the public.
- Operate modern office equipment including computer equipment and specialized software applications programs.
- Establish, maintain, and foster positive and effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Education and Experience

Any combination of training and experience that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required qualifications would be:

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade supplemented by specialized training in fire science, fire apparatus operation, hydraulics, emergency medical techniques, or a related field. Successful completion of a state certified Paramedic Program and certification by Alameda County to provide ALS care is required.

Licenses and Certifications

Valid California Driver's License.

Possession of a valid Mobile Intensive Care Certificate (Paramedic), meeting the requirements of the California Department of Health and the County Health Officer.

Possession of a valid Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certificate.

Possession of valid EMT and CPR certificates.

Possession of Firefighter I certification issued by the State of California is desirable.

Physical Demands

Must possess sufficient physical ability to work in an emergency response setting; walk, stand, sit, or run for prolonged periods of time; occasionally stoop, bend, kneel, crouch, reach, and twist; occasionally climb and balance; regularly push, pull, lift, and/or carry light to moderate weights; frequently lift and/or move moderate to heavy weights; occasionally lift and/or more heavy weights; perform arduous and prolonged tasks under adverse and dynamic conditions; operate fire suppression and medical response equipment, apparatus, and tools; requires a sense of touch, finger dexterity, and gripping with hands and fingers; to speak and hear to exchange information; to operate a vehicle to travel to various locations; maintain corrected hearing and vision to normal range; specific vision abilities required include close vision, distance

vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus; to hear in the normal audio range with or without correction.

Environmental Elements

Employees work in reactive emergency, natural, or man-made disaster, and routine fire prevention environments with travel from site to site; the employee regularly works near moving mechanical parts and in areas of limited and restricted entry and exit; regularly exposed to outside weather conditions and wet and/or humid conditions; occasionally works in high, precarious places; exposed to fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, extreme cold, extreme heat, and vibration; risk of electrical shock, radiation, drowning, and asphyxiation; the noise level in the work environment is usually moderate, but occasionally very loud when responding to emergency calls and when working at a fire or other emergency incident.

Special Requirements

Positions in this classification must work nights, weekends, holidays, and on a various shift configuration that will include 24-hour tours of duty. Positions are subject to mandatory call back at any time.