

TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, RI POSITION DESCRIPTION

TITLE:	Firefighter
DEPARTMENT:	Fire
REPORTS TO:	Battalion Chief or Company Officer
GRADE CLASSIFICATION:	Firefighter
SALARY:	IAFF Local 1933

POSITION SUMMARY:

The firefighter generally responds to structure, vehicle, and brush fires, automatic fire alarms, emergency medical calls, auto accidents, rescue and other emergency and non-emergency calls to protect life and property; performs hazardous tasks under emergency conditions; participates in training and independent study activities; participates in inspection and maintenance of fire apparatus, equipment and facilities; performs various staff support assignments; performs related work as assigned. Work is performed under the regular supervision of a Battalion Chief or Company Officer.

I ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

The duties listed below are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the class, or it addresses business needs and changing practices:

1. Responds to calls for fire emergency and non-emergency services, which include, but it is not limited to, the following tasks:
 - a. Drives and operates fire apparatus and related equipment.
 - b. Assists in the suppression of fires, such as by advancing water hose lines (possibly while maneuvering through multiple flights of stairs), performing forcible entry, climbing ladders/stairs, ventilating roofs/walls using power or hand tools, and by conducting salvage work.
 - c. Searches, finds and rescue-drags or carries victims to a safe location and provides medical treatment as necessary.
 - d. Performs cleanup, overhaul work and salvage operations.
 - e. Pumps out basements, secures vehicle accidents, and provides public assistance, among others.
 - f. Contains, isolates and minimizes hazardous materials spills/leaks.
2. Responds to calls for emergency and non-emergency medical services, which include, but it is not limited to, the following tasks:
 - a. Provides emergency medical care for victims suffering from injuries or medical conditions.
 - b. Extricates victims using power tools and hydraulic equipment and transports them to an appropriate medical facility.
 - c. Responds to calls for marine emergencies, including beaches, ponds, and rivers.
3. Performs maintenance and inspection of buildings, fire service apparatus and equipment, which include, but it is not limited to, the following tasks:
 - a. Assists in maintaining and repairing fire apparatus and equipment, and cleaning fire stations and grounds.
 - b. Checks fire hydrant flows and records data accordingly.
 - c. Makes inspections of business establishments and prepares pre-fire plans.

4. Responds to catastrophic events and works closely with other emergency and public safety staff, such as:
 - a. Responds to natural or manmade disasters, such as hurricanes, tornadoes, earthquakes, flooding, severe weather, and acts of terrorism, among others.
 - b. Works closely and collaborates with other emergency medical staff, police and public safety and fire personnel from other agencies; responds to mutual aid situations as required.
5. Participates in continuing training and instruction programs by individual study of technical material and attendance at scheduled drills and classes.
6. Conducts station tours for the public, school, and community demonstrations and programs.
7. Receives and dispatches calls for service, monitors fire alarm receivers, receives and transmits radio and telephone messages.
8. Performs related tasks as necessary.

II NECESSARY KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES

The following generally describes the knowledge and ability required to enter the position and/or be learned within a short period of time to successfully perform the assigned duties:

1. General knowledge of fire science, building construction and mechanics.
2. General knowledge technical firefighting principles and techniques and principles of hydraulics as applied to fire suppression.
3. General knowledge of the street system, including the water supply system and physical layout of the town.
4. General knowledge of emergency care methods, techniques and equipment.
5. General knowledge of boat operations.
6. Knowledge of applicable laws, codes and ordinances.
7. Knowledge of safety practices and equipment.
8. Ability to understand and follow written and oral instructions.
9. Ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with fellow employees and the public.
10. Ability to keep records and prepare reports.
11. Ability to enter information into a computer with sufficient speed and accuracy to perform the work.
12. Ability to perform heavy manual labor and skill in the operation of fire apparatus and emergency equipment.
13. Ability to operate vehicles and apparatus safely and in conformance with department procedures and traffic laws

III GUIDELINES:

The guidelines are the department regulations, directives and procedures as well as information and guidance from nationally recognized fire service organizations, for example, the National Fire Protection Association, the International Fire Service Training Association, Rhode Island EMS protocols, etc.

IV MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

1. High school diploma or GED required; college degree in fire science or related field, preferred.
2. Must be a U.S. Citizen
3. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license as a condition of employment.
4. Must be 18 years of age at the time of appointment
5. Rhode Island Emergency Medical Technician Basic license required at the time of appointment; Rhode Island Emergency Medical Technician Cardiac license preferred.
6. Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation certification required at the time of appointment.
7. Hazardous Materials Technician preferred
8. Must be willing to work day/night/weekend/holiday shifts as scheduled by the department

9. Must successfully complete a background check
10. Must possess a valid Physical Performance Assessment Test Certificate issued by the RIAFC at the time of application and at the time of appointment.
11. Must be physically qualified to perform assigned duties as evidenced by a physician's certificate. Further, the incumbent must successfully pass and maintain a yearly firefighter's physical examination, in accordance with the National Fire Protection Association Standards, as a condition of employment.
12. Must be willing to work under emergency circumstances in all weather conditions including exposure to a variety of hazards
13. The incumbent must successfully pass a psychological examination as a condition of employment.

V PHYSICAL DEMANDS:

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodation may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

A significant portion of duties is performed under the stress of extreme heat, cold, smoke and fire for prolonged periods of time, and exposure to hazardous and toxic materials including bio-hazardous materials plus other physical demands of the job. In this capacity, the incumbent must wear full protective and safety clothing, weighing at least 50 pounds, and carry equipment that ranges 20-40 additional pounds. Tasks related to this position often involve extensive crawling, climbing stairs/ladders or other obstacles while advancing water filled hose lines, rescue-dragging or carrying victims ranging from infants to adults weighing over 200 pounds. Other physical requirements apply as specified in the National Fire Protection Association Standards 1582.

VI EQUIPMENT USED:

Equipment used includes but is not limited to the following

- Fire & medical emergency apparatus
- Power and hand hydraulic tools, such as "jaws of life", chain saws, air-lift bags, among others.
- Fire safety equipment
- Other related equipment

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