

FIREFIGHTER

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled firefighting work in combating, extinguishing, and preventing fires; in rendering medical assistance at medical and other emergency scenes; and in operating and maintaining Fire Department equipment, apparatus and quarters.

Work involves responsibility for the protection of life and property through performing firefighting, rescue Emergency Medical Service (EMS) first responder, and related duties. Work is performed as a team; including training and participation in the use of firefighting and emergency medical apparatus, performance of which may be hazardous under emergency conditions. Work may require strenuous exertion under such environments as smoke, fire, heat, confined spaces, and infectious disease.

When not engaged in firefighting, rescue or first responder activities, a significant portion of time is devoted to drill and studying methods and techniques, inspecting premises for fire hazards, routine duties in the care of station and equipment maintenance, and other departmental duties as assigned.

Specific orders and assignments are given by a superior officer, in both firefighting and at the fire station, and performed under close supervision in accordance with established policies and procedures. However, performance of the work requires initiative and thorough understanding of firefighting methods and emergency medical care as learned on the job and in training.

ILLUSTRATIVE EXAMPLES OF WORK

- Responds to fire alarms with a company; drives apparatus; operates and uses pumps and ladders, uses chemical extinguishers, bar, hooks, lines and other equipment.
- Ventilates burning buildings by opening windows and skylights or by cutting openings in roofs and floors; removes persons from danger; administers emergency medical care to ill or injured persons.
- Performs salvage operations by placing salvage covers, sweeping water and removing debris.
- Performs emergency medical assistance to fire victims and/or as first responders to medical and other emergency situations until arrival of other medically qualified personnel.
- Participates in daily training sessions; reads and studies assigned materials regarding firefighting, emergency medical care, fire prevention and related subjects, studies the theory and techniques of firefighting, emergency medical care, hydraulics, fire chemistry, and related subjects; participates in a variety of drills and instructions.
- Inspects buildings and premises for familiarization; checks for fire hazards; participates in the inspection and maintenance of fire hydrants, cleaning away snow, ice and grass for accessibility.
- Operates fire apparatus and may assume command of a fire company on occasional basis.
- Participates in pre-planning survey of commercial, industrial and institutional structures.
- Performs general maintenance work in the upkeep of Fire Department property; cleans and maintains fire stations and equipment; performs other maintenance duties.
- Performs fire prevention and public fire education work.
- Performs related work as required.

REQUIREMENTS OF WORK

At time of Application must:

- Be 18 years of age,
- Possess a valid driver's license
- And have graduated from high school or possess State Equivalency Diploma (GED);

And the following knowledge, skills and abilities:

- Ability to learn a wide variety of firefighting duties, evolutions, and methods within a reasonable working test period.

- Ability to climb ladders and work at considerable heights.
- Ability to learn locations of streets, principal buildings and other physical features of New Haven.
- Ability to act quickly and calmly in emergency situations.
- Ability to follow oral and written instructions.
- Ability to establish and maintain an effective working relationship with other employees and the public.
- Ability to learn emergency medical care techniques.
- Mechanical aptitude and manual dexterity.
- Physical strength and agility and the ability to perform arduous tasks under strenuous and adverse conditions.

SPECIAL NECESSARY REQUIREMENTS:

- Candidates for this classification must be able to meet established educational, physical and medical requirements.
- Trainees must pass all Fire Academy curriculum and obtain all necessary certifications and/or licenses as required by the Fire Department for graduation from the Academy.
- Must also obtain appropriate State of Connecticut Department of Motor Vehicle driver's license as required by nature of assignment.