
Career Firefighter/EMT Job Description

1000.1 POSITION OVERVIEW

The Career Firefighter/EMT ("Firefighter") is a full-time, paid employee of the District who performs a complete range of technical, skilled firefighting and emergency medical service activities. The Firefighter serves as a company member assigned to a shift.

1000.1.1 SUPERVISION RECEIVED

The Firefighter works under the general supervision of a company or chief officer who assists with evaluation of work for conformance with District policy and effectiveness. The Firefighter requires a minimum level of direct supervision and is expected to accomplish his/her duties in accordance with established protocols, procedures, and nationally recognized best practices. The Firefighter will frequently be called upon to exercise independent judgment based on District policies and guidelines.

1000.1.2 SUPERVISION EXERCISED

The Firefighter has limited supervisory authority. When necessary, may supervise volunteer firefighters on assigned shift and on emergency incidents. The Firefighter serves as crew leader as needed and may directly supervise personnel on occasion.

1000.1.3 BASIC FUNCTIONS

The Firefighter:

- Provides fire suppression, emergency medical services, and other emergency and non-emergency responses as part of an engine company or aid unit.
- Accountable for the efficient functioning, repair, maintenance, and cleaning of assigned station and assigned firefighting, EMS, and rescue equipment and apparatus.
- Manages one or more projects or administrative program areas as assigned.
- Performs all duties in accordance with District policies and procedures and in an efficient, effective, and safe manner.

1000.2 GENERAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Drives or rides District apparatus in response to fire alarms; places equipment, lays and connects hose; operates high-capacity pumps and directs water streams; raises and climbs ladders; uses chemical extinguishers, safety belts, lines, and hooks; and uses self-contained breathing apparatus. Enters burning buildings as part of a fire suppression team. Carries heavy objects and equipment; carries others during a rescue.
- Performs salvage tasks as required including covering furnishings, ventilation of premises, removing debris, and pumping, sweeping, and vacuuming water.
- Responds to requests for pre-hospital emergency medical care; sets up and/or operates oxygen and auto-defibrillation equipment; administers pre-hospital medical

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care to the sick and injured at an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) level (at a minimum) in accordance with established protocols. Transports sick and injured.

- Responds to hazardous materials, rescue, and other non-fire emergency incidents; provides necessary support activities.
- As required, cleans, services, and tests designated fire apparatus and equipment to ensure constant readiness for emergency response; inventories associated tools and equipment and effects their appropriate placement; reports to superiors observations of actual or potential equipment deterioration, malfunction, failure, or loss.
- As directed, performs general maintenance work on District equipment and facilities such as cleaning, polishing, and minor adjustments and repairs of apparatus and accessories; hydrant testing; washing and polishing vehicles; washing, hanging, and drying hose; vacuuming carpets; washing walls and floors; and checking and replenishing disposable supplies.
- Completes timely and accurate reports and maintains necessary records and logs.
- Performs designated activities in the preparation of pre-incident surveys for tactical planning including drawing maps, sketching building layouts, and locating utility service shut-offs.
- Participates in drills, simulated catastrophes, classes, seminars, and other learning/training exercises.
- Conducts presentations before school groups and service organizations on fire prevention, suppression procedures, and equipment as assigned. May be called upon to conduct tours of District facilities.
- Manages assigned project/program areas efficiently and effectively. Meets commitments including communications with stakeholders. Maintains project/program within budget and resource allocation.
- During the absence of a senior officer, the Firefighter may be assigned additional responsibilities, this may include performing work activities in the capacity of a Company Officer.
- Performs all other related duties as assigned.

1000.3 REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES

The Firefighter must acquire and maintain a working **knowledge** of the following:

- Strategy and tactics related to structural fire suppression, wild land fire suppression, EMS operations, HAZMAT incidents, and rescue operations.
- Pertinent federal, state, and local laws, codes, and regulations governing fire safety, pre-hospital medical care, handling and storage of hazardous materials, and fire codes.
- District policies, procedures, and guidelines; EMS protocols and the National Incident Management System.

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- Operational characteristics, maintenance, and repair of various apparatus and equipment.
- The geography of the District; location of fire hydrants and other sources of water; major fire hazards within the area; and road and transportation systems in the District and Jefferson County.

The Firefighter must possess the necessary **skills** to effectively:

- Function in emergency situations following appropriate Incident Command System management.
- Operate all necessary equipment.
- Use relevant response resources such as a map, IAP, pre-fire plan, EMS protocol reference, and NWCG fire-line handbook.
- Make professional presentations.
- Use District office equipment, software, computers, and cellular technology.

The Firefighter must possess the **ability** to :

- Make quick and accurate decisions using sound conceptual and organizational skills under adverse and hazardous conditions.
- Communicate effectively both oral and in writing.
- Supervises subordinate crew members with firmness, tact, and uniformity.
- Present a positive, respectful, and professional demeanor when dealing with others.
- Function in the capacity of a Safety Officer or other command or line officer position as needed.
- Endure considerable discomfort for long periods in performance of duties during emergency situations.
- Work in the face of real and potential personal danger while conducting emergency operations/duties.
- Complete all task/assignments that are the obligation of the position.
- Accept, in a positive manner, evaluation from a superior with the attitude of aggressively working to correct any deficiencies.

1000.4 REQUIREMENTS OF POSITION

- Must meet knowledge, health, and physical qualifications established by the District.
- Must have a high school diploma or have a G.E.D. certificate or equivalent.
- Must possess and maintain a valid Washington State driver's license.
- Must be able to read, write, and speak the English language.
- Must be a U.S. citizen or a registered permanent resident alien with authorization to work in the U.S.

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- Must pass a criminal background check and driving record check.

1000.4.1 REQUIRED LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND EDUCATION

- International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) Firefighter I
- Washington State EMS provider at a minimum level of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).
- National Incident Management System (NIMS) IS-700, IS-800, ICS 100, and ICS 200 within one year of appointment.
- National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) Firefighter II (red card) within one year of appointment.
- Emergency Vehicle Incident Prevention and timely completion of the District's Driver/Operator program.
- Must meet the basic minimum state and federal industrial health and safety response requirements as defined by the District and applicable statutes.

1000.4.2 DESIRED LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND EDUCATION

- Washington State EMT-Intravenous Therapy Technician
- IFSAC Firefighter II
- IFSAC Instructor I
- EVIP Student Trainer
- NWCG Firefighter II
- NWCG S-215 Fire Operations in the Urban Interface, or National Fire Academy equivalent.
- National Fire Academy Incident Safety Officer

1000.5 PHYSICAL DEMANDS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

Firefighters are required to work 48-hour shift assignments, living, eating, and sleeping at the station for the entire period, including weekends and holidays, and may be required to work overtime with little or no notice. Regular, predictable, consistent, and timely attendance is an essential function of the position, in that the failure of such attendance undermines the District's ability to provide critical services to the public.

1000.5.1 ENVIRONMENTAL

Exposure to extreme heat, cold, humidity and temperature swings working indoors and outdoors; excessive noise of emergency equipment; the noise level may be very loud when responding to emergency calls and when working at a fire or other emergency incident; exposure to dust, gases, chemicals, smoke, and blood-borne pathogens; occasional exposure to explosives at fires or other hazardous materials calls; works in and around heavy equipment with exposure to moving mechanical parts; exposure to vibration from equipment and vehicles; operations of foot controls

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or repetitive foot motion; may work at substantial heights; wears appropriate personal protective equipment including goggles, ear plugs or other auditory protective equipment, face protector, turn-outs, safety shoes, gloves and a self-contained breathing apparatus.

1000.5.2 PHYSICAL

Primary functions require sufficient physical ability to work both indoors in an office-type setting and outdoors in extreme weather conditions.

CONTINUOUS sitting and upward and downward flexion of neck; side-to-side turning of neck; twisting and bending at the waist; and reaching below the shoulders; lifting and carrying of objects weighing up to 100 pounds.

FREQUENT standing; walking and walking on uneven ground; reaching at or above the shoulder; power grasping and pushing and pulling of objects and equipment; fine finger dexterity, simple grasping, and repetitive use of hands to manipulate equipment controls, keyboard, and other office equipment.

OCCASIONAL running, crawling, kneeling, climbing, balancing, and squatting; lifting and carrying objects more than 100 pounds with or without assistance.

Firefighters may also be required to work under the following conditions: wearing protective gear, carrying appropriate tools, and wearing self-contained breathing apparatus, weighing a combined total of up to or over 100 pounds, while performing emergency duties.

VISION with or without correction to 20/20 in one eye and at least 20/30 in the other eye with limited color deficiencies. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and ability to adjust focus.

HEARING in the normal audio range with or without correction. Able to hear in-person, as well as distinguish radio and telephone conversations, recognize differences or changes in sound patterns and loudness or pitch.

Vision and hearing must be sufficient to meet NFPA Medical Evaluation Criteria.

SMELL sense sufficient to detect natural gas, gasoline, smoke, sewage, and other odors.