



## Job Description – Firefighter

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### **Position Summary:**

Under general supervision, perform responsible public safety work involving the protection of life and property. Respond to alarms and participate in preventing and extinguishing fires; respond to rescue calls; respond to medical incidents and render emergency and non-emergency care; perform ancillary community health care services; engage in fire code enforcement, public education, station, apparatus, and equipment maintenance activities; and perform related work as required. Respond and assist in the mitigation of technical rescue and hazardous materials incidents.

Employees currently work 48-hour shifts, followed by 96 hours off-duty; however, incumbents may be assigned to a 40-hour workweek. The SFMD reserves the right to adjust shifts, pay, benefits, and working conditions in accordance with business needs and SFMD Policies.

### **Essential Functions:**

*The following duties ARE NOT intended to serve as a comprehensive list of all duties performed by all employees in this classification. Shown are duties intended to provide a representative summary of the major duties and responsibilities. Incumbent(s) may not be required to perform all duties listed and may be required to perform additional, position-specific duties.*

- Perform firefighting tasks such as, but not limited to: hose-line operations, extensive crawling, lifting, pulling and carrying heavy objects 50 pounds or more for distances more than 20 feet, ventilating roofs or walls using power or hand tools, forcible entry, salvage and overhaul, and mitigate hazards involving poisonous reptiles, insects, and all other hazardous animals.
- Perform fire and rescue operations, and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions while wearing PPE and SCBA, including working in extremely hot and/or cold environments for prolonged time periods.
- Wear an SCBA, which includes a demand valve-type positive pressure facepiece or HEPA filter masks, which require the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.
- Perform fire and rescue duties while being exposed to toxic fumes, irritants, particulates, biological (infectious) or non-biological hazards, and/or heated gases, despite the use of PPE, including SCBA or HEPA filter mask.
- Climb six or more flights of stairs while wearing fire protective ensemble weighing at least 50 pounds or more and carry equipment/tools weighing an additional 20 to 40 pounds.
- Wear fire protective ensemble that is restricting, encapsulating, and insulated. This clothing will result in significant fluid loss that frequently progresses to clinical dehydration and can elevate core temperature to levels exceeding 102.2°F (32°C).
- Search, find, and rescue victims by dragging or carrying, ranging from newborns up to adults, weighing over 200 pounds, to safety despite hazardous conditions and low visibility.
- Advance water-filled hose-lines up to 5 inches in diameter from fire apparatus to an occupancy (sometimes more than 150 feet); can involve negotiating multiple flights of stairs, ladders, and other obstacles.

- Climb ladders, operate from heights, walk or crawl in the dark along narrow and uneven surfaces and operate in proximity of electrical power lines and/or other hazards, at heights or distances of ten feet or more.
- Work under unpredictable emergency requirements for prolonged periods of extreme physical exertion, without the benefit of warm-up, scheduled rest periods, meals, access to medication(s), or hydration.
- Operate fire apparatus and other emergency vehicles during emergency and non-emergency modes.
- Utilize critical, time-sensitive, and complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments (including but not limited to hot, dark, tightly enclosed spaces), further aggravated by fatigue, flashing lights, sirens, and other distractions.
- Effectively communicate (give and comprehend verbal orders) while wearing PPE and SCBA under conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and drenching from hose-lines and/or fixed protection systems (sprinklers).
- Function as an integral component of a team, where sudden incapacitation of a member can result in mission failure or in the risk of injury or death to civilians or team members.
- Perform and provide comprehensive emergency and non-emergency medical care pursuant to level of state certification, administer to ill and injured persons, and to persons who may pose health, blood, and airborne pathogenic risks. Required to wear bio-hazardous PPE, and required to participate in various community health care programs.
- Perform assigned fire inspections, check fire escapes, building exits, and related structures and appurtenances for compliance with fire prevention ordinances, participate in fire drills, conduct fire station facility tours, and provide basic information of Fire District activities to the public.
- Train, read, and study assigned materials related to firefighting, prevention, hazardous materials, technical rescue, and emergency medical services.
- Participate in consistent and efficient physical fitness programs and maintain specified fitness levels.
- Participate in the cleaning and maintenance of fire district facilities and perform other housekeeping duties.

### **Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:**

#### **Knowledge of:**

- Principles, practices and procedures of modern firefighting.
- Purpose, operation and maintenance of firefighting vehicles, equipment and apparatus.
- Departmental policies, rules and instructions for firefighting and rescue activities.
- Fire prevention principles and practices.
- Extrication and the use of extrication tools.
- Emergency Medical Technician basic life support procedures and paramedic support procedures.
- Basic mathematical and science skills.
- Principles and practices of safe motor vehicle operation and maintenance.
- Geographical layout of the automatic response areas.
- Microsoft Office products and other relevant technologies.

#### **Ability to:**

- Apply firefighting techniques and procedures.
- Think and act quickly and effectively in emergencies.
- Deal effectively with people under stressful situations.
- Read maps and provide travel directions.
- Select and use appropriate equipment and apparatus for emergency situations.
- Understand and follow oral and written directions promptly and accurately.
- Communicate both verbally and in writing with all levels of the organization.
- Accurately read instruments and labels, avoid physical hazards, and distinguish color-coded labels and signals.

- Provide superior customer service for both internal and external customers.
- Make mathematical calculations.
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors and the general public.
- Complete Occupational Safety and Health Administration/Hazardous Material Response Team (OSHA/HazMat) safety training as required.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

### **Required Training and Experience:**

- Must be a minimum of 18 years of age with a high school diploma or GED equivalent

### **Licensing, Certifications and other Requirements:**

It is the responsibility of the employee to acquire and maintain the following licenses and certifications. (SFMD will provide ongoing Continuing Education classes after hire).

- Must possess and maintain a valid unrestricted driver's license with no major citations within the past 39 months prior to the start date.
- Must be certified (and maintain certification) as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Certified Emergency Paramedic. Must possess and provide proof of a current, valid certification at the time of application. Reciprocity is required for out of state certifications before completion of the SFMD Intern Academy.

### **Work Environment / Physical Demands:**

*The physical demands and work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this position or that an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this position. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.*

- Engage in moderate to strenuous physical activity and under emotional stress during emergency situations.
- Participate in physical fitness programs and comply with Fire Department fit-for-duty policy requirements.
- Exposure to dirt, dust, pollen, odors, wetness, humidity, rain, fumes, temperature and noise extremes, hazardous materials, fire, unsafe structures, heights, confined spaces, machinery, vibrations, electric currents, traffic hazards, bright/dim lights, toxic agents, explosives, firearms, water hazards, violence, disease and pathogenic substances.
- At times, requires sustained performance of physically demanding work, typically involving climbing and balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching and crawling and may involve the lifting, carrying, pushing and/or pulling of heavy objects and materials (up to 90 pounds).
- At times, perform rescue duties requiring searching, finding and rescue-dragging or carrying victims that can weigh over 200 pounds to safety.
- Bend or stoop repeatedly or continually over time to perform emergency medical services or perform duties on the fire ground.
- Perform duties requiring frequent pulling of 50 pounds or more, such as removing hose from apparatus, pulling ceilings, starting power equipment and opening doors on the apparatus.
- Lift arms above shoulder level to cut vent holes with an axe or to force entry into automobiles using specialized tools.
- Use appropriate personal protection equipment (PPE), including a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) which requires the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads while performing tasks in

environments that may be immediately dangerous to life. This includes working in extremely hot or cold environments and withstanding exposure to toxic fumes and other hazards for prolonged time periods.

- Operate a variety of standard office equipment including a computer terminal, telephone, calculator, copy and fax machines requiring continuous and repetitive arm and hand motions.
- Operate a variety of medical equipment including suction units, pulse oximeters, laryngoscopes, cardiac monitors, defibrillators, oxygen administration equipment, pneumatic anti-shock garment (PASG) and glucose monitors.
- Operate all types of portable fire extinguishers, power tools, hand tools and related equipment such as smoke ejectors, forcible entry tools, pike poles and axes.
- Operate a motor vehicle, emergency response vehicle and radio, including possible use during emergency response with lights and sirens.
- Travel to/from various locations.

### **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY:**

*SFMD is committed to creating a diverse environment and is an equal opportunity employer. All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, national origin, genetics, disability, age, or veteran status (ARS 41-1463). Additionally, this position description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the position change.*

When advised, reasonable accommodations will be made in order for an "otherwise qualified applicant" with a disability to participate in any phase of the recruitment process. Please contact Human Resources to request an accommodation. Persons with a disability may request a reasonable accommodation by contacting the HR Manager at (480) 982-4440 X132. Requests should be made 24 hours in advance or as early as possible to allow time to arrange the accommodation.