

JOB DESCRIPTION: FIREFIGHTER

PURPOSE: To describe the distinguishing features of work, examples of essential duties and responsibilities, other duties and responsibilities, qualification requirements, certifications and demands of the individual employed as rank of exterior firefighter.

DISTINGUSHING FEATURES OF WORK:

A firefighter is responsible for performing hazardous tasks under emergency conditions. Work involves close contact with toxic gases, explosive mixtures and industrial chemicals. A portion of firefighter's work consists of the performance of various duties in the maintenance of the fire station and the preventative and corrective maintenance of trucks and equipment. A firefighter must readily become familiar with modern fire fighting and prevention methods and guidelines. Superiors make assignments of specific tasks and indicate methods and guidelines to be followed. Assignments may be made through either oral or written instructions. Work is usually performed under close supervision, but there are times when the course of action must be determined by the firefighter. Supervision is occasionally exercised over other firefighters during the absence of a superior officer. Each firefighter is expected to:

- Become a skilled pump operator
- Become proficient with ground and roof ladders
- Perform salvage work
- Perform various rescue and other emergency response work
- Drive and operate all Department vehicles and apparatus

CLASSIFICATION OF FIREFIGHTERS

For the success of the Northern Piatt County Fire Protection District, there shall be three classes of firefighters. All three classes will have many of the same duties but with a few distinguishing features separating the three.

1. Probationary Firefighter: the Department shall classify a person as a probationary firefighter for at least his/her first year of employment. Probationary firefighters are, first and foremost to learn the operations of the department and the policies of the department. Probationary firefighter are responsible for learning all of the skills outline in the Probationary Firefighter's Handbook Probationary Firefighters are able to perform all of the duties of a firefighter, but only under the direct supervision of an officer/senior firefighter. Probationary firefighters will

not be allowed to drive apparatus in an emergency response unless given an order to do so by a superior officer.

2. Interior Firefighters: Interior firefighters are able to enter IDLH environments. These firefighters have been trained in the use of SCBA and have met the requirements as outlined in the SCBA policy. These firefighters are able to perform all firefighting duties, including entering a toxic environment. These persons will also have all of the duties of an exterior firefighter, but with the added responsibility of SCBA use and entering toxic environments for the purposes of extinguishments, rescues, etc.
3. Exterior Firefighters: Exterior firefighters are not permitted to enter IDLH environments. These persons have not been trained in the use of SCBA. These persons will have the specific responsibilities of driving apparatus, pump operator, and exterior firefighting operations. These persons may perform all duties except those that may require them to enter a toxic environment. These persons will not be issued SCBA masks by the department, and may not use an SCBA device at any time.

EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Listed below are representative descriptions of the kinds of essential duties and responsibilities that this position includes. This list is however, not inclusive, and the firefighter may be asked to perform other tasks related to his/her job by a superior officer.

- Engages directly in fire prevention and fire fighting activities to protect and safeguard lives and property; assists in maintenance and repair of fire station grounds and equipment; does related work and other duties as assigned.
- Makes openings in burning buildings for ventilation and entrance and creates openings in roof and floors when necessary; removes persons from burning buildings.
- Lays and connects hose lines, and operates nozzles directing water streams; operates portable chemical fire extinguishers; performs salvage operations at scene of fire, such as covering furniture with tarpaulin, mopping floors, and clearing debris.
- Drives and operates pumpers, and other equipment; cleans, maintains and makes minor repairs to fire fighting equipment.
- Operates various types of tools including, but not limited to: hand tools, power tools, saws, lighting equipment, and hydraulic rescue tools.
- Participates in periodic drills and individual and group training courses, which include firefighting theory and practices, and first aid techniques.
- Responsibilities:
 - Requires ability to get along well with others
 - Requires ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions
 - Requires ability to keep simple records and make reports

- Requires member to meet and maintain a level of physical conditioning that allows member to meet physical and mental demands of job.
- Requires ability to perform job in a safe manner with concern and care for the safety of self and fellow employees.