

FIREFIGHTER

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, extinguishes fires and protects life and property endangered by fire; provides Advanced Life Support first responder pre-hospital emergency medical care and emergency medical assistance to victims of accidents, injuries or illness; assumes primary responsibility for patient care at the scene; maintains equipment and quarters, and does other related work as required.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Responds to alarms, lays lines of hose, directs streams of water and other extinguishers. Carries and sets up ladders, ventilates buildings, rescues persons and animals.

Attends to victims in emergency situations using prescribed paramedic techniques; provides medical aid; administers drugs; gives injections; starts intravenous solutions; takes and monitors vital signs; takes appropriate action to preserve life as prescribed by Alameda County protocols, the Base Hospital, a doctor, or registered nurse via direct radio or telephone contact.

May be required to drive department ambulance and transport emergency patients.

Mops, sweeps and cleans after fires to prevent water damage.

Drives vehicles, operates valves and pumps, tests and performs maintenance and painting of hydrants and alarm equipment.

Washes, polishes and services fire apparatus and tests, washes and dries hose.

Maintains fire station buildings and grounds.

Drills and attends instruction in firefighting techniques.

Participates in company inspections and other fire prevention activities.

Performs related duties as required.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Advanced Life Support pre-hospital emergency medical care methods, techniques, principles and practices; of human anatomy and physiology; of medical terminology, techniques and established

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS (continued):

Knowledge of (continued):

analytical processes used in the description and assessment of patient status; of categories, applications, contraindications and appropriate dosage levels of a variety of medications used in emergency advanced life medical treatment; of procedures and equipment used in cardiac and other vital sign monitoring; of signs and symptoms of impaired cardiac and respiratory functioning, altered states of consciousness, various types of toxicity and poisoning, shock, common diseases and other commonly encountered medical problems; and of applicable laws, codes and ordinances.

Basic arithmetic.

Skills:

Skill and dexterity in the use and manipulation of tools, medical equipment and instruments, and apparatus.

Ability to:

Physically perform the work in the expedient manner required. Includes good agility for performing tasks involving balance and coordination; strength and proper muscle tone with no muscular-skeletal deficiencies; and endurance for sustaining effort to perform tasks. Also includes good eye-hand foot coordination; weight in proportion to height; and good hearing. Vision must be at least 20/70 uncorrected, testing each eye separately; and must be correctable to at least 20/30, testing both eyes simultaneously.

Establish and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, supervisors and other fire service officials (by sharing information and working cooperatively with others, complying with departmental regulations, taking and following orders, accepting advice and constructive criticism).

Observe and evaluate patient status and conditions at the scene and determine appropriate basic and advanced life support procedures; to make sound independent paramedical decisions rapidly and under stressful conditions; to perform basic and advanced life support procedures including cardiac and pulmonary resuscitation, cardiac monitoring and defibrillation, trauma response and administration of medications; to operate basic and advanced life support equipment; to communicate technical information effectively with those encountered in the course of the work.

Learn and apply Alameda County radio format in order to transmit medical information; to learn fire radio communications format, language and dispatching techniques; to prepare accurate technical reports and records.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS (continued):

Ability to (continued):

Understand how and why mechanical things work. Includes the ability to learn the interrelationship of moving parts in mechanical apparatus and to apply what has been learned to the job.

Assess a situation, draw valid conclusions and take appropriate action.

Read and understand technical material, reports, laws, codes and departmental regulations. Includes the ability to recall this information in performing one's duties.

EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

Any experience that could likely provide the required knowledge and abilities would be qualifying. A typical way to obtain the knowledge and abilities would be:

Education:

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade.

Age:

Must be at least 18 years old at the time of the initial oral interview.

License:

- Possession of a Class C California Driver's License.
- Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid certification from Alameda County as a paramedic.
- Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Basic Life Support (BLS) and Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification.
- Possession of and the ability to maintain a valid Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) certificate, International Trauma Life Support (ITLS), or a Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) Certificate.
- Possession of a Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) Certificate within two (2) years of receipt of Alameda County Paramedic Certification.

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PROBATIONARY PERIOD: One (1) year.  
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FLSA STATUS: Non-Exempt