



PRINCE GEORGE COUNTY, VIRGINIA

January 2024

FIRE MEDIC

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

GENERAL DEFINITION AND CONDITIONS OF WORK:

The Fire Medic role entails a dual focus on firefighting and emergency medical services. Performs difficult protective service work providing emergency medical care and transportation of sick and injured as well as the suppression of fires under emergency conditions, frequently involving personal hazard; does related work as required. Work is performed under regular supervision. This position demands immediate readiness for various emergency scenarios, including those that disrupt normal sleep patterns due to 24-hour shifts. Key attributes include physical fitness, adaptability, and the ability to operate effectively under stress and in hazardous conditions. Ongoing training in both firefighting and EMS skills is required, with further evaluations and training post-certification. Fire Medics must maintain high physical fitness, including strength, endurance, and agility. Regular physical fitness assessments and adherence to health guidelines are mandatory. Fire Medics must report any physical or health issues that could affect their performance.

This is heavy work requiring the exertion of 100 pounds of force occasionally, up to 50 pounds of force frequently, and up to 20 pounds of force constantly to move objects; work requires climbing, balancing, stooping, kneeling, crouching, crawling, reaching, standing, walking, pushing, pulling, lifting, fingering, grasping, feeling, and repetitive motions; vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word, and conveying detailed or important instructions to others accurately, loudly, or quickly; hearing is required to perceive information at normal spoken word levels, and to receive detailed information through oral communications and/or to make fine distinctions in sound; visual acuity is required for depth perception, color perception, night vision, peripheral vision, preparing and analyzing written or computer data, visual inspection involving small defects and/or small parts, operation of machines, operation of motor vehicles or equipment, determining the accuracy and thoroughness of work, and observing general surroundings and activities; the worker is subject to inside and outside environmental conditions, extreme cold, extreme heat, noise, vibration, hazards, atmospheric conditions, oils, and wearing a self-contained breathing apparatus. The worker may be exposed to bloodborne pathogens and may be required to wear specialized personal protective equipment.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS/TYPICAL TASKS:

Responding to emergency calls; providing basic or advanced life support; engaging in active fire suppression; preparing and maintaining detailed records.

(The following tasks are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work performed. The omission of specific duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position.)

Responds to emergency calls, drives equipment and administers emergency medical care, transports victims to emergency care facilities;

Works with Fire & EMS equipment for patient care, entering burning structures, carrying heavy equipment (80-100 lbs.), making forced entries and handling fire hoses and water supply sources;

Constantly evaluates personal safety, maneuvers through challenging environments and performs salvage and overhaul;

Participates in hazardous material (HazMat) related responses and training, including identifying, containing, and mitigating hazardous substances in emergency situations;

Engages in technical rescue operations such as confined space, high-angle, trench, and water rescues, requiring specialized skills and equipment;

Collaborates with specialized teams in complex fire suppression scenarios, requiring knowledge of building structures and fire behavior;

Executes patient rescue operations, including extrication from vehicles in accidents, ensuring rapid and safe removal while minimizing further injury;

Utilizes specialized tools and techniques for vehicle extrication, such as hydraulic rescue tools, cutters, spreaders and rams;

Coordinates closely with EMS personnel during patient rescue to provide immediate medical assessment and care;

Maintains a thorough understanding of fire dynamics, ventilation techniques, and diverse fire suppression strategies for various incident types;

Conducts regular training and drills to stay proficient in advanced fire suppression and rescue techniques, including rapid intervention and search and rescue operations and participates in continuing training and instruction program by individual study of technical material and attendance at scheduled drills and classes;

Provides direct basic or advanced life support patient care within the scope of their Virginia EMS certification, including assessment of patient conditions, administering appropriate emergency medical procedures, and ensuring stability for transport communicating with medical facilities for advice and direction;

Maintains skills and knowledge through ongoing education, consistent with Virginia EMS standards;

Accurately documents fire and patient care records in line with state regulations and departmental policies;

Checks and prepares equipment and supplies for treatment and firefighter and fire suppression activities; cleans, disinfects and maintains all Fire and EMS medical equipment;
Educates public in matters of health care and fire and emergency situations;
Performs housekeeping duties at assigned work area(s);
Responds to alarms, drives and operates equipment, conducts suppression of fires, including rescue, entry, ventilating salvage work and other related Fire and EMS activities;
Participates in continuing training and instruction program by individual study of technical material and attendance at scheduled drills and classes;
Serves as a supervisor or incident commander when necessary;
Participates in emergency response operations as required in a declared emergency by County officials; completes required NIMS training as a condition of employment;
Performs related tasks as required.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES:

In depth knowledge of firefighting techniques, emergency medical procedures, and rescue operations; the ability to rapidly assess emergency situations and coordinate effectively with other emergency services is crucial, along with proficiency in operating a variety of fire suppression and medical equipment,, including diagnosis, proper patient treatment and transport, automobile extraction and technical rescue operations; team work and collaboration, scene size up, problem solving and decision making abilities, basic and advanced fire control,; thorough knowledge of the principles of building construction, fire behavior, technical proficiency in firefighting equipment, handling and control of hazardous material incidents, basic and advanced search and rescue techniques, anatomy, physiology and chemistry in relation to the respiratory and circulatory systems; thorough knowledge of elementary physics, chemistry and mechanics as applied to fire suppression; thorough knowledge of the street system and geography of the County; ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions; ability to establish and maintain cooperative relationships with associates and the general public; ability to keep simple records and prepare reports; possession of mechanical aptitude; physical endurance and agility.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

Any combination of education and experience equivalent to graduation from high school (Associates Degree preferred) supplemented by required firefighting and emergency medical training. Maintaining current certifications and licenses relevant to firefighting and EMS is required. A commitment to ongoing professional development is essential. Fulfillment of both PGFEMS and state-mandated training requirements is essential. Fire Medics must engage in continuous learning and enhancement of skills to stay current with fire suppression and EMS technologies and techniques. Regular assessments and evaluation will ensure proficiency and competency.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Possession of an appropriate driver's license valid in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Must possess and maintain CPR, NIMS, ICS 100, 200, 700, and 800,, EVOC 1-3, EMT-Basic (ALS preferred), State Certified Firefighter II and Haz-Mat Operations (DPO and Instructor I preferred). Must meet and maintain all departmental requirements for the position. Fire Medics must engage in continuous learning and enhancement of skills to stay current with fire suppression and EMS technologies and techniques. Regular assessments and evaluations will be done to ensure proficiency and competency.