CITY OF KENT
JOB DESCRIPTION

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

Department: Safety, Fire Department
Non-Exempt, Classified Updated: August 2012 (EEO 8.2021)

RESPONSIBILITY

The firefighter/paramedic is responsible for the preservation of life and property through the use of fire suppression, emergency medical, fire prevention, and specialized rescue techniques. Work requires residence at station for 24 hours at a time. Works with or without the direct supervision of a captain or lieutenant. Performs other job-related duties as required.

TYPICAL TASKS (Illustrative only)

As a member of a fire suppression team, responds to alarms or accidents by truck, engine, or rescue vehicles. Forcible entry and/or ventilation may require the use of tools such as crow bars, sledge hammers, saws, torches, axes, hydraulic equipment, raising of ladders. Entry may be made at ground level, from roofs, through windows, and/or from ladders, or other means necessary to gain entry.

Extinguishes fire by advancing charged hose line and/or other extinguishing agents from ground level, from ladders, platforms, other buildings, or any other source. Operates or uses equipment and tools such as hammers, saws, sledge hammers, axes, generators, fans, cutting torches, picks, pry bars, couplings, hoses, hose tips, ladders, air masks, two-way radios, pumps, pike poles, and ropes.

Performs salvage operations. Duties may require the firefighter/paramedic to walk or crawl on weakened structures, beams, roof tops, other precarious and difficult situations. Ventilates structures by chopping holes, breaking windows, or other forms of venting. Performs salvage operations such as throwing salvage covers and removing charred materials, water, and debris. May secure premises by boarding windows, doors, holes in roofs, and any other form of egress.

Is alert for arson conditions. Operates pumper and calculates pressure needed to supply water to nozzle tip. Is exposed to dangerous heat, flame, toxic smoke, chemicals, gas, explosions, and other risks.

May work as a member of a hazardous material team in hazardous environments and/or in encapsulated suits.

Searches for and rescues trapped victims at accident or other emergency incidents by carrying them up or down ladders, carrying, dragging, or guiding through openings. Administers emergency medical treatment and transports to hospital. May be exposed to contagious disease.

Cleans and maintains apparatus, quarters, buildings, equipment, grounds, hydrants, and other relevant equipment.

Participates in training classes. Performs building inspection and hydrant inspection. Participates in fitness activities.

May be involved in a variety of special rescue situations including water rescue, ice rescue, high angle rope rescue, confined space rescue, trench rescue requiring the use of ropes, boats, shovels, life vests, harnesses, webbing, air shores, saws, hammers, tape measures, or other specialized rescue equipment.

Gives public tours. Teaches fire prevention classes to a variety of audiences. Speaks to public groups. Prepares reports.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

High school graduation or GED. Possession of Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic (EMT-P) certification or ability to obtain EMT-P certification by time of appointment. Must maintain paramedic certification as condition of continued employment. Minimum age 21. Must become State-Certified firefighter by completion of the probationary period, which is one year after date of hire. Must possess a driver's license and have and maintain a good driving record in keeping with the City's Motor Vehicle Safety and Usage Policy; free from felonious driving convictions or six (6) point BMV administrative actions within the past three (3)years; and eligible to obtain Ohio driver's license within thirty (30) days of appointment to position. Residency Requirement: Employees of the Fire Department shall be required to reside within Portage County, or any county adjacent to Portage County, in the State of Ohio (Ord. 2009-98, passed September 16, 2009). Compliance with residency must be met within 360 days of hire.

Must be in good physical condition, free from fear of heights, water, and working in confined spaces; good medical condition; good vision including color perception; and good hearing.

Good judgment, mechanical aptitude, math ability, and reading comprehension. Ability to follow and carry out orders/instructions. Ability to adapt previous knowledge to atypical situations.

Ability to work in dangerous conditions and in inclement weather while wearing uniform or protective equipment in excess of 50 pounds; ability to work 24-hour shifts, ability to communicate orally and in writing; ability to learn street routes and locations; ability to work in smoke-filled areas, climb ladders, and work from considerable heights and in unsafe structures; ability to drive and operate large apparatus; ability to work well with others and with the public.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

1. Responds to fire, emergency medical incidents, or other rescue incidents by driving or riding on fire engine, ladder truck, rescue truck, or other vehicles that are requested.

2. Forcibly enters structures by breaking windows, forcing doors using a variety of tools or other means necessary.

3. Rescues trapped or injured persons from vehicles or from burning or smoke-filled building by carrying, dragging, or guiding victims as they leave the structure.

4. Provides emergency medical treatment to injured or ill victims. Firefighter/paramedic provides emergency medical treatment by performing venipuncture, intubation, EKG interpretation, administers drugs using mathematical formulas or other treatment required by protocol. Carries

and/or lifts victims to medical unit, then transports them to hospital.

5. Carries fire hose and heavy equipment such as fans, tools, ladders, extinguisher to and from roof tops, basements, up and down ladders and steps, through windows to reach fire scene.

6. Extinguishes fire by advancing charged hose lines, ventilating structure and/or applying other extinguishing agents from the ground, ladders, roof tops, platforms, or other base of purchase.

7. Walks, climbs, and/or crawls on roof tops, beams, flooring in smoke-filled structure that may be unsafe, in highly dangerous, stressful, and physically demanding conditions, while wearing uniform or protective equipment weighing more than 50 pounds. Identifies odors, signs and sounds of danger, and colors of smoke.

8. Uses tools and equipment such as pumps, hammers, saws, sledgehammers, axes, generators, ropes, fans, cutting torches, wrenches, couplings, picks, pry bars, air masks, two-way radios, hoses, and ladders.

9. Overhauls structures by removing debris, funneling water, or chopping holes in walls, floors or other structural members to complete fire extinguishment.

10. Replaces equipment on vehicles after an emergency incident by loading hose, cleaning or repairing equipment, fills air bottles, washes and dries vehicles. Cleans and maintains apparatus, quarters, buildings, equipment, grounds, and hydrants.

11. Responds calmly and effectively with the public, doctors, nurses, police officers, and co-workers. Prepares written reports and gives oral reports.

12. Ties knots to secure equipment, vehicles, or themselves in rescue situations. Walks or crawls in confined spaces above or below ground in light or darkness.

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

The job description does not constitute an employment contract and is subject to change as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

The City of Kent provides equal employment opportunities and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, religion, sex, national origin, ancestry, military status, familial status, disability, gender identity, or sexual orientation in all employment practices in accordance with applicable federal, state and local laws.