

**CITY OF ABERDEEN  
POSITION CLASSIFICATION**

**FIREFIGHTER (with paramedic certification)**

**Salary Range: 18F**  
**Union Status: IAFF Local 2639**  
**FLSA Status: Non-Exempt**  
**Date Adopted: 01/93, 05/2015**

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**DEFINITION:**

Coordinates and provides emergency and non-emergency care for ill and injured patients as well as providing fire suppression and prevention services to the public in Aberdeen and the surrounding community and performing general maintenance and repairs on fire apparatus, equipment and facilities.

**REPORTS TO:** Fire Captain or Battalion Chief.

**DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS:**

Positions require paramedic training to provide emergency medical care such as cardiac monitoring and defibrillation, intravenous and drug therapy and airway management with endotracheal intubation. Paramedics work under general supervision of a superior officer, but are expected to coordinate patient care at medical response scenes.

Firefighter duties include use of ladders, hose lines, and hand and power tools and equipment to fight fires and perform clean-up at fire scenes. Incumbents receive ongoing training and practice in fire suppression and investigation techniques and in driving a fire engine or ladder truck.

Punctual, regular and reliable attendance is essential for successful job performance.

**ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS:**

Evaluates sick and injured patients in emergency and non-emergency situations to establish medical history and formulate a plan of treatment. Coordinates and provides treatment to patients under the direct or indirect supervision of a physician in cases of medical emergency, acute illness or injury.

Coordinates the transport or transfer of patients using the City ambulance service administered by the department; may be required to lift gurney and patient into ambulance.

Maintains emergency aid equipment and replenishes medications and supplies used for patient care.

Completes forms, records and reports to document varied activities and services provided to the public.

**ESSENTIAL JOB FUNCTIONS: (Continued)**

Uses appropriate firefighting equipment and techniques to extinguish fires in buildings, terrain, automobiles or other situations which may involve oil, chemicals, electrical or other flammable or combustible materials or origins.

Responds to various hazardous environments wearing self-contained breathing apparatus and using specialized tools and equipment to save lives, protect property, suppress fires and administer first aid to the sick and injured.

Performs clean-up of the fire scene by removing debris using shovels and pitchforks and cleaning or restocking equipment and materials.

Responds to emergency and non-emergency calls for medical aid and transports patients by ambulance to residences, resthomes, hospitals or other medical facilities. Provides or assists in the emergency treatment and care of ill or injured patients which may require lifting and carrying gurney and patient up and down stairwells, up and down uneven and/or steep terrain and lifting into ambulance.

Drives fire apparatus and ambulances when required.

Performs general maintenance and minor repairs to department facilities including building exterior and grounds, apparatus and equipment. Cleans and maintains the work, sleeping and eating areas of the fire stations. Cleaning requires the use of brooms and mops; maintenance includes painting of interior and exterior walls of fire stations using ladders.

Provides routine cleaning of vehicles and equipment.

Tests or troubleshoots problems with facility, equipment, apparatus and fire protection systems such as radios and paging equipment, and recorders.

Test starts all gasoline powered hand tools on a weekly basis.

Tests fire hydrants for amount of fire flow.

Prepares and maintains reports and records of activities, incidents, inspections or other information.

Assists in performing fire inspections of public and private buildings for pre-fire planning or compliance with fire codes.

Assists the public with non-emergency requests or complaints.

Participates in department training programs to learn or upgrade skills in firefighting methods, equipment or services.

OTHER JOB FUNCTIONS:

Provides emergency medical service training for department staff and volunteers.

Provides educational programs and training to the public in first aid, CPR and other related topics.

Assists in investigation of fire incidents by securing the fire scene, taking photographs and preparing sketches, identifying evidence and providing written and oral reports of the incident.

Assists in answering telephones and other clerical duties as needed.

Performs other related duties as required.

WORK ENVIRONMENT/EQUIPMENT USED:

Work is performed indoors, in motor vehicles (ambulance, ladder truck and/or pumper truck) and outdoors in frequently inclement weather (at accident or fire scenes) and in hostile environments such as inside burning buildings or on rooftops of burning buildings and in dealing with hazardous materials, explosive atmospheres, infectious disease and combative and/or mentally disturbed people.

Work is scheduled in 24 hour shifts which require the ability to adapt to communal living. Extended periods of time on duty and/or without a day off may be required during emergencies; time between breaks and meals may also be irregular. Risk of bodily injury is high due to the environmental conditions mentioned above as well as proximity to moving objects (traffic), heavy lifting and slippery/uneven surfaces in the field and exposure to combative people, bodily fluids and infectious diseases. Work is frequently performed under stressful conditions working closely with people in emergency situations requiring swift and sound decision making.

Equipment used includes but is not limited to motor vehicles such as ambulances and fire apparatus; all applicable emergency medical services equipment; portable radios; fire hose and nozzles; fire extinguishers; chainsaws, circular saws, and other miscellaneous gasoline, electrical and hand powered hand tools; picks, shovels, pitchforks, axes, rakes, ladders, and a full array of maintenance equipment; protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus; forcible extrication tools, commonly used office equipment such as telephones typewriters, word processors, personal computers, calculators, copy machines and dictation equipment.

Physical activity required includes all forms of body motions including sitting and standing for extended periods of time, reaching, bending, squatting, stooping, twisting, crawling, running, jumping, climbing and frequent heavy lifting. Sedentary activity may be suddenly interrupted by strenuous activity in response to emergency calls. Climbing ladders up to 100 feet high is

WORK ENVIRONMENT/EQUIPMENT USED: (Continued)

required; heavy lifting includes equipment up to 60 pounds and ambulance patients over 200 pounds. Confinement in tight or small areas may be required during performance of firefighting duties.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS:

Knowledge of: Principles, practices and methods of emergency medical care; geography and fire department services provided in the County and City.

Ability to: Diagnose and treat patients requiring emergency and non-emergency medical care; coordinate and direct the work of other staff at the scene of medical response; learn and understand principles, practices and techniques of fire suppression, prevention and investigation; perform strenuous activity under adverse conditions; climb ladders and work at considerable heights; respond quickly and exercise sound judgment in emergency situations; follow oral instructions; communicate effectively, both orally and in writing with patients, medical staff and the general public; live in a communal environment and maintain effective working relationships with co-workers, volunteers, law enforcement and medical community.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

High school degree or GED equivalent.

LICENSES, CERTIFICATES AND OTHER REQUIREMENTS:

- U.S. Citizen.
- Valid Washington State Driver's License.
- Be at least 18 years of age
- Possess IFSAC Firefighter I certification at time of hire
- Washington State or National Registry certification as a Paramedic.
- Physical ability to perform the essential job functions.
- Bilingual is desirable.