



308 W State Street
Sycamore, Illinois 60178
Main Phone: 815-895-4515

POSITION DESCRIPTION

TITLE: FIREFIGHTER/EMT-P
DEPARTMENT: Fire Department
REPORTS TO: Fire Lieutenant
FLSA STATUS: Non-Exempt; represented by IAFF Local 3046

POSITION SUMMARY:

The Firefighter/Paramedic is a sworn career member of the Fire Department who supports dual responsibilities as a Firefighter and as a Paramedic and is utilized in both types of assignments as needed. Generally, under supervision, the Firefighter/Paramedic engages directly in pre-plans, public education, emergency medical and fire suppression activities to protect lives, property, and welfare of the community; maintains and repairs fire department building facilities, apparatus, and equipment; and related work as required.

DUTIES, RESPONSIBILITIES AND WORK PERFORMED:

Essential functions include, but are not limited to:

1. Emergency Medical Responder

- Respond to calls for medical aid, including traffic collisions and rescue situations.
- Provide pre-hospital care, including: examining patients and monitoring vital signs; establish I.V. lines; administer medications; insert airway; defibrillate heart; and take other basic and advanced first aid and life support actions.
- Communicate with hospital and/or health care professionals in person or by radio.
- Complete required reports.
- Restock supplies and maintain ambulances and other emergency vehicles and equipment in proper working condition.

2. Firefighting

- In a fire emergency: connect supply lines, control and extinguish fires using various size hand-lines and portable water monitors; ladder buildings with ground ladders; connect foam eductors and apply firefighting foam for fire suppression and vapor control.
- Search buildings and rescue victims from buildings; rescue entrapped victims from motor vehicles, sometimes using specialized power and hand tools; use various hand and power tools to obtain entry to buildings, free trapped accident victims, and provide ventilation.
- Participate in specialized rescue operations, including aerial, water, underground, and confined space situations, including the use of rigging and shoring.
- Contain, control, and decontaminate hazardous material spills.
- Participate in clean-up, salvage, overhaul operations; clean, service, and ensure operational readiness of fire vehicles, apparatus, hoses, and equipment; assist with the maintenance of stations and facilities.
- Participate in various staff support assignments, including, but not limited to: fire prevention, inspection, and maintenance of inventory records, scheduled inspection of department equipment, fire inspection, and investigation.

- Employ appropriate firefighting and chemical safety apparel and equipment, including turnout gear, helmet, hood, and self-contained breathing apparatus.
- Attend instructional classes in firefighting and emergency medical techniques, and attend drills as required by the department, unless previously excused.

3. Public Relations

- Educate business owners, employees, and citizens (including school children) in proper fire prevention methods and emergency medical procedures.

ESSENTIAL KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

- The ability to function effectively under emergency conditions, which may include exposure to mentally and/or physically stressful conditions, extreme physical demands, or exposure to disgusting conditions.
- The ability to communicate effectively, verbally and in writing.
- The ability to function effectively as part of a team and live harmoniously with co-workers.
- The ability to establish effective working relationships with employees, other agencies, and the general public.
- The ability to take orders, follow instructions, and apply learned knowledge.
- The ability to give orders and direction to others.
- The ability to perform emergency medical functions to the level of EMT-P.
- Some mechanical aptitude, including the coordination to use hand and power tools, as well as driving and operating large complex motor vehicles.
- The ability to learn and grow with the job.
- The ability to work a twenty-four-hour shift and overtime as required.
- This position requires the use of personal or City vehicles on City business. Individuals must be physically capable to operate the vehicles safely, possess a valid driver's license and have an acceptable driving record.

REQUIRED EDUCATION, EXPERIENCE, AND TRAINING:

Firefighters are hired under the Rules and Regulations of the City of Sycamore Fire and Police Commission.

1. High School diploma or GED equivalent required. Associate's Degree in Fire Science Technology or Emergency Medical Services preferred.
2. Certifications/Licenses:
 - Current Illinois Class B driver's license required.
 - Basic Operations Firefighter and EMT-P certifications required at time of hire. Certification for Basic Operations Firefighter shall be obtained by participation in a Basic Operations Firefighter program approved by the Office of the State Fire Marshall. A Firefighter/EMT-P shall meet the current requirements for medical training, as established by the Fire department, under the requirements of the Illinois Department of Public Health. Licenses and certifications must be maintained in accordance with the bargaining unit contract.
 - Current Candidate Physical Abilities Test (CPAT) with ladder climb certification are required at time of candidate hire.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS/WORK ENVIRONMENT CONDITIONS:

The physical demands and work environment conditions described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

All City of Sycamore Fire Department personnel, unless specifically exempted, must be able to meet a wide range of physical demands in the performance of their duties. For the purposes of this section, the term "Firefighter" shall include all ranks of the Fire Department up to and including Fire Chief.

Firefighters for the City of Sycamore must be able to meet a wide range of physical demands in the performance of their duties. These demands include, but are not limited to:

Standing, walking, sitting, pulling, lifting, carrying, pushing, bending, talking, listening, climbing, balancing, feeling, handling, crawling, reaching, crouching, kneeling, stooping, reclining, finger dexterity, reading, writing, smelling, tasting, running, throwing, jumping, measuring, reaching above shoulder over 18", below shoulders to floor, and eye, hand and foot coordination.

In the area of vision, a Firefighter should have corrected vision that allows clarity in all ranges with no depth perception, color, or field of vision deficiency.

Lifting must be performed from all levels and angles. Lifting objects in excess of 100 lbs. with frequent lifting and/or carrying of objects weighing 50 lbs. or more is fairly common. These periods of lifting may occur at any time during a work period with very little or no notice.

A Firefighter may also be exposed to a wide range of working conditions. The Firefighter may be exposed to, among other synthetic and natural elements, heat, cold, wetness, noise, dust, oil, fumes, and/or confined spaces. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate, except during certain firefighting or EMT activities when noise levels may be loud.

MENTAL DEMANDS/WORK ENVIRONMENT CONDITIONS:

Firefighter/Paramedics experience unavoidable mental stress and traumatic events in the course of their work. If these challenges are not dealt with in a productive manner, they can lead to emotional and behavioral health problems. Due to these challenges, Firefighter/Paramedics have significantly higher rates of anxiety and depression than the general population.