

Jurisdiction: City of Ithaca

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive

Adopted: 03/23/81

Revised: 02/14/95, 02/03/97, 05/19/97, 04/06/05, 06/01/05, 09/15/10, 08/03/11

## **FIREFIGHTER**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** The work involves responsibility for the combined functions of preventing, controlling and suppressing fires and providing emergency medical services to residents. Firefighters are also responsible for hazardous materials incident response and technical rescue incident response. The work involves driving and operating fire apparatus, as well as a variety of specialized tools and equipment used when responding to emergency incidents. When not responding to emergencies, firefighters are responsible for the routine maintenance, repair and cleaning of equipment, tools, buildings and property. Firefighters may also perform fire code enforcement activities, public education activities, and training. Work is performed under the direct supervision of a superior officer. Does related work as required.

### **TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:**

Responds to emergencies, including fires, fire alarms, emergency medical calls, hazardous materials incidents and technical rescue incidents;

Operates and maintains fire apparatus, equipment and tools;

Performs assigned tasks at fire scenes, including laying and connecting hose lines, turning water supply on and off, handling and directing fire hoses, placing and climbing ladders, entering burning buildings, making openings in burning buildings for purposes of ventilation and entrance, and removing persons and property from burning buildings;

Engages in salvage operations at scene of fire such as covering furniture with tarpaulins and cleaning up debris;

Provides basic life support services, e.g., airway maintenance, cardio pulmonary resuscitation, control of severe bleeding, administration of oxygen;

Monitors vital signs of pulse, blood pressure and respiration and looks for signs of trauma;

Gathers information on patient history and refers to next health care provider;

Applies rescue techniques and knowledge to effect the safety of persons trapped in vehicles, stranded, marooned, or endangered by unusual circumstances;

Maintains, cleans and repairs equipment, tools, buildings and property;

May inspect buildings and places of public assembly for compliance with applicable fire codes and regulations; prepares reports of findings;

May perform public education activities, including public speaking, conducting fire safety classes for schools and other groups, and guiding tours of fire stations.

### **FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES, PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Working knowledge of modern firefighting, emergency medical service, hazardous materials incident response, technical rescue incident response and emergency management principles, practices, methods and equipment; working knowledge of the geography, building conditions and major fire hazards of the City; working knowledge of safety precautions used in firefighting, emergency medical service, hazardous materials incident response and technical rescue incident response; working knowledge of the rules and regulations of the Department; working knowledge of the use and maintenance of firefighting, rescue and emergency medical equipment; ability to recognize fire hazards; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships; ability to communicate effectively with others, both orally and in writing; ability to perform calmly and effectively in emergency situations; ability to maintain records and prepare reports; ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions; ability to successfully work with and serve a diverse local community; mechanical aptitude; good powers of observation; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Candidates must obtain certification as a New York State Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) within two years of appointment, and maintain said certification for the duration of employment.
2. Possession of a valid New York State Class D driver license or a valid driver license equivalent to a New York State Class D driver license at the time of appointment and maintenance of said license for the duration of employment.

**ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:**

1. **AGE:** Candidates must be at least nineteen (19) years of age to be eligible for appointment.
2. **PHYSICAL/MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS:** Candidates must meet the physical fitness and medical standards prescribed by the City of Ithaca Civil Service Commission.