

# CITY OF AVON LAKE

## Position Description Firefighter/Paramedic

Job Title: Firefighter/Paramedic

Department: Avon Lake Fire Department

Immediate Supervisor: Lieutenant

Positions Supervised: NA

FLSA Status: Non-Exempt

Bargaining Unit: IAFF Local 1361

Civil Service Status: Classified

Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by employees in the class. The specifications are not intended to reflect all duties performed within the job.

### **GENERAL RESPONSIBILITIES:**

Under the direction of a supervisor the firefighter/paramedic performs a variety of technical and routine tasks including but not limited to fire suppression, paramedic rescues, hazardous materials operations, maintenance of equipment, apparatus, and building and grounds. A firefighter/paramedic is responsible for the preservation of life and property through the use of modern fire suppression, rescue, and emergency medical service techniques. All work duties are performed in accordance with Fire Department rules, regulations and approved operating procedures. A superior gives the firefighter/paramedic instructions and assignments and the work duties are performed in accordance with previous training. During emergencies, a firefighter/paramedic is expected to use ingenuity, judgment, and discretion, and to operate within the guidelines of the department and the level of training or certification held. Work may involve personal danger.

### **GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS:**

High school diploma or GED

Valid State of Ohio driver's license

Valid State of Ohio Emergency Medical Technician/Paramedic certification

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Valid State of Ohio Level II Firefighter certification

### **GENERAL DUTIES**

The following duties are typical for this classification. Employees may not perform all of the listed duties and may be required to perform additional or different duties from those set forth below to address business needs and changing business practices.

#### **Essential Functions**

Follow all rules, regulations, policies, procedures and directives; stand alarm watch; receive, relay and dispatch alarms; operate radios, telephones and other communications equipment.

Perform firefighting, rescue, emergency medical and hazardous material response activities including but not limited to: driving fire apparatus; operating pumps, aerial ladders and related equipment; laying and connecting hose; raising and climbing ladders; utilizing hand tools and portable fire extinguishers; operating power tools and performing fire suppression.

Perform emergency medical activities at the paramedic level.

Participate in fire drills; present talks and programs to the community on safety, medical and fire prevention topics.

Participate in the inspection of buildings, hydrants and other structures in fire prevention programs; maintain fire equipment and apparatus and perform minor repairs to department equipment.

Perform general maintenance work in the upkeep of the fire station facilities and equipment; clean and wash walls and windows, floors and lavatory facilities; care for grounds around the station; make minor repairs; wash, test, roll and reload hose; wash, clean, polish, maintain and test apparatus.

Complete any other assigned tasks as directed by superior officers.

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### **REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ABILITIES**

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the City of Avon Lake and the employee and is subject to change by the City as the needs of the City and the requirements of the job change.

Knowledge of the operation of all apparatus, equipment and methods used in fire suppression, fire prevention, emergency and rescue operations.

Knowledge of rules, regulations and standard operating guidelines of the fire department.

Knowledge of the maintenance of equipment.

Skill in the operation of all firefighting and rescue equipment including motor vehicles.

Mechanical aptitude.

Ability to act calmly and efficiently during emergencies.

Ability to understand and follow verbal and written instructions.

Ability to continue professional growth throughout career.

Ability to learn firefighting, fire prevention, fire protection, hazardous materials, emergency medical and rescue techniques and methods and to apply this knowledge to specific situations.

Ability to perform physically strenuous work in all types of weather conditions requiring strength and agility in the performance of assigned duties during emergency and training periods.

Ability to assist in educating the public in fire and life safety.

Ability to work in small, confined spaces.

### **PHYSICAL AND MENTAL DEMANDS**

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by a Firefighter/Paramedic to successfully perform the essential functions of the job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

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Average activity for routine work. When fulfilling primary function at emergency scenes, physical activity includes climbing, running, crawling, heavy lifting in smoke and gas filled atmospheres and sometimes severely inclement weather; close visual application and attention to detail; ability to reason and learn. While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to stand, walk, use hands and fingers to feel, handle, or operate objects, tools or controls; reach with hands and arms. Occasionally required to climb, balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl, talk, hear, taste and smell. Vision abilities include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

### **WORK ENVIRONMENT**

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those that a Firefighter/Paramedic encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is often performed in inclement weather, hazardous and stressful conditions including smoke and gas filled environments, high places, confined areas, extreme heat and cold, high noise levels, emergency and stressful situations. Individual is exposed to hearing alarms and hazards associated with fighting fires and rendering emergency medical assistance including smoke, noxious odors, fumes, chemicals, liquid chemicals, solvents and oils. The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, risk of electrical shock and vibration. It is reasonably anticipated that the individual will be exposed to blood-borne pathogens and other infectious materials in the course of his duties.