JOB DESCRIPTION

City of Patterson

Human Resources

FIREFIGHTER INTERN

JOB SUMMARY

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

The Firefighter Intern position performs at an intern level to develop qualifications in firefighting, emergency medical care, and fire prevention duties. Included within these duties are preventing, combating, and extinguishing fires; saving life and property, assisting the public as directed, station and equipment maintenance and related activities and duties as required and assigned.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

The Fire Chief shall assign a full-time fire department employee to supervise and administer the Firefighter Intern Program. An intern firefighter will report to their Company Officer as assigned. Interns should be capable of handling routine tasks without constant supervision.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Essential and other important responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Maintains Fire Department equipment and apparatus.
- Performs necessary facilities maintenance to contribute to the Fire Department’s operational readiness. This involves assuring the trucks are properly equipped; performing routine preventative maintenance on vehicles and performs daily station housekeeping such as washing windows, waxing floors, and grounds keeping.
- Rides Fire Department apparatus to alarms, places equipment, extends and connects hoses and nozzles, raises and climbs ladders, uses chemical extinguishing agents and other tools and equipment as required.
- Performs fire suppression duties, including nozzle operations, forcible entry, ventilation, salvage, overhaul, pump operations, etc. using established firefighting techniques.
- Provides emergency medical service and pre-hospital care to the sick and injured. These incidents range from flu-like symptoms to trauma. Contributes to the saving of lives during an emergency by removing the victim to a safe environment if possible, assess vital signs, and perform the proper emergency medical aid to help the victim stay alive until advanced life
support is available.

- Responsible for performing emergency operations within the Incident Command System.
- Develop and maintain skills through ongoing training, drilling and evaluation.
- Receives emergency alarms; operates radio and other communications equipment under routine and emergency conditions.
- Completes and maintains reports, records, and forms in a timely manner as directed.
- Participates in minor maintenance and inspection of fire hydrants, apparatus, and equipment.
- Participates in company level fire and life safety inspections of commercial and residential occupancies.
- Participates in pre-fire planning which involves describing the building construction, obtaining owner/occupant information, and diagramming hydrant location, flammable liquid storage, open stairways, hazardous operations and other significant features in a fire situation. Information will be placed on maps and drawings to be used for training and at fire scenes.
- Participates in the testing of pumers, hose, ladders, fire hydrants and extinguishers.
- Participates in public education, contributing to positive public relations with the Fire Department and fire prevention programs by conducting station tours.
- Maintains operational readiness by participating in station and field training exercises. Training would include, but not be limited to: physical fitness, area orientation, vehicle orientation, hydraulics, ventilation, hose lays, breathing apparatus, building construction, tactics, strategy logistics, first responder, CPR, extrication, rescue, safety, and arson detection/investigation.
- Maintains professional appearance as directed by City policy and procedures.
- Carries out other related duties as assigned.

**KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, AND ABILITIES**

**Knowledge of:** Practices, principles and methods of fire suppression and fire prevention. Proper use of emergency medical equipment. Practices associated with other emergency operations, such as hazardous materials recognition and identification.

**Ability to:** Learn and perform a variety of firefighting duties and methods within a reasonable working period; follow rules, regulations, safety standards and established operating guidelines as prescribed by the Fire Chief; become familiar with the various types of vehicles and apparatus in use, including care, operation and minor routine maintenance; carry out oral and written instructions with or without direct supervision; understand and follow direction of commanding officer under adverse conditions; deal with emergency situations in an effective manner that will facilitate the quick and efficient completion of assignments; establish and maintain good working relationships with other employees, both as a team member or individually and the community; work closely with paramedics and ambulance crews as part of the local EMS system.

**PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS**

**Physical Demands:** The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by a member to successfully perform the essential functions of this job.
While performing the duties of this job, the employee is frequently required to use hands to finger, handle or feel objects, tools or controls. The employee is occasionally required to stand, walk, sit or reach with hands and arms, climb or balance, stoop, kneel, crouch, crawl, jog or run.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 70 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color vision, peripheral vision, depth perception and the ability to adjust focus.

The employee must have the ability to: drive vehicles, operate a personal computer, read small print on documents and maps, detect subtle shades of color, hear and speak well enough to communicate over the telephone, radio and in person; must be physically fit enough to carry fire equipment as needed, walk over rough terrain, climb hills, open and close heavy gates, load and unload vehicles and work outdoors for long periods of time in all types of weather conditions; the stamina to perform administrative functions and to meet physical and mental demands during an extended emergency.

**Work Environment:** The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those a member encounters while performing the essential functions of this job.

While performing the duties of this job the employee occasionally works outside, which may include occasional exposure to wet, humid, hot and inclement weather conditions. The employee may work near moving mechanical parts, under hazardous, life-threatening conditions, such as, but not limited to, heights, in confined spaces, at temperature extremes, around crowds, with loud noises, with limited visibility, in the presence of hazardous materials, in the presence of victims of death and/or dismemberment.

**Working Conditions:**
Must be willing and have the ability to work such hours as are necessary to accomplish the job requirements, remain awake for long periods of time (including 24 hour periods) under strenuous situations, remain on-call 24 hours a day, attend meetings, seminars and conferences during or after work hours, work under adverse conditions such as those inherent in emergency firefighting situations, consistently follow through with duties/assignments and work harmoniously with subordinates and superiors, wear approved uniform.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

- High School Graduate or G.E.D. equivalent.
- Must be eighteen (18) years of age or older at time of appointment.
- Current Class C California Driver License
- Successful completion of all application and testing requirements, criminal background investigation, driving check, fingerprinting, certificate and license verifications.
- Possess proof of current Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) certification by the date of the written test. (CPATs must not be older than 12 months from application date.)
- Current CPR certification.
- Successful completion/graduation from an approved Firefighter I Academy or current CSFM Firefighter I certification.
• A valid Emergency Medical Technical certification. In the event the applicant selected does not hold such certification, the individual will be required to obtain such certification within one (1) year of appointment.
• Must be able to provide proof of U.S. citizenship or legal right to work in the United States.