

FIREFIGHTER SPECIALIST

DEFINITION

Under supervision, performs specialized firefighting work involving the operation and maintenance of fire apparatus and firefighting equipment and performs skilled work related to technical fire suppression and prevention activities.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED/EXERCISED

Receives supervision from a Fire Captain, Fire Investigations Unit Supervisor or other superior officer. Exercises no supervision but may provide lead direction to Firefighters on their assigned apparatus.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

Firefighter Specialist is a technical working level class in the fire service and may be assigned to any division of the Fire Department. Incumbents drive and operate fire apparatus; conduct fire prevention inspections; test fire equipment; and conduct fire investigations.

This classification is distinguished from the lower classification of Firefighter in that the Firefighter Specialist has more responsibility and specialized duties above the journey level firefighting duties in the protection of life and property. The Firefighter Specialist classification requires knowledge and experience in driving and operating firefighting apparatus and equipment, and operating the required pumping, hydraulic, and other specialized fire equipment. Firefighter Specialist is distinguished from Fire Captain in that the latter class is responsible for full supervisory accountability for a fire company on a continuing basis.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

May include, but are not limited to the following:

Participates in the rescue of persons, administration of first aid, placement of fire apparatus, connecting and laying of hose lines, placement of ladders, ventilation of buildings, placement of salvage covers, handling and mitigation of hazardous materials, and returning all fire equipment after use.

Participates in a wide range of emergency and rescue activities including extrication, heavy rescue, hazardous materials, and other direct firefighting activities when assigned or appropriate.

Drives and operates fire apparatus to fire incidents, emergency calls, and drills; prepares for pumping operations and pumps water to fire at proper pressure; operates aerial trucks and all devices therein; inspects, cleans, and maintains apparatus and equipment; makes reports on the operation of various fire apparatus and equipment; performs simple repairs on fire equipment and facilities.

Performs general maintenance and cleaning activities of living quarters.

Keeps records and prepares incident reports as required.

Conducts fire prevention inspections of assigned occupancies and tests fire protection equipment; detects hazardous conditions or violations of fire and building ordinances and laws; issues citations and warnings for violations; may conduct training of personnel in applicable fire code regulations, fire inspection methods and procedures, and fire safety.

Participates in drills, hydrant inspections, and activities which include appearing before public groups and assisting with scheduling and conducting tours of the fire station.

Investigates causes of fires, seeking evidence of arson or of fire code violations; prepares follow-up correction notices and letters pertaining to initial inspections; issues citations of warrants for the arrest of violators; and testifies in court on criminal complaints filed by the Fire Department on offenses against fire laws, ordinances, and regulations.

Performs related duties as required.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Modern principles, practices, methods, and techniques of firefighting and prevention, equipment used in firefighting and rescue operations, operation and maintenance of various types of apparatus and equipment used by the Fire Department, geography of the City of Fresno, location of water mains and fire hydrants, location of major hazards in the City of Fresno.

Fire pumps, water hydraulics, and calculation of proper pump pressures.

Fire inspection and investigation methods and techniques.

Operate and maintain Department firefighting apparatus and equipment; recordkeeping of apparatus and equipment.

Codes and ordinances pertaining to company fire prevention activities.

Fire alarm systems and fire-related water delivery systems.

Emergency medical care and first aid methods and skill in their application.

Computers and the use of related software applications.

Certain assignments may require additional knowledge related to that assignment.

Skill/Ability to:

React quickly and calmly in emergency situations.

Safely operate a motor vehicle.

Use modern office equipment, including computers, computer applications and software; use modern communication devices including radios and cellphones; and use modern fire suppression and emergency medical response equipment.

Communicate effectively, orally and in writing.

Prepare clear and concise reports.

Maintain effective working relationships with Department staff,

Federal/State/local agencies, various emergency services agencies, the general public, and others.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Experience:

Three (3) years of current and continuous service as a Firefighter with the City of Fresno.

Education:

High school diploma or equivalent.

Licenses:

Possession and continued maintenance of a valid Class C California Driver's License with a Firefighter Endorsement, or Class A or B California Driver's License, without Air Brake restriction, and with tank endorsement. Failure to maintain the required driver's license may be cause for termination.

Certificates:

Possession of a valid California State Fire Marshal's Office Firefighter II Certificate.

Possession of a valid California State Fire Marshal's Office Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Pump Apparatus Certificate, or Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator 1A and 1B Certificates.

Possession of a valid ICS 200 Certificate.

Possession and maintenance of a valid EMT Certificate from the Central California Emergency Medical Service Agency.

Possession and maintenance of a valid Basic Life Support CPR Card consistent with the curriculum standards of the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or equivalent is required at time of application.

