

FIREFIGHTER/EMT

Description of Work

The Firefighter/EMT is a dual role position having emergency medical care responsibilities in addition to firefighter duties. Depending on the nature of the emergency, the Firefighter/EMT will suppress fires, perform rescues and extrication, provide basic life support medical intervention, and other hazard control activities. Work is often carried out under stressful conditions in the presence of physical, environmental, contagious disease, and chemical hazards.

Supervision Received/Exercised

Receives general supervision from station shift officer.

May be asked to assist in functional and technical supervision over reserve firefighters and new recruits as assigned.

Equipment/Job Location

Proficiency in the use and operation of equipment including but not limited to the following:

- fire suppression and rescue equipment such as hoses, pumps, ladders, axe, pike pole, nozzles, etc.
- medical equipment certified to operate such as defibrillator, vetter bags, backboards, stethoscopes, etc.
- department vehicles such as fire engine, aerial truck, pumper, tanker, rescue squad, water rescue boat, and ambulance
- hazardous materials detection and mitigation equipment
- salvage equipment, ventilation fans, portable lights, generators, etc.
- office equipment including computer, software, voice radio equipment, telephone, copy machine
- power and hand tools, water vacuum, mops, brooms, squeegees and other general maintenance equipment
- PPE including SCBA equipment, bunker gear, gloves, helmet, haz mat suit, etc.

The work environment, locations and characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of the position:

Location

- indoors
- in a vehicle
- outdoor setting
- fire scene

Health and Safety

- mechanical hazards
- chemical hazards
- electrical hazards
- fire hazards
- communicable disease
- explosives
- physical danger/abuse

Environmental Factors

- dirt and dust
- noxious odors
- noise and vibration
- fumes and odors
- wetness/humidity
- loud alarms
- darkness/poor lighting
- high precarious places
- extreme temperatures
- confined spaces
- smoke

The noise level is usually moderate, except during certain firefighting or EMS activities when noise levels may be loud.

The work is not only physically strenuous but can be stressful, sometimes involving life-or-death situations and suffering people.

Essential Functions of the Job

The following tasks are typical for positions in this classification. Any single position may not perform all of these tasks and/or may perform similar related tasks not listed here:

- Provides outstanding service and performs duties as necessary to best serve the needs of the community in the City of Hastings response area.
- Performs fire suppression duties by responding to emergency fire calls, operating various equipment and gear for fire suppression and control, driving fire apparatus, searching and rescuing occupants, ventilating structure, salvaging contents, applying water and other chemicals to fires.
- Responds to emergency medical calls by evaluating situations, providing emergency and non-emergency medical procedures up to level of training both stationary and in a moving vehicle, and transferring patients to medical facilities.
- Observes established standard operational guidelines and medical protocols.
- Performs maintenance of facilities, grounds, and equipment by cleaning, inspecting, stocking, repairing and any other maintenance deemed necessary. Maintains inventories of equipment and supplies.

- Performs other duties by participating in training and drills, performing code violation building inspections, inspecting hydrants, providing information to public, installing smoke detectors, conducting station tours, visiting schools, participating in public education programs, assisting with training of employees as assigned, processing paperwork and reports, and maintaining records.
- Processes hazardous materials by testing for identification and performing removal procedures, inspecting target hazard areas.
- Communicates information via radio, telephone or other electronic transmission, direct contact or written report.
- Maintains continuing medical education training, ongoing training and evaluation or skills maintenance requirements for each licensing period as required for emt-b licensing as required by the State of Nebraska.
- Perform related work as required and all other duties as assigned.

Additional Examples of Work Performed

- May serve on various employee committees.

Knowledge, Ability and Skills

- Knowledge of principles, practices and procedures of modern firefighting, rescue methods, techniques and equipment and ability to properly apply those techniques and procedures.
- Knowledge of basic life support, CPR and other medical assistance techniques.
- Knowledge of equipment used for patient care such as defibrillators and vital sign monitors.
- Knowledge of applicable Federal, State, and local laws, codes and regulations including fire and building codes.
- Knowledge and skills to effectively maintain fire stations, grounds, apparatus, and equipment in a condition that ensures maximum operational readiness for services.
- Knowledge of public education methods and skills to create and deliver programs that effectively educate citizens of all ages.
- Knowledge of safety regulations and practices applicable to the City of Hastings, including those for fire fighting, EMS, rescue and hazardous materials.
- Basic knowledge of fire investigation techniques and ability to assist a fire investigator.
- Knowledge of or ability to learn local geography, including the location of streets, hydrants and the major fire target hazards of the City of Hastings and Adams County.
- Knowledge of basic report preparation and business letter writing utilizing proper English usage, spelling, grammar and punctuation.
- Ability to think and act quickly and effectively in stressful situations; to retain presence of mind in emergency situations.
- Ability to assess situations, make decisions independently under pressure, prioritize tasks and coordinate resources to accomplish objectives, whether at an emergency scene or in the fire station.
- Ability to perform duties in response to medical emergencies, provide basic life support care in accordance with department policies, fire department protocols and to triage patients into basic or advanced categories for transport level determinations.
- Ability to effectively and safely drive, operate and maintain the full range of emergency medical equipment and fire apparatus and equipment used by the department.
- Skills to effectively communicate, both orally and in writing, with fire service personnel at all levels of knowledge and competency and those contacted in the course of work.
- Ability, including strength, endurance, dexterity and skills, to safely and effectively use all fire suppression, medical, rescue and hazardous materials apparatus and equipment.
- Ability to work at heights greater than 10 feet; work on uneven surfaces using powered and hand tools; and to properly wear all safety equipment.
- Ability to see and read gauges, trouble lights and control panel screens. Perceive red, yellow, and blue colors to recognize hazards identified by fire diamonds.
- Ability to work for long periods of time (24 hour periods or more) without sleep or rest due to ongoing emergencies, requiring sustained physical activity or intense concentration.
- Ability to follow directions and function safely under general supervision.
- Ability to recognize potential hazards, and skill to develop comprehensive, understandable pre-incident plans.
- Ability to act in accordance with departmental policies, rules, instructions and written material in the field of firefighting.
- Ability to effectively communicate with those contacted in the course of work during emergencies, as well as routinely when handling questions, complaints, and requests for public service.

- Ability to lead reserves to achieve objectives positively, efficiently and safely.
- Ability to operate computer equipment for data entry, word processing, report writing, graphics and e-mail.
- Ability to analyze records and use the data to produce reports.
- Ability to effectively use Microsoft Office products including Word, Excel, Outlook, and Internet Explorer.
- Ability to accept challenging or unusual assignments and skills to apply education and experience to complete assignment objectives.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality.
- Ability to establish and maintain successful working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.
- Ability to demonstrate continuous effort to become more proficient in general firefighting/emt duties, improving operations, decreasing turnout times, streamlining work processes, and working cooperatively and jointly to provide quality seamless customer service.

Qualifications

Must possess a high school diploma or GED equivalent at time of application.

Licenses/Certifications/Registrations Required

- Possession of, or ability to obtain, State of Nebraska EMT-B certification required by date of hire.
- Possession of, or ability to obtain and maintain an appropriate valid driver's license.

Special Requirements

- Must be 18 years of age or older at time of hire.
- No felony convictions or disqualifying criminal histories within the past seven years.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

Task	Occasionally (1%-33%)	Frequently (34%-66%)	Constantly (67%-100%)
Standing		X	
Walking		X	
Sitting	X		
Reclining	X		
Change of Position	X		
Reaching (extended hands/arm)		X	
Reach across Midline	X		
Handling (hold, grasp, seize, turn)		X	
Fingering (pinch/Pick)		X	
Feeling (perceive attributes of objects)		X	
Crouching/Squatting (bend legs/spine)	X		
Crawling	X		
Balancing	X		
Stooping (bend at waist)	X		
Kneeling	X		
Jumping	X		
Stairs	X		
Scaffolding	X		
Ramp	X		
Pole			
In/Out of Machine	X		
Ladder	X		

MACHINE CONTROL OPERATION

Task	Occasional (1%-33%)	Frequently (34%-66%)	Constantly (67%-100%)
Arm/Hand		X	
Leg/Foot		X	
Simple Grasp (grasp lightly)		X	
Firm Grasp (use pressure/force)	X		
Fine Manipulation		X	

In the following graph write in how much weight the individual will be lifting in each category.

Task	Occasionally (1%-33%)	Frequently (34%-66%)	Constantly (67%-100%)
Lifting/Lowering	X 0-125 lbs	X 20-50 lbs	
Carrying	X 0-125 lbs	X 20-50 lbs	
Pushing/Pulling (force exerted)	X 0-125 lbs	X 20-50 lbs	

Vision Requirements – close vision, distance, color, peripheral, depth perception and ability to adjust focus.
 Visual acuity of not less than 20/40 in one eye, and 20/100 in the other eye, corrected to 20/20 in one eye, and 20/40 in the other eye; display adequate color and peripheral vision in both eyes.

Heavy Work – Exerting 50 to 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or 25 to 50 pounds of force frequently, and/or 10 to 20 pounds of force constantly.

Other –

Continuously speaking (issuing voice commands, taste and smell
 Constantly hearing that will allow individual to safely perform all essential tasks. Examples: voice commands, radio traffic, audible signal to withdraw.