

CITY OF ARCADIA
FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC

DEFINITION

Under general supervision, to respond to medical and trauma emergencies; to initiate emergency care to injured and/or ill patients; to intervene with advance life support procedures as needed; to follow pre-hospital care procedures as outlined by L.A. County EMS Services; to establish radio or telephone communications with base station hospital; to advise base station of patient status and request patient destination; to document patient history and clinical findings; to continue with patient care until patient is released to hospital staff; to attend didactic and clinical continued education as required; to respond to fire alarm and other emergency calls to protect life and property; to render first aid and lifesaving techniques; and to participate in fire prevention programs and inspections, station and apparatus maintenance, and training activities.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Exercises no supervision.

EXAMPLES OF IMPORTANT AND ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Paramedic duties:

Perform necessary basic and advanced life support on sick, injured, or convalescent persons at the sites of emergencies or en route to hospitals or other medical facilities including hemorrhage control, treatment for shock, intravenous therapy, medication administration, electrocardiogram interpretation, manual external defibrillation or synchronized cardioversion, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, airway maintenance via endotracheal intubation, and fracture stabilization and pain control.

Record event information including patient condition, patient history, treatments, vital signs, and scene observations.

Observe established basic and advanced medical protocols.

Provide patient information to physicians or designee via radio, cell phone transmission or direct contact.

Maintain a daily log of responses.

Maintain inventories of equipment and supplies.

Operate emergency vehicles en route to emergencies and during patient transport to the hospital.

Remain proficient in all Firefighter duties and perform Firefighter duties as assigned.

Firefighter duties:

Respond to alarms and assist in the suppression of structural, residential, commercial, industrial, chemical, petroleum, and vehicle fires; perform fire control activities and utilize strategies in the areas of victim rescue, entry, exposure tactics, ventilation, fire containment and extinguishment, and salvage work; lay and connect hose; and various fire apparatus, equipment, tools, and devices; hold nozzles and direct water streams; raise and climb ladders; ventilate burning structures; make forcible entries and evacuate occupants.

Operate a variety of apparatus, equipment, tools, devices, and vehicles including lifting, hoisting, spreading, and pulling equipment, foam and additive proportions, fuel and oil pumps, building heating and cooling systems, cutting, boring and sawing tools, lighting, lifting and air moving equipment, appliances, elevators, fire protection and escape systems, radio equipment and meters, all types of portable fire extinguishers, pike poles, hand lines, salvage covers, forcible entry tools, emergency medical equipment and other rescue equipment.

Conduct fire prevention inspections of dwellings, public assemblies, and commercial, industrial, and governmental buildings, and other public establishments to ensure compliance with codes and regulations pertaining to fire safety; identify common, special, structural, and panic hazards and recommend pre-fire planning; issue orders to comply with codes; inspect and test fire protection systems; examine the storage, handling, and use of flammable and combustible liquids and other hazardous materials; make recommendations regarding correction of hazards.

Conduct daily inspections of condition and readiness of equipment; clean, wash, and service equipment; inspect, test, and maintain equipment and pump motors including nozzles, appliances, fittings, hydrants, fire extinguishers, hand and power tools, ropes, emergency lighting equipment, generators, rescue and first aid and related equipment; flow-test hydrants.

Respond to and assist the public in a wide variety of emergency calls involving illness and urgent situations and emergency medical incidents; analyze patient needs and administer first aid until relieved by proper medical personnel; apply techniques for the control of bleeding; lift, carry, and transport victims; utilize immobilization techniques to stabilize patient.

Operate fire trucks (including Tiller), rescue units, and other apparatus and equipment.

Respond to miscellaneous emergencies including rescues, hazardous materials, flooding, and natural disasters; respond to non-emergency situations.

Respond to emergency medical incidents; analyze patient needs and administer first aid until relieved by proper medical personnel; apply techniques for the control of bleeding; utilize immobilization techniques to stabilize patient.

Drive and operate equipment under limited conditions.

Perform cleaning, salvage, and overhaul work following fire; prepare apparatus and equipment for further alarms.

Participate in periodic testing of pumps, ladders, and other apparatus and equipment.

Participate in fire drills; attend continuing and advanced training sessions which include fire fighting techniques, emergency medical care, and the proper use of all equipment and related tools.

Assist in the investigation of fires; collect and preserve evidence; secure fire scene and control traffic.

Assist in the maintenance of the fire station and grounds; maintain inventories of apparatus, equipment, and supplies; recommend purchase of fire fighting equipment, physical fitness apparatus, and station appliances.

Perform a variety of administrative duties including maintaining proper records and documentation on all job related activities, functions, apparatus, and equipment, preparing reports, forms, recommendations, and other required administrative procedures.

Respond to complaints and requests for information from the public; engage in public information activities; conduct station tours.

OTHER JOB RELATED DUTIES

Perform related duties and responsibilities as assigned.

JOB RELATED AND ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

Advanced emergency medical procedures including EKG interpretation, intravenous access, drug therapy, endotracheal intubation, pediatric emergencies, cardioversion and defibrillation, needle thoracostomy, patient assessment techniques, and safe patient transport.

Locations of area hospitals.

Knowledge of:

Symptoms of medical emergencies and of appropriate responses to such conditions.

Principles of inventory management.

Principles, practices, and procedures of modern firefighting.

Purposes, uses, and operating characteristics of a variety of apparatus, equipment, tools, devices, and vehicles used in firefighting, rescue, and medical assistance operations.

Fire hazards and related prevention and abatement methods.

Procedures, methods, and techniques of emergency medical services including basic first aid and CPR.

Local geography including the location of water mains, hydrants, major fire hazards of the City, and City streets.

Operational characteristics of fire suppression and prevention apparatuses, pumps, tools, and equipment.

Occupational hazards and standard safety practices necessary in the area of fire prevention and suppression and victim rescue.

Basic principles of mechanics, hydraulics, and mathematics related to fire fighting and engineering duties.

Fire prevention, suppression, and victim rescue tactics and strategy.

Hazardous materials, chemical chain reactions, and fire behavior.

Pertinent Federal, State, and local laws, codes, and regulations.

Principles and procedures of record keeping.

Safe driving principles and practices.

Skill to:

Operate a motor vehicle safely.

Operate a variety of fire fighting and emergency response equipment safely and effectively including communications equipment.

Operate modern office equipment and technology.

Utilize hand held electronic devices for electronic care reporting documentation.

Ability to:

Evaluate patients' conditions and properly render emergency medical care including administration of emergency medications.

Perform at required EMS, technical rope rescue, and hazardous material operation levels.

Conduct fire inspections and perform code enforcement work.

Participate in preliminary fact-finding inspections and investigations including evidence gathering and preservation.

Observe and record findings during inspections.

Interpret and apply policies, procedures, laws, codes, and regulations pertaining to assigned programs and functions.

Read, understand, and apply technical fire fighting materials and concepts.

Read and interpret blueprints and site maps.

Respond quickly to changing situations under stressful emergency conditions.

Demonstrate physical endurance, agility, strength, and stamina in the performance of hazardous tasks under emergency conditions; think and act quickly in emergencies.

Understand and follow oral and written directions promptly and accurately.

Exercise good judgment, flexibility, creativity, and sensitivity in response to changing situations and needs.

Communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Establish, maintain and foster positive and harmonious working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Minimum Qualifications:

Experience:

Successful completion of probationary period.

For lateral entry, current employment in a full-time Firefighter Paramedic position and possession of one year of experience within the same field.

Training:

Equivalent to the completion of the twelfth grade and required department training courses.

License or Certificate:

Possession of California State Paramedic License with local accreditation at time of appointment, Hazardous Materials Awareness and Operations certificates, Emergency Medical Technician P certification.

Possession of a California State Fire Marshal Fire Fighter I Certification at the time of appointment.

Ability to obtain a California State Fire Marshal Fire Fighter II Certification within 12 months of employment is highly desirable.

Obtain AFD Truck Tiller certification within 12 months of employment.

Possession of CPR certification issued by the American Red Cross or the American Heart Association.

National Incident Management System (NIMS) IS 700.

Incident Command System (ICS) 100 and 200.

Possession of an appropriate, valid driver's license.

Special Requirements:

Essential duties require the following physical skills and work environment:

Ability to sit, stand, walk, run, kneel, crouch, stoop, squat, crawl, twist, climb, and lift 125 lbs.; exposure to cold, fire, heat, smoke, noise, outdoors, vibration, confining work space, chemicals, communicable diseases, biohazard materials, explosive materials, mechanical hazards, and electrical hazards; ability to travel to different sites and locations; availability for shift work, on-call, and stand-by.

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