



CITY OF OMAHA CLASS SPECIFICATION

CLASSIFICATION TITLE: FIREFIGHTER

BARGAINING UNIT: [FIRE BARGAINING](#)

CODE NUMBER: 8010

PAY RANGE CODE: [1 UF](#)

REVISION DATE: 3/30/17

NATURE OF WORK

This is skilled work in extinguishing fires and conducting rescue operations. Work involves the performance of duties at fire scenes to extinguish fires, safeguard lives, salvage property, prevent the recurrence of fires, and protect properties from the elements, vandalism, and theft. Work also involves the routine inspection and maintenance of fire apparatus, fire station facilities, and firefighting equipment; the performance of fire inspections; providing basic life support and assisting in providing advanced life support; training and drilling in the use of fire equipment and firefighting techniques; and the performance of public relations activities. At times the work is performed in conditions of extreme temperatures and danger for prolonged periods of time during which time one's vision may be partially or totally obscured. An employee in this classification exercises some independence in the performance of duties and receives close supervision from a supervisor.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS *(Any one position may not perform all the duties listed, nor do the listed examples include all of the duties that may be performed in positions allocated to this class.)*

Performs fire extinguishing duties that include dragging charged and uncharged hoses, pulling or carrying ladders up to or into burning structures or objects, dragging or carrying hoses up or down ladders and stairs, and directing water streams at fire sources; returns equipment to proper place after fire is extinguished.

Makes forcible entries into structures or objects using hand and power tools, including axes, pike poles, battering rams, jaws of life, saws, hammers, pry bars, and other tools to facilitate ventilation or to gain entry.

Drives emergency vehicles in a safe and efficient manner to emergency scenes.

Secures and monitors the scene of an accident, emergency scenes, or non-emergency scenes in a safe manner and communicates relevant information gathered at the scene to superiors, other emergency personnel, and other individuals as needed.

Performs systematic search and rescue operations to locate victims and assist, carry, or drag victims to safety.

Performs salvage operations by removing burning or smoldering objects, overhauling objects to ensure extinguishment, removing debris, and safeguarding structures or objects from theft or vandalism.

Provides basic life support to injured or traumatized victims and assists in providing advanced life support to seriously injured victims.

Communicates relevant information, orally and/or in written form, with sworn personnel from other shifts to ensure continuity of services and avoid circumstances that may potentially be detrimental to shift operations (e.g., street closures, out-of-service alarms, and other circumstances).

Participates in fire inspection activities, maintains and updates pre-fire planning records, inspects facilities and equipment on public or private property for compliance with fire codes and assists in preparing reports of inspection findings.

Assists in arson investigations and determining the cause of a fire; testifies in court proceedings as required.

Makes presentations to the public such as to schools, day cares, and other interested groups and gives tours of fire stations and explains fire safety and prevention measures and the use and operations of equipment.

Participates in daily and weekly training sessions, attending and taking part in discussion, demonstrations, and drills in equipment operation, firefighting, and lifesaving techniques to ensure that relevant certifications are maintained and updated as required.

Performs inspection, cleaning, and maintenance activities of fire apparatus and equipment, fire station facilities, and grounds to ensure that all necessary equipment is functional and available.

Complies with city and departmental standard operating procedures and maintains departmental standards of dress, appearance, performance, and conduct.

Completes written forms of actions taken at fire or rescue sites and enters data into a computer or electronic device.

Maintains regular job attendance in accordance with a schedule established for the position by the supervisor.

Performs other related duties as assigned or as the situation dictates within the scope of this classification.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, COGNITIVE ABILITIES, PHYSICAL ATTRIBUTES, AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS

Knowledge of the standard operating procedures of firefighting.

Knowledge of emergency medical treatment techniques.

Knowledge of fire codes and the contents of general orders, bulletins, and training materials.

Knowledge of and ability to operate a computer or other technology using standard or customized computer or systems software applications appropriate to the assigned tasks.

Skill in the use of hand and power tools used to extinguish fires and in search and rescue procedures.

Ability to understand written and oral instructions and to listen effectively and follow oral instructions.

Ability to read at the eleventh grade level.

Ability to climb, balance, bend, carry, walk, pinch, and lift from 68 to 100% of the time.

Ability to drag, sit, and reach from 34 to 66% of the time.

Ability to crawl, crouch, kneel, lift, pull, push, and stand from 12 to 33% of the time.

Ability to use in excess of one hundred (100) pounds of force 12-33% of the time, in excess of fifty (50) pounds of force 34-66% of the time, and in excess of twenty (20) pounds of force >67% of the time to move objects.

Ability to assess relevant information quickly, make decisions as to courses of action, and react accordingly.

Ability to maintain alertness, observational skills, and memory recollection.

Ability to effectively communicate information orally and/or in writing with members of the community, Fire Department personnel, and other agency personnel.

Ability to learn and apply the training needed to extinguish fires, rescue trapped persons, dispose of hazardous materials, and operate firefighting equipment.

Ability to locate objects and persons inside or near burning structures or objects and to estimate distances between objects or persons inside burning structures or objects.

Ability to learn and adapt to advances in computer and electronics device technology and software.

Ability to perform basic mathematical computations to include addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Ability to operate assigned vehicles and equipment, including all firefighting and emergency medical equipment.

Ability to perform difficult physical procedures for prolonged periods wearing protective clothing, at time, in adverse weather conditions.

Ability to climb ladders and work at considerable heights.

Ability to carry, drag, or assist in carrying or dragging persons and equipment up and down ladders and stairs or across flat surfaces.

Ability to chop holes or pry openings in doors, walls, ceilings, roofs, and other surfaces to effect ventilation.

Ability to screw in hose connections and gate valves to fire hydrants.

Ability to apply hose clamps onto charged and uncharged hose lines.

Ability to hold charged hose lines and direct them at sources of fires.

Ability to remain calm, apply common sense, make logical decisions, and work effectively in stressful situations.

Ability to meet with victims, relatives and friends of victims, and members of the public to calm them or to gain or impart information.

Ability to co-exist and work cooperatively with a group of individuals for twenty-four hours at a time without regard for such characteristics as gender, race/ethnicity, or cultural background.

Ability to demonstrate self-confidence and self-reliance and to take action when required by the situation.

Ability to confront potentially dangerous situations.

Ability to adhere to safety policies, procedures, and guidelines.

Ability to complete work assignments and reports in a timely and efficient manner.

Ability to comprehend, and, at all times, adhere to the Firefighter Code of Ethics and the overall mission of the Omaha Fire Department.

Ability to have far visual acuity less than 20/40 binocular, corrected with contact lenses or spectacles. Far visual acuity less than 20/100 binocular for wearers of hard contacts or spectacles, uncorrected.

Ability to distinguish colors and be able to see peripherally in both eyes.

Ability to successfully complete the physical ability course designed specifically for firefighter candidates.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE *(The knowledge, skills, and abilities above may be acquired through, but are not limited to, the following combination of education and/or experience.)*

High school graduation or its equivalent.

SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

By the end of the training academy, eligible candidates must hold a current certificate from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) OR hold a current Nebraska EMT license (Title 172 , Chapter 11 of the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services) which may be obtained by completing an Emergency Medical Technician Course that meets the United States Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, and National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for Emergency Medical Technician course. If this certification is not obtained by the onset of the training academy, it must be obtained by the end of the training academy.

Must possess a valid motor vehicle operator's license.

Must be able to work varying shifts, weekends, and holidays.

Must be willing to submit to (either prior to or following a job offer) and pass a drug test, polygraph test, a background investigation, credit history, and driving abstract.

Must be willing to submit to and pass a psychological and medical examination and a vision and hearing test following a job offer.

Must be willing to submit to and pass random drug testing after being hired.

Must successfully complete the physical ability course designed specifically for firefighter candidates.

Must successfully complete the fire academy for newly hired firefighters as prescribed by the Omaha Fire Department.

WORKING CONDITIONS

Work is performed primarily in an industrial building setting or outdoors in all weather conditions, amid noise that requires shouting to be heard, in extremes of heat and cold, near or with vibrating machinery, mechanical equipment, and electrical currents, in high places and confined spaces, exposed to fumes, smoke, odors, poor ventilation, infectious diseases, hazardous materials, and fire.

An employee in this classification resides and works with a number of other employees in close proximity for up to twenty-four hours at a time.

An employee in this classification must maintain complete response readiness at all times which may require working in a sleep-deprived state.

An employee in this classification may also be exposed to blood and other bodily fluids which require adherence to the Universal Barrier Precautions.

The working conditions herein are representative of those that must be met by the Firefighter to successfully perform the essential functions of the job.

General Exposure

- 1-25% of time
- 26-50% of time
- 51-75% of time
- 76-100% of time

Working Conditions	General Exposure
Heights up to 100 feet	1-25% of time
Inside Work	26-50% of time
Outside Work	26-50% of time
Cold below 32 degrees Fahrenheit	1-25% of time
Heat above 100 degrees Fahrenheit	1-25% of time
Rain	1-25% of time
Snow	1-25% of time
Ice	1-25% of time
Water	1-25% of time
Extreme noise	26-50% of time
Vibrations	26-50% of time
Mechanical hazard	1-25% of time
Electrical hazard	1-25% of time
Fire hazard	1-25% of time
Explosive hazard	1-25% of time
Air-borne hazard	1-25% of time
Blood-borne hazard	26-50% of time
Body fluid hazard	26-50% of time
Fumes	1-25% of time
Odors	1-25% of time
Dusts	1-25% of time
Mists	1-25% of time
Gases	1-25% of time
Toxic, caustic, or irritating chemicals	1-25% of time
Poor ventilation	1-25% of time
Limited or zero visibility	1-25% of time

Breathing compressed air	1-25% of time
Latex gloves	26-50% of time
Sleep-deprived state	26-50% of time

EQUIPMENT OPERATION (Any one position may not use all of the tools and equipment listed nor do the listed examples comprise all of the tools and equipment that may be used in positions allocated to this classification.)

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| Hoses | Self Contained Breathing Apparatus |
| Nozzles | Fire Extinguishers |
| Clamps | Jaws of Life and other Forced Entry Equipment |
| Pumps | Stretchers and Other First Aid Equipment |
| Generators | Positive Pressure Exhaust Fans |
| Lights | Two Way Radios and Radio Chargers |
| Axes | Protective Clothing |
| Pry Bars | Hand Tools, including Non-Sparking Hand Tools |
| Pike Poles | Warning Devices |
| Ladders | Hazardous Materials Gear |
| Ropes | Cleaning Equipment |
| Computer/Electronic Device and Attendant Software | |

Attachment "A"

FIREFIGHTER'S CODE OF ETHICS

As a Firefighter, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality, and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of the department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. I will perform my duties without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the fire service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...fire prevention and suppression.

Approved: 1/27/94
5/30/96
3/28/00
1/14/15