

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive  
Adopted: May 9, 1991  
Revised: May 11, 2010

**FIREFIGHTER**

**DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS:** This position exists in the City Fire Department and involves responsibility for responding to fires and medical emergencies, as well as similar emergency calls in the performance of duties. An employee in this class is expected to take prompt effective action to protect life and property. Duties may involve entering burning buildings to evacuate occupants and suppress fire by any means available. The work is performed under direct supervision of a high ranking member of the City Fire Department in conformance with departmental rules and regulations. Routine maintenance and custodial work on station and equipment is also performed when not engaged in either fire inspection or firefighting. The incumbent does related work as required.

**TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:** (Illustrative only)

Responds to fire alarms and emergency calls on various fire apparatus with other members of the fire company;  
Responds to medical emergencies with the ambulance and provides medical care, as necessary;  
Lays and connects hose lines and nozzles, turns water on and directs stream on burning buildings, cars, open areas, etc;  
Takes prompt action to protect property including evacuating occupants from buildings and fighting fires as needed;  
May operate inhalator to assist victims of fires, water emergencies, asthma, or heart attack;  
Cleans firefighting equipment, vehicles, and station house and keeps them in good operating condition;  
Operates a pressure pump to maintain a continuous supply of water when fighting fires;  
Puts up and climbs ladders and enters burning buildings above ground level as necessary;  
Makes openings in burning buildings with hand axes and power tools for ventilation and/or entrances;  
Performs salvage operations at scenes of fires such as covering furniture with tarpaulins and cleans up debris;  
Learns and practices new methods in firefighting techniques;  
Drives fire truck and auxiliary equipment to scene of fire and other emergencies and positions equipment properly for fire control and rescue activities;  
Assists in giving emergency first aid treatment to injured persons at the scene;  
Makes periodic inspections of municipal buildings for fire hazards;  
Responds to emergencies such as fuel spills, downed electrical wires, gas leaks, bomb threats, drownings, etc. and takes appropriate action to protect life and property;  
Performs a variety of tasks in connection with the maintenance and repair of fire department buildings and adjacent grounds;  
Performs miscellaneous clerical work related to firefighting activities.

**FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:**

Working knowledge of modern firefighting principles, practices, and techniques;  
Working knowledge of modern firefighting hand-held and motorized equipment;  
Working knowledge of elementary first aid techniques;  
Ability to operate heavy motor equipment;  
Ability to get along well with others;  
Ability to respond to crisis situations and remain calm;  
Mechanical aptitude;  
Willingness to perform assigned firefighting tasks;  
Sound judgment.

Firefighter

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma.

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENT FOR ACCEPTANCE OF APPLICATIONS:** Possession of an appropriate level New York State driver's license at the time of appointment.