

Paid-on-Call Firefighter Position Description for the Bloomington Fire Department

Primary Objective of Position

To extinguish and prevent fires, to effectuate rescues, render first aid, respond to and mitigate hazardous materials incidents, and to respond to and operate at other emergencies as required.

To assist as needed in providing fire and life safety education to building owners, homeowners and other employees in Bloomington.

To assist fire investigators as needed.

Essential Functions of the Position

FireFighting

- While wearing personal protective ensembles and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), perform firefighting tasks, rescue operations, and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions.
- Function as an integral component of a team, where sudden incapacitation of a member can result in mission failure or in risk of injury or death to civilians or other team members.
- Must have the ability to quickly read and interpret hazard warnings and labels in emergency situations.
- Must be able to quickly and effectively communicate with the public and other firefighters during emergencies.
- Upon emergency alarm, must respond immediately and quickly to the fire station, staff the appropriate fire department vehicles and apparatus, and respond with other firefighters to the emergency.
- Respond to all alarms as designated by the Fire Department and such other alarms and emergency calls as directed.
- Participate in Department drills and training activities and maintain proficiency in all firefighter skills.
- Keep stations, apparatus, tools, and equipment clean and in good operating condition.
- Assume command of their company in the absence of a ranking officer.

Physical Demands and Working Conditions

- While wearing full protective clothing (turnout coat and pants, helmet, boots, gloves, and hood) and SCBA including working in extremely hot or cold environments for prolonged time periods, is required to safely perform a variety of firefighting tasks that require upper body strength and aerobic capacity. The following are specifics inherent to essential job tasks:
 - Lifting and carrying tools and equipment (e.g. axe, Halligan tool, pike pole, chain saw, circular saw, high-rise pack and hose) that weigh between 7 lb. and 20 lb. and are used in a chopping motion over the head, extended in front of the body, or in a push/pull motion.
 - Advancing a 1¾ in. or a 2½ in. diameter hose line, which requires lifting, carrying, and pulling the hose at grade, below or above grade, or up ladders. In addition to the weight of the hose itself, a 50 ft. section of charged 1¾ in. hose contains

approximately 90 lb. of water, and a 50 ft. section of 2½ in. hose approximately 130 lb. of water.

- Performing forcible entry while utilizing tools and equipment (e.g. axe, Halligan tool, chain saw, circular saw, or hydraulic tool) that requires chopping, pulling, or operating these items to open doors, windows, or other barriers to gain access to victims or possible victims or to initiate firefighting operations.
- Performing ventilation (horizontal or vertical) utilizing tools and equipment (e.g. axe, pike pole, chainsaw, or circular saw) while operating on a flat or pitched roof or operating on a ground or aerial ladder. This task requires the firefighter to chop or push tools through roofs, walls, or windows.
- Wearing an SCBA, which includes a demand valve-type positive-pressure facepiece or HEPA filter masks, which require the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.
- Exposure to toxic fumes, irritants, particulates, biological (infectious) and non-biological hazards, and/or heated gases, despite the use of personal protective ensembles and SCBA.
- Climbing 6 or more flights of stairs while wearing a fire protective ensemble, including SCBA, weighing at least 50 lb. or more and carrying equipment/tools weighing an additional 20 to 40 lb.
- Wearing a fire protective ensemble, including SCBA, that is encapsulating and insulated, which will result in significant fluid loss that frequently progresses to clinical dehydration and can elevate core temperatures to levels exceeding 102.2 °F
- While wearing personal protective ensembles and SCBA, searching, finding, and rescue-dragging or carrying victims ranging from newborns to adults weighing over 200 lbs. to safety despite hazardous conditions and low visibility.
- While wearing personal protective ensembles and SCBA, advancing water-filled hoselines up to 2½ in. in diameter from fire apparatus to an occupancy (approximately 150 ft.), which can involve negotiating multiple flights of stairs, ladders, and other obstacles.
- While wearing personal protective ensembles and SCBA, climbing ladders, operating from heights, walking or crawling, walking or crawling in the dark along narrow and uneven surfaces that might be wet or icy, and operating in proximity to electrical power lines and other hazards.
- Unpredictable emergency requirements for prolonged periods of extreme physical exertion without benefit of warm-up, scheduled rest periods, meals, access to medication(s) or hydration.
- Operating fire apparatus or other vehicles in emergency mode with emergency lights and sirens.
- Critical, time sensitive, complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments, including hot, dark, tightly enclosed spaces, that is further aggravated by fatigue, flashing lights, sirens, and other distractions.
- Ability to communicate (give and comprehend verbal orders) while wearing personal protective ensembles and SCBA under conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and drenching from hoselines and/or fixed protection systems (sprinklers)

Examples of Performance Criteria

- Upon emergency alarm, must respond immediately and quickly to the fire station, staff the appropriate fire department vehicles and apparatus, and respond with other firefighters to the emergency.
- Respond to all alarms as designated by the Fire Department and such other alarms and emergency calls as directed.
- Participate in Department drills and training activities and maintain proficiency in all firefighter skills.
- Work is completed on schedule.
- Oral communication is calm, clear and presented with confidence.
- Public communication is responsive, considerate and respects needs for confidentiality.
- Maintains effective work relationships with supervisors and coworkers.
- Keeps up to date and complies with administrative policies and procedures.

Minimum Qualifications

Must be at least 18 years of age.

Must be able to pass required regular medical, psychological, and fitness exams.

Must be able to read and write the English language effectively.

High school graduation or GED equivalence.

Must have and maintain a valid Minnesota driver's license.

Must live within an approved response time to a Bloomington fire station.

Training Requirements (to be Completed during Recruit Training)

Firefighter 1 and Firefighter 2

Emergency Medical Responder or Emergency Medical Technician (complete and maintain certification.)

Hazardous Materials Operations

Desirable Qualifications

Ability to speak a second language, in addition to English, that has a recognized presence in the community. (Spanish, Somali, Vietnamese, etc.)

Supervision of Others

None