

**EMT/PARAMEDIC
FIRE DEPARTMENT**

JOB DESCRIPTION

Under the general supervision of the Supervisor of Emergency Medical Services, as delegated by the Mayor to the City Administrator to the Fire Chief, under the statutory authority of the Fire Board as delegated to the Fire Chief, and under the medical supervision of the Fall River emergency Medical Response Services Board, to respond to call for emergency medical assistance and to provide efficient and immediate Basic Life Support and Advanced Life Support care to the Critically ill and injured; to perform ambulance driving; to perform related work as assigned.

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

Work involves providing timely and efficient service to the people of the City and surrounding areas for a variety of responsible medical emergency services and ambulance driving; to be responsible for conformance to City and State codes and conform to policies and directives promulgated by the Fire Chief and/or the Emergency Medical Response Services Board; to coordinate the work for which s/he is responsible with the work of other co-workers. This work is distinguished from that of the Emergency Medical Technician (non-paramedic) in that this position performs emergency medical services at both the Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support levels. This work is subject to periodic review by the Supervisor of Emergency Medical Services and by designated medical staff from local hospitals. This work is performed with considerable latitude in independent judgment and decision-making and under general supervision.

Under the general supervision of an Emergency Medical Services Employee of a higher grade, performs the duties described in the United States Department of Transportation/National Highway Traffic Safety Administration job description for Emergency Medical Technicians – Paramedic.

In addition to performing all the duties of the Emergency Medical Technician, utilizes Advanced Life Support procedures related to treatment of cardiac or respiratory arrest, poisoning, or overdose or other major trauma or illness.

Performs peripheral venipuncture and placement of intravenous catheter for administration of I.V. fluid and medication;

Performs advanced airway management techniques by placement of endotracheal tubes or esophageal obturator airways;

Administers medications orally, by subcutaneous, intramuscular, or intravenous injection; Performs defibrillation, the use of electrical counter shock to correct lethal cardiac condition;

Interprets and treats cardiac conditions as viewed by the field on Electrocardiogram equipment;

Performs pediatric Advanced Life Support procedures, and protocols.

Performs triage and prioritizing of multiple patients, complying with all departmental directives, rules, regulations, procedures, and protocols;

Is responsible for providing for sufficient equipment on the rescue unit;

Teaches in-service emergency medical classes to members of the department, as directed;

Supervises medical rescue operations; calls for additional medical rescues when needed;

Communicates by radio or telephone to emergency room of hospitals;

Reports to the Director of Emergency Service, Emergency Room Medical Director, and Chief of the Department;

Completes and files all reports which are required by the department;

Assists in the performance of rescue and extrication techniques;

Performs related duties as required;

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of pharmacology; knowledge of drugs used in advanced life support, and possible reaction; knowledge of federal and state drug laws; knowledge of pathophysiology; knowledge of basic and advanced human anatomy and physiology, knowledge medical terminology; knowledge of medical telemetry; knowledge of advanced life support equipment; knowledge of local emergency medical service point-of-entry procedures; knowledge of Massachusetts General Laws, Chapters 89, 90, and 111C; knowledge of Massachusetts Department of Public Health Recertification requirement; knowledge of emergency medical service vehicle limitations and ability to evaluate road ability of same; knowledge of regional communication protocols; knowledge of the major transportation routes in the locality; knowledge of defensive and emergency driving procedures.

Knowledge of the duties performed by Basic Life Support emergency medical service employees; knowledge of emergency medical service communication system; knowledge of department communication policy; knowledge of department knowledge of department personnel schedules and requirements; knowledge of department policy concerning attendance and assignment; knowledge of department resources deployment policy; knowledge of resources available to the emergency medical services; knowledge of the proper responses to emergency medical service equipment failure; ability to evaluate the performance of emergency medical services equipment.

Ability to operate under medical control; ability to follow instructions from an authorized physician; ability to conduct triage; ability to evaluate the mechanism of injury; ability to read and interpret an electrocardiogram; ability to monitor a patient's status; ability to perform basic life support; ability to extricate patients in a safe and accepted manner; ability to safely lift and carry a normal adult with all required emergency medical service equipment and the aid of another emergency medical technician; ability to recognize and react to hazards at an emergency scene; ability to operate emergency medical service vehicle in a safe and accepted manner; ability to inspect ambulances and other emergency medical service vehicles; ability to inspect a vehicle's medical equipment, ability to operate assigned emergency medical service radio/ communication system; ability to ensure all certifications are kept current; ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing; ability to work effectively with other public safety personnel.

Ability to establish and maintain effective and harmonious working relationships with other city employees and especially the general public; a positive and willing attitude; ability to observe safety precautions; willingness to work shifts and overtime hours when necessary; ability to perform technical work with some degree of independent judgment and decision-making; highly developed interpersonal skills; willingness and ability to work in hazardous environments; this position requires extraordinary physical effort; this position is associated with an extraordinary degree of psychological stress.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

A high school diploma. Current certification as a Emergency Medical Technician (Paramedic) by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health and current certification as Advanced Coronary Life Support provider by the American Heart Association. Valid Massachusetts Class 3 drivers license. Certifications/licenses must be kept current.

CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT:

As an on-going condition of employment, incumbents in this position will be required to undergo regular evaluation as to the correct and efficient use of medical/ treatment protocols, said evaluation to be conducted by medical personnel. An identified deficiencies in the delivery of services under these protocols may result in loss of employment.