

# BAINBRIDGE ISLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT

## Job Description: Firefighter/Paramedic

### Summary:

Official Job Title: Firefighter/Paramedic

Classification: Salaried uniformed position, overtime eligible, union represented

Reports To: Lieutenant

Effective Date of Job Description: October 5, 2011

Salary: Contained in the Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)

Benefits: As prescribed in the CBA

### Major Function and Purpose:

The position's primary duty as an emergency responder is to function as an ALS provider. The position responds to fire and medical emergencies for the purposes of saving lives and protecting property. The position also supports a wide range of Department programs and events as assigned.

Personnel assigned to this position are hired from an eligibility list or as a lateral Firefighter/Paramedic.

### Reporting Relationships:

The Firefighter/Paramedic reports directly to a Lieutenant during their shift and is responsible for following the direction of their immediate supervisor in regards to the delivery of services.

### Job Duties:

The Firefighter/Paramedic performs a combination of emergency and non-emergency duties as follows:

#### A. Emergency Duties:

The Firefighter/Paramedic typically works as part of an assigned crew, under the direction of an Incident Commander, to conduct fire suppression, emergency medical and/or special operations. The position responds to emergencies within the scope of their level of training and qualifications. Examples of duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Responds to a variety of medical emergencies to direct and provide patient-oriented emergency medical care. The position's main focus is as an ALS provider and is responsible for patient care decisions.
- Responds to a wide variety of fire incidents such as brush fires, vehicle fires and structure fires. Examples of duties: driving apparatus, implementing initial scene operations, operating pumps, ventilating roofs, raising ladders,

conducting rescues or extrications, conducting fire attacks, and assisting with salvage and overhaul operations.

- Assists on incidents requiring special operations, consistent with level of training and as determined by the Department.
- Assists with coordination of emergency operations, e.g., requesting information over the radio, restricting access to hazardous areas, being alert for unsafe situations.
- Conducts field investigations of outdoor burn complaints or potential fire hazards.
- Assists with fire investigations when requested.
- May supervise other responders at scenes when directed by Incident Commander. May also assume the role of Incident Commander until higher-ranking emergency responder arrives on scene.
- Assists Lieutenant(s) in completing incident forms and related paperwork to close out emergency response.

#### B. Non-Emergency Duties:

Non-emergency duties may vary depending on Department priorities and needs, as well as the background experiences and skills of the Firefighter/Paramedic. Examples of duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Supports the development and implementation of the Department's in-house Paramedic Program.
- Participates in required training and continuing education classes to maintain paramedic certification.
- Supports the implementation of the Department's training programs, especially the training and mentoring of EMTs.
- Conducts equipment, facility and apparatus inspections to ensure safety and response readiness. Also performs routine maintenance and/or testing of equipment, facilities and apparatus.
- Researches and develops pre-incident fire plans for various buildings in the community.
- Conducts company level fire inspections.
- Provides support to Department Programs such as Public Education and EMS.
- Attends internal meetings, represents the Department at external meetings (when requested), and helps prepare annual budgets and work programs.
- Participates in Department sponsored public events or activities, e.g., Station Tours, Fun Fair and Annual Pancake Breakfast.

#### Qualifications:

##### (1) Required Qualifications:

- Paramedic training and certification through the University of Washington/Harborview Paramedic Training Program
- Current Washington State EMT-P certification by date of appointment
- Valid Washington State Driver's License by date of appointment
- Has met all requirements of NFPA 1001 for Firefighter I

(2) Desirable Qualifications:

- Membership or affiliation with Bainbridge Island Fire Department
- Experience as Firefighter/EMT or Firefighter/Paramedic
- Has good mechanical aptitude and abilities
- Demonstrates oral and written communication skills
- Actively involved in an EMS Training Program

(3) Personal Attributes:

The position requires an individual with the desire and aptitude for learning and applying new information in the field of emergency medicine. The individual should demonstrate outstanding leadership qualities, a strong sense of confidence and calm at emergency incidents, and a passion for teaching/mentoring others. The position requires a high level of maturity and the interpersonal skills to work well with all members of the organization and the general public. The individual is expected to:

- work with limited supervision, demonstrate initiative on projects, be a problem solver, and exercise good judgment;
- be dependable and able to maintain their emotional self-control in stressful situations;
- accept advice and coaching, follow rules and regulations, and adapt to changing working conditions;
- convey a positive, professional attitude and contribute to the general well being of the Department;
- embrace the mission, vision and values of the Department;
- be dedicated to continuing their education and applying new ideas and techniques.

(4) Other Requirements:

- Successful completion of LEOFF physical exam
- Successful suitability profile test may be required
- Successful testing and approval by the Kitsap County Medical Program Director

**Working Conditions and Other Information:**

Due to the nature of firefighting and emergency medical services work, the employee will be exposed to potential hazards, e.g., extreme heat and smoke, unstable structures, live electrical lines, toxic gases, and blood borne pathogens. Therefore, the employee is required to use protective clothing and equipment. The physical demands of the job also call for above average endurance and conditioning. Duties may include strenuous activities under adverse environmental conditions over extended periods of time. Requirements include running, climbing stairs with a heavy load (about 150 lbs.), jumping, twisting, bending, and lifting more than 150 lbs. The pace of the work is set by the emergency situation. During both emergency and non-emergency situations, the employee must be able to conduct coherent voice communication in person as well as via portable radio and telephone.

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This job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and the employee and is subject to change as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.