

Firefighter Paramedic - Fire Rescue Division
Placement Type: Full Time & Part Time Opportunity
Polk County Government BOCC

*** This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement ***
This position may require a physical ability/agility test

Must have the physical, developmental and mental ability to perform job tasks, work efforts, responsibilities and duties of the job illustrated. The job description herein provides for the range of duties to be performed for this position. It is not intended to reflect all duties that are required within this position.

Please note that you must either be a Paramedic Firefighter in order to be further considered.

MAJOR FUNCTION

This is responsible technical and skilled work in firefighting including the preservation of life and protection of property against fire and related hazards. Duties include the operation and maintenance of Fire Rescue Division vehicles and equipment.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES

Work involves responsibility for the protection of life and property through firefighting and rescue operations, usually under close supervision. Employees of this class are also required to learn and participate in the operation of firefighting equipment and apparatus. Although firefighting and emergency rescue work, including the administration of emergency medical treatment, are the most difficult and responsible areas of activity, a major portion of time is spent on pre-fire surveys; training, studying methods, techniques and organization of firefighting and on routine duties in the care and maintenance of Fire Department property and equipment. Work involves an element of personal danger and requires working on extended shifts. Work is usually performed in accordance with explicit instructions and well defined procedures; however, satisfactory performance of the work requires initiative and a thorough individual understanding of the methods, equipment and principles of firefighting, fire prevention, rescue and emergency medical techniques in meeting a wide variety of emergencies.

Firefighters with appropriate specialized training may work in the assignment of Hazardous Materials Technician, Technical Rescue Member, Apparatus Operator/Driver or assigned to an Emergency Medical Unit. Firefighters who serve in the additional role of paramedic also perform the illustrative duties outlined in the Paramedic job description.

Responds to alarms of fire or other emergencies; dons personal protective equipment; works in enclosed areas; lays and connects hoses; holds nozzles which direct water streams; raises and climbs ladders; uses chemical extinguishers, bars, hooks, lines and other equipment.

Responds to alarms of fire or other emergencies in commercial, residential and multiple story structures; climbs stairs carrying a myriad of firefighting tools or emergency medical equipment; performs search and rescue techniques for locating building occupants; operates and controls building fire suppression systems; operates building elevators under fire service control.

Responds to alarms of fire or other emergencies often performing duties for an extended period of time while wearing self-contained breathing apparatus in high temperatures and with limited vision.

Ventilates structures in accordance with applied knowledge; removes victims from serious auto accidents, structures on fire, or other dangerous situations; administers emergency medical care to injured persons; performs property conservation (salvage) operations; assists in clean-up operation after the fire is suppressed.

May be assigned as a driver of a vehicle or apparatus; checks radio operability; responsible for maintaining apparatus, equipment, inventory and other logs; may communicate by radio from fire, rescue and other emergency scenes.

May be assigned as the operator of a heavy duty diesel powered pumper truck or aerial truck; directs hose connections at pump; operates pumps, making sure proper pressure and water flow is maintained; operates aerial ladder or snorkel power lift.

Operates fire apparatus to and from the fire or rescue scene over the optimal route at high speeds in the safest and most efficient manner in accordance with departmental policy.

Participates in the on-duty company physical fitness program.

Participates in fire drills and attends training classes in fire-fighting, emergency medical techniques and related subjects; participates in pre-fire surveys of industrial and other business buildings, hospitals, nursing homes, schools and multi-family dwellings; prepares floor plans, records and locates key items on floor plans of facilities for departmental use in the event of fires, disasters or other emergencies.

Responds to a variety of emergency calls requiring the performance of a variety of emergency medical skills, such as administering oxygen, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, emergency medical care and related tasks. Those also serving in the paramedic role will provide a much higher level of patient care as outlined in the paramedic job description.

Performs general maintenance and cleaning work in the upkeep of apparatus, equipment, furnishings and structures.

Aids in the evacuation of portions of the county during natural or other disasters. Assists law enforcement agencies in the investigation of arson cases.
Performs related work as assigned.

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Ability to analyze situations quickly and objectively and to determine the proper course of action. Ability to react quickly and calmly under emergency conditions.
Considerable knowledge of the operating and mechanical principles involved in automotive equipment operation.

Ability to become familiar with the roadway/highway systems within Polk County.

Skill and dexterity in the use and manipulation of tools and apparatus used in fighting fires and performing emergency medical care.

Ability to learn and efficiently perform a wide variety of firefighting and rescue duties, methods and techniques.

Ability to climb stairs in multiple story buildings carrying heavy tools and equipment.

Ability to perform physically demanding duties such as; carrying victims; hoisting equipment using ropes; using heavy equipment to force entry into or ventilation of structures; use of hand and mechanical tools to extricate patients of automobile accidents.

Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships as necessitated by the work. Ability to climb ladders and work at considerable heights.

Ability to understand and execute complex oral and written instructions quickly

must be able to read, write, and speak the English language in an understandable manner.

Ability to perform limited mechanical work involved in maintaining firefighting and rescue apparatus, equipment and tools.

Ability to work as a part of a team and to exercise independent judgment as required.

Ability to cope with stressful situations firmly, courteously and tactfully, and with respect for the rights of others. Ability to communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing.

Ability to drive or operate large fire vehicles in a safe and efficient manner.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduate of an accredited high school or possess an acceptable equivalency diploma and have a valid Certificate of Compliance as outlined in the Florida Division of State Fire Marshal Uniform Fire Safety Rules and Standards Chapter 69A-37, or a verification letter indicating that the individual meets the above requirements, and will be issued a Certificate of Compliance from the Florida Division of State Fire Marshal, Bureau of Fire Standards and Training Office. Must possess and maintain a valid State of Florida Emergency Medical Technician License or State of Florida Paramedic License (preferred) and:

1. Is at least 18 years of age
 2. Certifies under oath that he/she is not addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance.
 3. Certifies under oath that he/she is free from any physical or mental defect or disease that might impair his/her ability to drive an ambulance and perform his/her duties.
 4. Meet the following driving history requirements:
 1. Have not accrued 12 points within 36 months or 18 points within 48 months.
 2. Have not been convicted on alcohol/drug related offenses within 36 months.
 3. Have not been convicted of two (2) alcohol/drug related offenses within 10 years
 4. Have not had a suspension, revocation, or restriction due to moving violations or alcohol/ drug related problem, including failure to take a breath test within the 36 months prior.
 5. Must provide proof of insurance when required to use their personal vehicle as part of their daily job duties.
- Possess a valid American Heart Association CPR "BLS for Health Care Providers" card or the American Red Cross Professional CPR card.
 - Must have a valid driver's license and be able to secure a valid Florida driver's license at the time of employment.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Must obtain and maintain Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Awareness certification through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) Employees hired into this position after January 1, 2013 must obtain and maintain this certification as a condition of employment.

Applicant/employee shall be fingerprinted and subject to personal background investigation procedures to ascertain an evaluation and determination of moral character according to Chapter 69A-37 Firefighters Standards and Training.

Must be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide all units of measure. Work requires lifting very heavy weight occasionally, heavy weight frequently and moderate weight constantly. Ability to cope with mental and emotional stresses of the job.

Applicants who have not been employed by the Polk County Fire Rescue Division in a firefighting, paramedic or Emergency Medical Technical capacity will be required to produce documentation that they have successfully completed a physical ability exam. The exam date can be no more than one calendar year from the hire date. Either of the following is acceptable for this requirement:

- The Ridge Fire Academy Physical Ability Test (RPAT)
- Or -
- The Fire Service Joint Labor Management Wellness/Fitness Initiative's IAFF/IAFC Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) from a licensed provider

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Must have a telephone while employed with the Fire Rescue Division as employee is subject to call in emergencies.

As part of the new firefighter EMT or firefighter paramedic* orientation program potential candidates must successfully obtain the following certifications:

- A. National Incident Management System (NIMS) certifications:

- ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
- ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
- IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction
- IS-800: National Response Framework, an Introduction

B. Emergency Vehicle Operator Course Certification card or a recognized 16 hour course that is equivalent.

C. Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) provider or instructor certification.

*Firefighter Paramedics must further obtain:

D. Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) provider or instructor certification

E. Certification by the Polk County Office of Medical Direction to function as a paramedic under the license of the Polk County Fire Rescue Medical Director

SPECIAL PREFERENCE

Preference will be given to those who possess a valid State of Florida Paramedic License
Preference will be given to those who meet the following driving history requirements:

1. Have not had two (2) failures to pay fines within 36 months.
2. Have not had two (2) seatbelt violations within 36 months.
3. Have not had three (3) lapses of insurance within 36 months.
4. No serious traffic violations such as leaving the scene or driving on a suspended license within 36 months.

Location: Fire Rescue Division - 2470 Clower Lane

Compensation: \$45,019.52 + Overtime (Non Exempt)

Placement Type: Full Time and/or Part Time positions are currently available