

# FIRE FIGHTER

City of McPherson

Fire Department

## POSITION SUMMARY

Under the supervision of the Fire Captain, and Lieutenant the Fire Fighter is a non-exempt position under FLSA. This employee is responsible for protecting the lives and property of the citizens of McPherson by performing fire suppression, technical rescues, hazardous materials responses, and providing emergency medical care. This employee should be in excellent physical condition and have the ability to remain poised under extremely difficult and hazardous circumstances. This employee should possess a strong mechanical aptitude, and effective communication and public relation skills.

## ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

- \* Protects the lives and property of the citizens of McPherson;
- \* Performs fire suppression techniques;
- \* Performs rescue operations including high angle, confined spaces, and vehicle extrications;
- \* Responds to the release of hazardous materials in the community;
- \* Provides emergency medical care for the sick and injured;
- \* Assists with the inspection, maintenance, and minor repairs to Fire Department equipment;
- \* Works within the guidelines of the departments' standard operating guidelines and procedures;
- \* Participates in daily training activities;
- \* Assists with public education programs;
- \* Acts in a safe manner during emergency responses, at the Fire Station, and during training drills;
- \* Assists the Fire Officers in performing fire inspections;
- \* Responsible for maintaining Fire Station and grounds;
- \* Maintains department records as needed;
- \* Follows department policies and procedures;
- \* Follows safety procedures and practices.

## MARGINAL FUNCTIONS:

- \* Checks and tests fire hydrants;
- \* Performs other duties as deemed necessary.

## POSITION REQUIREMENTS:

**Experience:** Employee is expected to have acquired the necessary information and skills to perform the job reasonably well within one year of employment. Employee will be considered on probation for the first year.

**Education:** A high school diploma or GED is required. Degree in Fire Science or other college degree is preferred. This employee must be certified as a Fire Fighter I and II, Emergency Medical Technician, and Hazardous Materials Operations. A valid Kansas Drivers License (K.D.L.) is required.

<i>Quickview</i>	
<u>FLSA:</u>	NON-EXEMPT
<u>ADA:</u>	APPLICABLE
<u>FMLA:</u>	ELIGIBLE
<u>OSHA:</u>	BLOODBORNE PATHOGENS HAZARDOUS MATERIALS CONFINED SPACES
<u>WORKING CONDITIONS:</u>	HAZARDOUS CHEMICALS ASBESTOS EXPLOSIVES RADIATION ELEMENT OF RISK ADVERSE WEATHER

**Technical Skills:** A thorough knowledge of fire fighting techniques is required. This employee must be able to operate all hydraulic equipment, various saws, and generators, be proficient with the use of rope rescue techniques, and be competent in the delivery of emergency medical treatment. This employee must have a working knowledge of city geography and fire-flow hydraulics. The ability to understand and anticipate problems, to perform equipment maintenance, and to read and interpret written instructions, reports, manuals, maps, and instruction materials is required. This employee should possess a strong mechanical aptitude, and effective public relation, oral and written communication skills.

**Problem Solving:** Some problem solving is involved in this position. This employee encounters problems with fire suppression, emergency medical treatment, and equipment malfunctions. Serious problems are reported to the Fire Captain.

**Decision Making:** Some decision making is involved in this position. This employee makes decisions about maintaining department equipment, providing medical assistance, and performing daily duties in the safest and most efficient manner.

**Supervision:** This employee works with frequent supervision from the Fire Captain. This employee does not exercise any supervisory responsibilities over subordinate personnel.

**Financial Accountability:** This employee is responsible for the safe operation of department equipment. This employee does not participate in the annual budget process.

**Personal Relations:** This employee has daily contact with the general public and at times deals with the public in extremely tense and stressful situations. The Fire Fighter interacts with co-workers in a non-traditional workplace. Daily interaction with supervisors is expected.

**Working Conditions:** Adverse working conditions exist within this position. Exposure to extremes of heat and cold is expected. This employee is also exposed to structural collapses, contact with hazardous materials, explosives, asbestos, and radiation, work from heights and in confined spaces, and work around heavy machinery. This position contains a significant risk to personal safety. Exposure to blood borne pathogens while responding to and providing emergency medical treatment can be expected.

**Physical Requirements:** The Fire Fighter must be in **excellent physical condition**. The type and amount of personal protective clothing required to perform the duties of the Fire Fighter along with the working conditions listed above creates a significant increase in physical stress to the well being of the employee. Manual labor including heavy lifting, pulling, and carrying heavy objects and equipment is expected. Climbing is a significant aspect of the job. Decisions made during critical moments at emergencies increases mental stress.

**Residence requirements:** Live within McPherson Fire Department run territory and maintain an active telephone.

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*The specific statements shown in each section of this description are not intended to be all inclusive. They represent typical elements and criteria considered necessary to successfully perform the job.*

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THIS JOB DESCRIPTION LAST UPDATED IN February 2012