

## RESERVE FIREFIGHTER

### DEFINITION

Under the general supervision of full-time personnel, the Reserve Firefighter participates in fire suppression, prevention, and rescue activities in protecting life, property and the environment; provides first aid response to medical emergencies; maintains equipment and quarters and to does related work as required.

### DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

The Reserve Firefighter position is an entry level position in the department who works under the direction of full-time staff usually a company officer. Reserve Firefighters are distinguished from the full-time staff in that Reserve Firefighters generally work on an "on-call" basis, responding to calls requiring additional resources or to provide station coverage during extended incidents. However, Reserve Firefighters who meet additional requirements are eligible to drive and operate fire apparatus, participate on Strike Team assignments, and substitute for full-time Fire Engineers. Reserve Firefighters are expected to perform the full range of fire suppression, safety and prevention duties and perform journey-level skills in all areas of work assigned. Immediate supervision is provided by other more senior Reserve Firefighters, the Fire Engineer or Fire Captain. General supervision may be provided by other management personnel of the Fire Department.

### EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL DUTIES

Duties may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Respond to and participate in fire suppression and rescue operations.
- Operate a variety of tools and equipment related to fire suppression, rescue and hazardous materials emergency activities.
- Serve as a hose operator in firefighting situations including laying hose lines, pulling working lines, holding the nozzle to direct the stream of water on the fire, placing, raising, lowering and climbing ladders and assisting in overhaul and salvage operations.
- Be responsible for the maintenance of fire apparatus.
- Provide emergency medical services.
- Maintain departmental facilities and equipment.
- Participate in fire prevention and public education programs.
- Assist in supervising and training other reserve personnel.
- Participate in drills and training activities as needed or required.
- Carry out ventilation, salvage, and other related duties at a fire scene as may be required.
- Maintain knowledge of street locations, access routes, water system, firefighting tactics, first aid, private fire protection equipment and systems, rescue techniques, and other fire related tasks as well as the standard operating procedures of the Fire Department.
- Participate in annual testing to evaluate stamina, job performance and firefighting and rescue skills.
- Operate communication equipment.

- Respond to emergency calls as needed when summoned by phone, radio, pager or texts.
- Learn and study Fire Department rules and regulations, fire hazards and firefighting techniques, and related subjects.
- Carry out related duties that may be assigned to them.

## TYPICAL QUALIFICATIONS

### Knowledge of:

- Firefighting methods and techniques, and the basic operation and mechanics of firefighting equipment.
- The geography of the local area including the location of hydrants and mains and major traffic and fire hazards.

### Ability to:

- Think and act quickly in emergencies.
- Follow oral and written directions.
- Meet standards of adequate endurance, and agility.
- Learn rules, regulations, and operational procedures of the Fire Department.
- Learn hazardous material first responder operational level methods and techniques.
- Demonstrate a high degree of mechanical aptitude.
- Learn the operating and mechanical principles of fire apparatus and equipment.
- If desiring to be a Reserve Engineer, learn to drive and operate effectively and safely the full range of fire apparatus and equipment used by the Department.
- Work effectively as a member of a team.
- Understand and follow oral and written directions promptly and accurately.
- Deal courteously and effectively with the public.
- Establish and maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

### Education:

- Equivalent to completion of the twelfth grade.

### Licenses and Certifications:

Incumbents must successfully pass a course of training as approved by the Fire Department Training Officer. Reserve Firefighters desiring to operate fire apparatus shall successfully pass additional training approved by the Training Officer and complete a State of California DMV medical exam and possess and maintain a valid California Class B motor vehicle operator's license. Additionally, incumbents shall be required to obtain and maintain Hazardous Material First Responder Operational Level Certification.

### Working Conditions and Physical Demands:

Due to the varied and unpredictable nature of the work, incumbents may also be required to work under the following conditions: A Reserve Firefighter is required to wear protective gear, carry appropriate tools, and wear a self-contained breathing apparatus, weighing a combined total of 100 pounds, while performing many of the emergency-related duties. Incumbents are

exposed to a variety of weather conditions and are required to tolerate very hot and very cold temperatures. While performing emergency aid, a Reserve Firefighter may lift and carry victims and move equipment requiring the use of stomach and back muscles. Incumbents are required to have the ability to hear a variety of warning devices and alarms, gas leaks, or calls for help. Some rescue duties require the operation of mechanical rescue equipment and the monitoring of proper safety techniques in the use of such equipment. The tools used by a Reserve Firefighter require precise arm-hand positioning and movements, such as when operating a chain saw or using emergency medical rescue equipment. The operation of firefighting equipment often requires the coordinated movement of more than one limb simultaneously. Emergency situations may require incumbents to work in small, cramped crawl spaces, areas where vision is limited, and/or at heights including roof tops or on ladders. A Reserve Firefighter must be able to distinguish among colors including the color of smoke and flame in order to determine type or source of the fire, or to identify other potentially dangerous situations.