

Title: Firefighter Supervisor: Lieutenant Division: Operations Effective Date: 06/19/2026	Black Forest Fire Rescue Job Description Approved By: David Rocco	
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BASIC PURPOSE:

Under the direction of the Fire Chief and general supervision of the station officer (Captain or Lieutenant), the Firefighter is responsible for the care, operation, and condition of fire apparatus. Provides the district with prevention and mitigation of emergencies and disaster, through proper planning, public education, and code enforcement to protect life and property. Respond to emergencies involving fire, medical, rescue, and environmental concerns. Provides skilled work in fire prevention, fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical treatment, and recovery programs. Work may include driving fire, rescue, and emergency medical vehicles, operating fire apparatus and equipment, fighting fires, performing various rescue activities, and basic emergency medical activities. Work also includes the performance of routine duties in the maintenance and upkeep of the fire station, vehicles, and equipment. The firefighter participates in fire training and manipulative drills, the study of firefighting science and techniques, and the study of emergency medical knowledge and skills. Firefighters are subject to work in a higher capacity as an acting company officer and/or relief driver/engineer.

The Firefighter is deemed essential to the daily operation of the Black Forest Fire Rescue.

JOB DUTIES:

Promptly and efficiently, responds to various types of emergencies such as fires of all types (building, trash, automobile, wildland, et cetera), accidents, medical emergencies, hazardous material releases, and natural disasters; maintains scene preservation as needed, drives and operates fire and emergency medical vehicles in emergency and non-emergency situations. Prepares, completes, maintains, and submits reports and logs pertaining to shift and response activities.

Operates a variety of power and hand operated equipment; lays, connects, and handles supply and attack hoses; holds nozzles and directs water and chemical streams to ensure fire extinguishment; ensures that proper water pressure is available; ventilates burning buildings; placing, raising, climbing, and lowering ground ladders of various lengths; uses a variety of portable extinguishers, hand tools, and related equipment; performs overhaul and salvage operations, removes debris.

Performs search and rescue operations at the scene of a fire, automobile accident or other emergency; provides extrication from entrapment of all types; administers first aid to injured or sick persons and stabilizes patients as needed or directed by paramedics, hospital staff, and/or emergency physicians; assists in transporting injured or sick persons to appropriate medical facility. Maintains scene preservation for fire or police investigations.

Daily, weekly, monthly, and annually, inspects, tests, cleans, and maintains equipment and vehicles; reports safety hazards or maintenance problems to the station officer; performs regularly scheduled preventive maintenance on vehicles and equipment; performs building maintenance and general custodial work at fire station and other department facilities.

Performs inspections of commercial and public buildings and private dwellings for compliance with all applicable fire codes and ordinances; reports code and ordinance violations to the station officer; conducts community fire prevention and safety education classes including facility tours, giving lectures, presenting videos, and displaying fire apparatus and equipment.

Attends meetings, training programs, and certification classes as required; participates in continuous training in fire suppression, prevention, and inspection through both simulated and on-the-job exercises; participates in emergency medical training to maintain required certifications.

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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must possess a valid State of Colorado driver’s license.
- Ability to complete and maintain State of Colorado certifications including Firefighter II and Fire and Life Safety Educator.
- Ability to complete and maintain Hazardous Materials-Operations level certification.
- Ability to complete and maintain State of Colorado Emergency Medical Technician-Basic (EMT-B) certification.
- Learn the Code of Conduct, rules, regulations, and operational procedures of Black Forest Fire Rescue.
- Ability to learn and apply the Uniform Fire Code.
- Learn operating and mechanical principles of fire apparatus and equipment, and medical equipment; demonstrate mechanical aptitude.
- Knowledge of the geography of the city and the ability to become familiar with all roadways and highways, major traffic and fire hazards.
- Ability to react quickly, calmly, and professionally while under pressure in emergency situations, work effectively and efficiently as a member of a team, and understand and follow detailed oral and written directions promptly and accurately.
- Communicate orally effectively to individuals and/or in a group setting, ability to write various reports, and the ability to analyze and solve problems.
- Responsible for the use of discretion and judgment in emergency situations and the care, condition, and use of department apparatus, equipment, supplies, and facilities.
- Learn to operate and enter data into a computer terminal, personal computer, or other keyboard device. Produce written documents using proper grammar and punctuation.
- Establish and maintain cooperative relationships with those contacted in the course of work and perform in a manner that protects the interests of the city and the department.
- Ability to learn and identify situations that are immediately dangerous to life and health.
- Ability to learn the risks involving firefighting and emergency medical incidents.
- Ability to work independent of direct supervision.
- Responsible for maintaining a personal level of physical fitness so that they can maintain the ability to perform minimum required job skills.

PROBLEM SOLVING:

The problem solving and decision-making challenges to the Firefighter vary from incident to incident in that every scene is a different work setting, unique in its location, weather conditions, participants, injuries, and hazards that is performed in a time-sensitive, high-stress situation. In most cases, immediate action is required to mitigate the emergency scene, causing the Firefighter to be flexible and adaptable to changing conditions.

Other problem-solving situations include non-emergency work during contact with citizens and co-workers. Incumbent

Firefighters may mentor and direct the performance of newly assigned personnel.

ACCOUNTABILITY:

Firefighters are responsible for following all lawful orders and are accountable to all positions and ranks above him/herself, including technical grade employees (Firefighter/Paramedics, Driver/Engineers, and Investigators) in specific areas of responsibility, station officers (Lieutenants and Captains), and chief officers (Battalion Chiefs, Assistant Chiefs, Deputy Chiefs, and the Fire Chief). Firefighters are assigned to emergency response units to provide fire and life safety service, accountable to the citizens of Colorado Springs. They are also accountable for completing dangerous tasks in dangerous environments to mitigate emergencies, as well as providing compassionate, quality service to the community and its citizens. Firefighters are also responsible for maintaining an inclusive, non-threatening workplace with and for their peers.

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RELATIONSHIP WITH OTHERS:

- Co-workers-multiple daily interactions in person, by telephone and by written computer communication for completion of all assigned duties and other personal interaction.
- Company Officers (Lieutenants and Captains)- multiple daily interactions in person, by telephone and by written computer communication for completion of all assigned duties and other personal interaction.
- Chief Officers-weekly interactions in person, by telephone, and/or by written computer communication to complete assigned duties.
- Police Officers-multiple daily interactions in person to exchange information and provide mutual assistance during the mitigation of emergency incidents.
- Ambulance and Hospital Personnel-multiple daily interactions in person and via telephone to coordinate patient care and information exchange.
- Communications Center Personnel-multiple daily interactions via radio, telephone, and computer communications to report emergencies, to obtain incident information, and for assistance with incident related information needs.
- Clients/customers-multiple daily interactions in person and via telephone to render emergency care and operations, to provide requested information, to present educational materials, and to perform fire prevention inspections/activities.
- Training Division-weekly or monthly interactions by telephone and written computer communication to schedule training opportunities, receiving information/training materials, and reporting completed training exercises.
- Public Education Division-weekly or monthly interactions by telephone and written computer communication to schedule public education opportunities, receiving information/educational materials, and reporting completed educational activities.
- Medical Division-weekly or monthly interactions by telephone and written computer communication to schedule continuing medical education courses and receive assistance to maintain emergency medical certifications.

ORGANIZATION


See attached organization chart

WORKING CONDITIONS:

The Firefighter must perform duties in office, household, and emergency scene environments. The Firefighter performs during daylight and night hours for extended periods with little rest or sleep. He/she operates in adverse weather conditions, natural disasters, extreme heat or cold, dense smoke, toxic or explosive atmospheres, extreme heights, structurally weakened buildings, traffic hazards, buildings, wildland, trash, and automobile fires, and with patients posing severe infectious disease hazards (e.g. tuberculosis, hepatitis, AIDS) to health.

The firefighter must be able to make quick, lucid decisions during physically and mentally stressful situations. The amount of hazardous exposure time varies with the number of emergency incident responses, non-emergency activities, and assigned companies. Firefighters must maintain knowledge, skills, and abilities consistent with National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001, Standard for Firefighter Professional Qualifications.

Firefighters are required to work 24-hour shift assignments, living, eating, and sleeping at the station for the entire period, including weekends and holidays, and may be required to work overtime with little or no notice. Firefighters pay for their meals while on duty. Firefighters, male and female, sleep in dormitory style quarters. Due to the varied and unpredictable nature of the work, firefighters may also be required to work under the following conditions: wearing protective gear, carrying appropriate tools, and wearing self-contained breathing apparatus, weighing a combined total of up to or over 100 pounds, while performing emergency duties. Firefighters are exposed to a variety of weather conditions and are required to tolerate very hot and very cold temperatures.

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WORKING CONDITIONS CONTINUED:

While performing emergency medical assistance and rescue activities, a firefighter may lift and carry victims and move equipment requiring the use of stomach and back muscles. Firefighters 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. The tools used by a firefighter require precise arm-hand-eye coordination and movements, such as when operating a chain saw or rescue equipment. The operation of firefighting equipment often requires the coordinated movement of more than one limb simultaneously.

Emergency situations may require firefighters to work in small, cramped crawl spaces, areas where vision is limited, and/or at extreme heights including rooftops or on ladders. A firefighter must be able to distinguish among colors including the color of smoke and flame to determine the type or source of the fire, or to identify other potentially dangerous situations. Firefighters may be assigned to special operational teams that expose them to additional life-threatening hazards and dangers.

The fire service is paramilitary in nature and firefighters during emergency operations receive orders, which must be carried out promptly and without question, unless detrimental to their personal safety and welfare.

The firefighter job entails regular exposure to dangerous situations under disagreeable conditions, including smoke, heights, fire, fumes, heat, cold, emergency driving, exposure to dangerous situations with medical emergencies, long shifts, and the ability to wear and work in fire department breathing apparatus for extended periods of time.

The above job description is intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by firefighters. This job description is not intended to be an exhaustive list of all duties, responsibilities, and skills required of firefighters