

City of Mercedes

Mercedes Fire Department EMS

Job Description

Job Title: Firefighter/ EMT-PARAMEDIC

Job Status: Full-Time

Reports to: Fire Chief

FIREFIGHTER/EMT-PARAMEDIC

SUMMARY OF DUTIES

The following description is established for the Mercedes Fire Department EMS to outline the basic duties and responsibilities of the above captioned position. This position is a full-time paid position and is exempt from minimum wage and overtime requirements.

The firefighter is responsible for firefighting entailing the combating, extinguishing and preventing of fires, and the saving of life and property. A fire fighter is responsible for rapidly and efficiently performing various duties under emergency conditions frequently involving considerable hazard.

The firefighters work includes routine duties in the maintenance of firefighting equipment and fire department property. The fire fighter is responsible for carrying out the specific orders and directions as received from a superior officer in the normal course of maintenance duties and in firefighting. Considerable independence of judgment and action is allowed in circumstances of extreme urgency where referral to a supervisor for instruction is not possible.

The Firefighter/PARAMEDIC is a dual-role member of the department having emergency medical care responsibilities in addition to fire fighter duties. Depending on the nature of the emergency these personnel provide basic life support, perform extrication and rescue, or act as fire fighters in fire suppression or hazard control activities.

This position is technical in nature, and requires the ability to interact with patients, independently assess and treat medical emergencies, follow established treatment protocols, and document findings and events for the patient's medical record. Work is often carried out under stressful conditions in the presence of contagious disease and environmental, chemical, or physical violence hazards.

WORK PERFORMED

1. Responds to fire alarms, lays and connects hose, holds nozzles and directs water streams, raises and climbs ladders, uses chemical extinguishers, bars, hooks, lines and other equipment.
2. Ventilates fire to release heat and smoke, places salvage covers to prevent water damage and prevents fire from rekindling.
3. As assigned, drives and operates motor driven firefighting equipment.
4. Performs various maintenance tasks on apparatus and equipment.
5. When assigned to fire prevention, works under direction of a supervisor, performs inspections and clerical duties as required.
6. Performs related work as required.

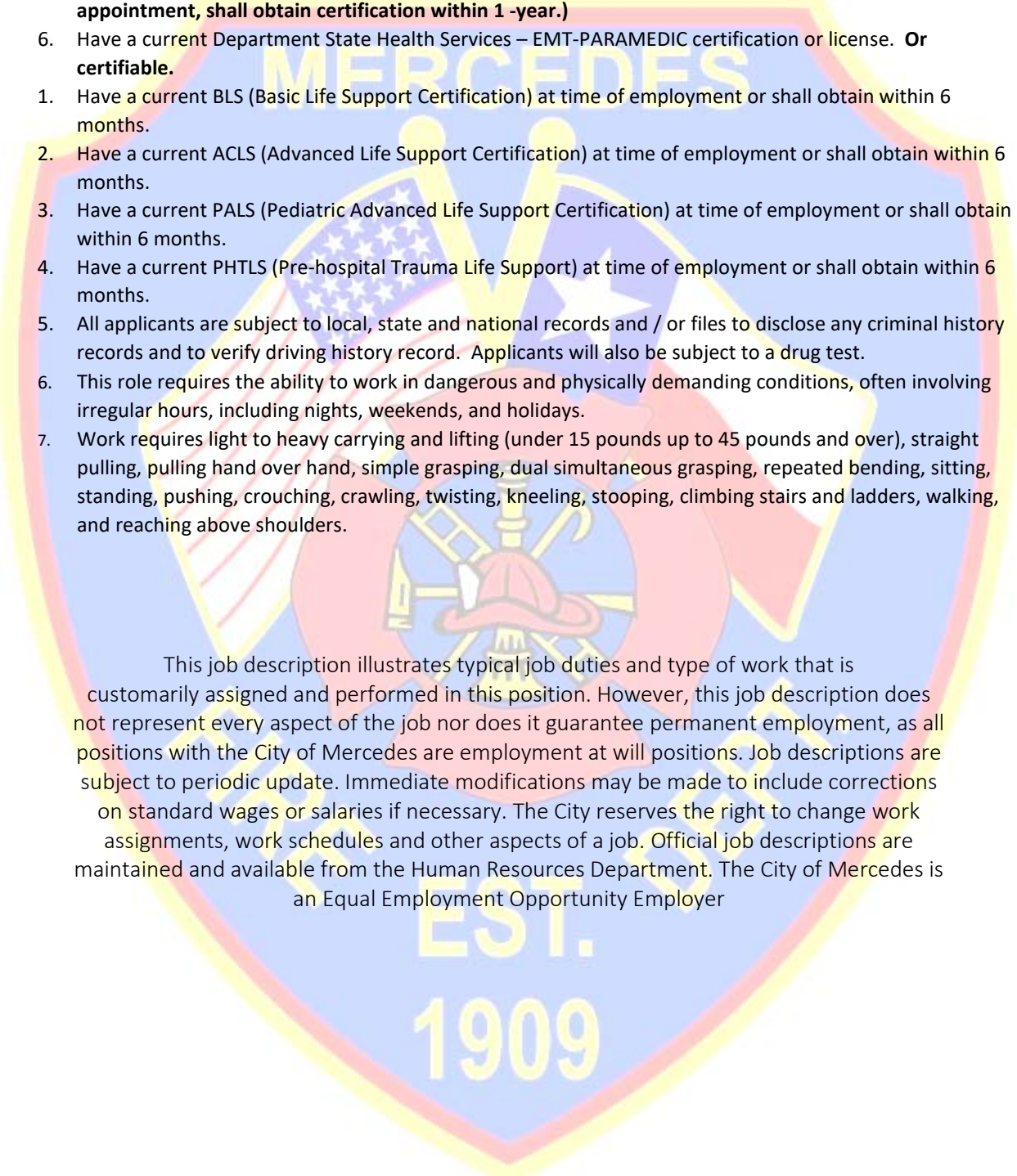
7. Performs necessary basic and advanced life support on sick, injured, or convalescent persons at the sites of emergencies or en route to hospitals or other medical facilities. Patient care may include: hemorrhage control and treatment for shock, intravenous therapy, medication administration, electrocardiogram interpretation, manual external defibrillation or synchronized cardioversion, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, airway maintenance via endotracheal intubation or cricothyroidotomy, and fracture stabilization and pain control.
8. Records event information including patient condition, patient history, treatments, vital signs, and scene observations.
9. Observes established basic and advanced medical protocols.
10. Supplies patient information to physicians via radio transmission or direct contact.
11. Maintains a daily log of responses.
12. Maintains inventories of equipment and supplies.
13. May operate emergency vehicles en route to emergencies and during patient transport to the hospital.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES, SKILLS

1. Thorough knowledge of the operation of all apparatus and equipment and methods used in combating, extinguishing and preventing fires and in rescue work.
2. Perform approved emergency medical care.
3. Knowledge of rules and regulations of the fire department.
4. Knowledge of the maintenance of equipment.
5. Knowledge of building construction and related codes, electric power codes, hydraulics and the location of hazardous occupancies in the municipality.
6. Mechanical aptitude.
7. Knowledge of water systems and watermains.
8. Agility and strength to do prolonged and hazardous work under adverse conditions.
9. Ability to react quickly and remain calm under duress and strain.
10. Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions.
11. Skill in the operation of all firefighting and rescue equipment including motor vehicles.
12. Interest and willingness to assist in community efforts throughout the municipality.
13. Training in advanced emergency medical procedures.
14. Training in patient assessment techniques.
15. Knowledge of symptoms of medical emergencies and of appropriate responses to such conditions.
16. Ability to evaluate patients' conditions and properly render emergency medical care including administration of emergency medications.
17. Ability to operate emergency vehicles.
18. Ability to establish and maintain effective work relationships with medical directors, superiors, other employees, and the public.
19. Ability to respond quickly and effectively in emergency situations.
20. Ability to communicate effectively, orally and in writing.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

1. Be at least 18 years of age.
2. Have a high school diploma or G.E.D. Applicant must attach a copy to the application.
3. Be eligible to work in the United States.

- 
- The logo of the Mercedes Fire Department is a shield-shaped emblem. At the top, the word "MERCED" is written in large, yellow, serif capital letters. Below this, there is a central circular emblem containing a fire helmet, crossed axes, and a fire hydrant. The shield is bordered by a yellow and red outline. At the bottom, the text "EST. 1909" is written in large, yellow, serif capital letters.
4. Applicant must have a current Texas driver's license. A class "B" is preferred. (At the time of appointment must have a valid Texas's driver's license with an insurable driving record. **Shall obtain a Texas class B license within 6 months of appointment.**)
 5. Have a current Basic Structural Fire Protection Certification by Texas Commission on Fire Protection. **(At appointment, shall obtain certification within 1 -year.)**
 6. Have a current Department State Health Services – EMT-PARAMEDIC certification or license. **Or certifiable.**
 1. Have a current BLS (Basic Life Support Certification) at time of employment or shall obtain within 6 months.
 2. Have a current ACLS (Advanced Life Support Certification) at time of employment or shall obtain within 6 months.
 3. Have a current PALS (Pediatric Advanced Life Support Certification) at time of employment or shall obtain within 6 months.
 4. Have a current PHTLS (Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support) at time of employment or shall obtain within 6 months.
 5. All applicants are subject to local, state and national records and / or files to disclose any criminal history records and to verify driving history record. Applicants will also be subject to a drug test.
 6. This role requires the ability to work in dangerous and physically demanding conditions, often involving irregular hours, including nights, weekends, and holidays.
 7. Work requires light to heavy carrying and lifting (under 15 pounds up to 45 pounds and over), straight pulling, pulling hand over hand, simple grasping, dual simultaneous grasping, repeated bending, sitting, standing, pushing, crouching, crawling, twisting, kneeling, stooping, climbing stairs and ladders, walking, and reaching above shoulders.

This job description illustrates typical job duties and type of work that is customarily assigned and performed in this position. However, this job description does not represent every aspect of the job nor does it guarantee permanent employment, as all positions with the City of Mercedes are employment at will positions. Job descriptions are subject to periodic update. Immediate modifications may be made to include corrections on standard wages or salaries if necessary. The City reserves the right to change work assignments, work schedules and other aspects of a job. Official job descriptions are maintained and available from the Human Resources Department. The City of Mercedes is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer