



# Rio Verde Fire District

## FIREFIGHTER

### JOB DESCRIPTION

**Classification Responsibilities:** Firefighters perform public safety work involving the protection of life and property by fighting fires, responding to emergency incidents, using Emergency Medical Services (EMS) skills, and engaging in fire code enforcement, public education, and station and equipment maintenance activities. This class is responsible for performing related duties as required.

**Distinguishing Features:** Upon successful completion of an approved firefighter recruit academy and completion of the criteria for promotion, Firefighter Recruits are criteria-based promoted to the Firefighter classification. Firefighters are required to work 24-hour shifts and 56-hour work weeks, and may be assigned to work a day assignment (40-hour work week) while assisting on special projects. Work at the fire station and scenes of fires is inspected in progress and upon completion by a Fire Captain, and is normally performed under close supervision in accordance with well-defined procedures. A Firefighter may act as a Fire Engineer or Fire Captain on a relief or training basis. This class is FLSA nonexempt.

### QUALIFICATIONS

**Minimum Qualification(s) Required.** Must meet the qualifications and special requirements for Firefighter - Recruit. Must successfully complete an approved firefighter recruit training academy and criteria for promotion to Firefighter. Possession of current State of Arizona Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification.

**Special Requirement(s).** Must possess a valid Arizona Driver's License. Must meet the qualifications to wear a tight fitting respirator by passing a medical evaluation test in accordance with CFR 1910.134 and must maintain certification.

**Preferred/Desirable Qualification(s).** Coursework toward an Associate's Degree in Fire Science or Fire Science Technology from a regionally accredited college or university is preferred.

### ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

**Communication:** Communicates with the general public and other agency employees in performing community service and public education activities, conducting business inspections, presenting public safety training classes, answering questions, delivering emergency care, and ensuring patient needs. Produces written documents to document technical and legal matters.

**Manual/Physical:** Responds to emergency incidents, fights fires, and utilizes either basic life support (BLS) or advanced life support (ALS) skills. Uses firefighting equipment, including fire hoses or apparatus at emergency incidents. Assists in advancing hose lines and making hydrant connections. Directs water streams on fires. Administers emergency first aid to injured persons. Operates the following: hydraulic or pneumatic rescue equipment to rescue trapped or endangered persons and to force entry into locked vehicles or structures; fire apparatus during fire suppression activities; and motor vehicles (automobile and fire apparatus) requiring a standard Arizona Driver's License to perform regular and emergency firefighting duties. Uses axes, pry tools, and pike poles to enter vehicles or structures. Uses common hand tools to overhaul a fire scene and perform routine fire apparatus maintenance duties. Performs searches and rescues inside burning buildings.

Moves dirt and burned building debris to rescue trapped or endangered persons and to overhaul burned-out structures. Moves heavy objects (up to 185 pounds or more) including fire hoses, EMS equipment, salvage equipment, smoke ejectors, trauma boxes, and back boards with the assistance of an aid, in performing firefighting and related duties. Ventilates burning buildings by opening windows and holes in roofs and floors. Positions and climbs ladders to gain access to upper building levels. Works in small, cramped areas when rescuing trapped, endangered, or injured people. Digs up ground to fight brush fires and rescue trapped persons from cave-ins. Detects the following: natural gas leaks, traffic sounds, sounds of impending building collapse, alarms, sirens, calls for assistance, and other audible signs of alarm or warning in emergency situations. Enters data into a personal computer to document incidents and reports. Wears personal protective equipment weighing approximately 70 pounds: in high humidity (up to 100 percent) situations while wearing personal protective equipment that significantly impairs body cooling; in environments with extreme temperature fluctuations; and relies on self-contained breathing apparatus for respiratory ventilation. Inspects alarm and fire control systems for compliance with fire code enforcement standards. Inspects buildings for compliance with the ICC (International Code Commission), fire prevention ordinances, etc. Distinguishes colors to identify National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 704m System (hazardous materials), and fire chemicals by smoke color. Works with cleaning fluids, chemicals, insecticides, and similar solutions using routine and non routine protective equipment to mitigate hazardous materials incidents. Works in a variety of weather conditions. Cleans and maintains buildings, apparatus, and grounds. Uses appropriate Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), including a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA), while performing tasks in environments that may be immediately dangerous to life (IDLH atmospheres). Meets scheduling and attendance requirements.

**Mental:** Comprehends and makes inferences from written material, such as Standard Operating Procedures and the ICC Code. Reads and interprets equipment instructions and preplans to operate equipment in emergency situations. Learns firefighting techniques, firefighting equipment operation, and emergency medical service care through on-the-job training and in classroom settings.

### **Knowledge/Skill/Abilities:**

Knowledge of:

- firefighting methods and modern fire prevention practices
- the ICC Code and the procedures involved in inspections
- emergency medical methods and procedures
- overhaul and salvage operations

- operation and care of fire apparatus and equipment.

Ability to:

- learn heavy motorized firefighting equipment operation and a variety of methods and tasks in firefighting, fire prevention, and related activities
- function effectively in emergency situations
- engage in moderate to strenuous physical activity and work long hours under emotional stress during emergency situations
- participate in fire drills and physical fitness programs, and comply with district medical and fitness requirements
- learn the street system and physical layout of the District
- understand and follow oral and written instructions
- establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, coworkers, supervisors, and the general public

The duties listed above are intended only as general illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. Specific statements of duties not included does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related, or a logical assignment to the position. Job descriptions are subject to change by the District as the needs of the District and requirements of the job change.