

Boulder Fire Protection District
Fire Fighter Job Description



Minimum Requirements:

- Must possess a high school diploma or equivalent
- Must possess a current Colorado EMT (B) License (at completion of academy)
- Must possess a current Colorado State Fire Fighter 1 certification (by completion of academy)
- Other current Colorado State certification(s) as required.
- Have and maintain a valid Colorado driver's license and acceptable motor vehicle record.
- Have and maintain acceptable background information including criminal history and credit history.
- Must have the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with people from a variety of diverse backgrounds and styles. Ability to work well in a team environment.

Desired Qualifications:

- Bilingual - Posses the ability to communicate in a language other than English.
- Ability to communicate professional and courteously with co-workers and the public including the ability to communicate effectively with diverse groups of people in difficult or stressful situations.

For additional information about the department or minimum requirements please visit:

<https://bouldercolorado.gov/fire-rescue>

Overall Job Objective:

Under general supervision, to participate in the extinguishment of fire and response to other emergencies, to minimize public and personal hazards by utilizing established practices and procedures of fire extinguishment, life-saving and first aid, to function as an effective member of a fire fighting team. May act in positions of higher rank when qualified and perform related duties as assigned.

Essential Functions:

1. Responds to fire, medical and other emergencies as part of a team with assigned company; lays and connects hose; holds nozzles and directs water steams, raises and climbs ladders, uses fire extinguishers and other tools.
2. Performs salvage, overhaul and clean-up operations.
3. Administers emergency medical technician level care at injury or accident scenes involving basic life support.
4. May respond to emergencies for specialized service such as confined space rescue, extrication and technical rescues including high angle, below grade, swift water, ice rescue, trench and collapse rescues and wildland fires.
5. Participates in handling and clean-up of hazardous materials spills and incidents.
6. Performs general maintenance of fire stations, property, trucks and equipment.
7. May drive and operate fire department vehicles, apparatus and equipment.
8. Participates in drills and classes pertaining to emergency medical, fire suppression, rescue, fire inspections and related subjects.

9. Participates in public education and community relation activities including school visits and fire station tours.
10. Performs fire and life safety inspections of buildings.
11. Prepares reports and completes paperwork and data entry.
12. Regular and predictable attendance at work is an essential function of this position.
13. Other
14. Performs related duties as required to meet the needs of the city.
 - a. While performing duties, takes proper safety precautions to prevent accidents, anticipates unsafe circumstances, and acts accordingly to prevent accidents. Responsible for the safety of self, others, materials, and equipment.
 - b. Uses all required safety equipment and follows all safety regulations, policies and procedures.
 - c. Reports all accidents and damage to city property.
 - d. Responsible for knowing and complying with all city and department policies; participating in professional trainings and development; and adhering to attendance and workplace attire policies.

Generally, duties and responsibilities are listed from most to least critical or time consuming.

Knowledge and Ability:

Knowledge of:

- Current principles, practices and procedures of fire fighting.
- Safety standards, procedures and precautions utilized in emergency response operations.
- Departmental and city policies, rules and practices.
- Fire prevention principles and practices.
- Purpose, use and care of tools and equipment related to emergency response.
- Basic mathematics and science.
- Emergency medical technician basic life support procedures.
- Principles of safe emergency vehicle operations and basic maintenance.
- Basic function and purpose of Microsoft Office products.

Working Conditions - Required Physical and Mental Effort, and Environmental Conditions:

Abilities:

- Ability to work for long periods of time, requiring sustained physical activity and intense concentration.
- Ability to perform fire-fighting tasks (hose line operations, extensive crawling, lifting and carrying heavy objects, ventilating roofs or walls using power or hand tools, forcible entry), rescue operations, and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions while wearing personal protective ensembles and self contained breathing apparatus.
- Ability to wear a self-contained breathing apparatus which includes a demand valve-type positive pressure face piece or HEPA filter mask which requires the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.
- Ability to do critical, time-sensitive, complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments, including hot, dark, tightly enclosed spaces, that is further aggravated by fatigue, flashing lights, sirens, and other distractions.
- Ability to communicate clearly (give and comprehend and follow written and verbal orders) while wearing personal protective ensembles and self-contained breathing apparatus under

conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and drenching from hose lines and or automatic fire sprinklers.

- Ability to function as an integral component of a team.
- Ability to use city provided software including fire report, records management and basic Microsoft Office products.
- Ability to actively establish, promote and maintain effective working relationships with fellow employees and the public.
- Ability to work well with and understand the perspectives of a wide range of individuals and groups.

Physical Demands:

- Performs work under stressful conditions for prolonged time periods including working in extremely hot or cold environments while wearing personal protective equipment and self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) that combined can weigh up to 50 lbs.
- Ability to repeatedly bend, stoop, crouch, crawl, kneel, climb, twist, walk, sit, lift, push, pull, reach, run, smell, hear, and see.
- Ability to make fine, highly controlled muscular movements to adjust equipment controls such as levers, pedals and valves.
- Ability to climb six or more flights of stairs while wearing personal protective ensembles and self-contained breathing apparatus weighing at least 50 lbs. and carrying tools weighing 50 lbs or more.
- Ability to rescue by dragging or carrying victims over 165 lbs and /or advance water-filled hose lines up to 2-1/2" in diameter at least 150' which can involve negotiating multiple flights of stairs, ladders and other obstacles. A 50' section of 2-1/2" hose holds approximately 130 lbs of water.
- Ability to climb ladders, work from heights exceeding 10', walking or crawling in the dark along narrow and uneven surfaces, and working in proximity to electrical power lines or other hazards.
- Performing forcible entry while lifting, carrying and utilizing tools and equipment (i.e. axe, halligan tool, chain saw or circular saw) that may weigh 7 lbs to 50 lbs that requires chopping, pulling or operating these items, overhead or extending in front of the body, to open doors, windows, or other barriers to gain access to victims, or to initiate fire fighting operations.
- Performs ventilation utilizing tools and equipment (i.e. axe, circular saw, chain saw or pike pole) while operating on a flat or pitched roof or operating off a ground or aerial ladder. This task requires chopping or pushing tools through roofs, ceilings, walls or windows that frequently requires work with arms above shoulder level in a push/pull motion with a frequent pushing force of 75 lbs and a pulling force of 65 lbs.
- Wearing an SCBA requires the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.
- Ability to rely on sense of sight and hearing to help determine the nature of an emergency and make operational decisions based upon those observations.
- Ability to distinguish primary colors to recognize hazardous materials symbols or to observe the color of smoke and flames.

Work Environment:

- Transition from sedentary work or sleep to extended periods of heavy arduous work under hazardous and severe conditions for prolonged periods of extreme physical exertion without benefit of warm-up, scheduled rest periods, meals, access to medications or hydrations.
- Irregular work hours that can cause lack of regular sleep.
- Exposure to dirt, dust, pollen, odors, irritants, particulates, humidity, fumes, loud noise, hazardous materials, fire, unsafe structures, heights, confined spaces, machinery,

vibrations, electric currents, traffic hazards, heated gases, toxic agents, explosives, firearms, water hazards like flowing streams, lakes and ice, violence, falling debris, heavy equipment.

- Exposure to toxic chemicals, biological agents and hazards, blood borne pathogens, disease and pathogenic substances, irritants.
- Exposure to a variety of weather conditions including extreme cold, extreme heat, rain, snow, wind limited visibility and darkness.

The City of Boulder is committed to hiring employees who provide excellent customer service. Our employees act with a high level of integrity, and take responsibility for their words and actions.

City of Boulder employees strive to respect and appreciate each individual's differences, and to work effectively with all people and their diverse backgrounds. We support candid and honest interactions, which respect other points of view, and are sensitive to communication differences. We achieve organizational goals through inclusive problem solving, planning and decision-making. Community partnerships are included in this effort.

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE:

(1) TITLE OF IMMEDIATE SUPERVISOR: Fire Lieutenant or Fire Shift Captain

(2) TITLE (S) OF POSITION (S) OVER WHICH THIS POSITION HAS DIRECT SUPERVISION: None

Machines and equipment used in work include, but not limited to, the following:

Fire Apparatus and vehicles, ladders, hose, nozzles, self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and other respiratory protective equipment, rescue equipment, power tools, computer, radios, and office equipment.

Accommodations: Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable qualified individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions of this position.

Background Information:

Demonstrated personal and professional honesty, integrity, and good judgment as shown in applicant's criminal history, background and motor vehicle record. Polygraph and psychological examinations will be utilized. The following will disqualify any applicant from consideration:

- Any felony conviction.
- Any commission of a felony in the previous 60 months (5 years), including felonious drug use or possession.
- Any non-traffic related misdemeanor within the previous 36 months (3 years).
- The use, sale, possession or transfer of any controlled substance in the previous 3 years. (There may be some discretion if the facts show very limited experimentation with marijuana. There will be zero tolerance for regular marijuana use or use of any other controlled substance in the previous 36 months (3 years).
- Eight points or three moving violation convictions, or a suspended, restricted, or revoked license in the previous 24 months (2 years).
- Any false or untrue statements or material omissions in the application and related paperwork or during the selection process.

Testing:

Testing may include a written examination, physical agility exam, oral board interview(s), and medical examination. Each portion must be passed to continue in the hiring process.

Note: The above description is illustrative only. It is not meant to be all-inclusive.