

**Town of Signal Mountain  
Position Description**

**Title: Firefighter  
Division/Department: Fire Department**

**Purpose:**

Employee is required to prevent, control, and extinguish fires of any type, and to participate in other activities of the department. This position is under the supervision of their Fire Lieutenant.

**Essential Functions of the Job:**

*Essential functions are fundamental job duties. They do not include marginal tasks, which are also performed but are not incidental to the primary functions. The omissions of specific statements of duties do not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position, nor does every position allocated to the job necessarily perform every duty listed.*

Respond to medical emergencies and fire alarms; suppress fires of any type that threaten life and/or property; participate in search and/or rescue operations.

Conduct routine inspections and maintenance of all apparatus and equipment.

Assist in performing flow-pressure checks on all town fire hydrants and preparing written documentation.

All other duties as assigned.

**Required Knowledge and Abilities:**

Knowledge of and abilities in, but not limited to, fire behavior, portable extinguishers, firefighter personal protective equipment, ropes and knots, rescue and extraction, Hazmat, forcible entry, ventilation, ladders, water supply, fire streams, hose lines, fire control, automatic sprinkler systems, salvage and overhaul, building construction, firefighter safety, fire prevention and public education.

Knowledge of Incident Command System, N.I.M.S., dispatching procedures, department radio communications procedures, geographic area of the Town, hydraulics and friction loss, fire suppression and rescue techniques, Signal Mountain Fire Department policies and procedures, all laws governing the operation of emergency vehicles, tactical fire suppression and rescue techniques, proper and accepted pumping principles and procedures for fire apparatus, hydraulics and friction loss, specified apparatus equipment inventory, and location and flow pressure of all hydrants within the town.

## FIREFIGHTER

Ability to maintain adequate water pressure on supply lines and fire suppression lines; calculate complex mathematical problems related to pumping operations; react quickly and calmly in emergency situations and determine the proper course of action; understand and follow oral and written instructions; develop and maintain a minimum level of physical fitness; establish and maintain effective working relationship with the public and other employees; operate department vehicles in a safe and professional manner.

### **Equipment:**

Medical equipment as required for First Responder functions, Self-contained Breathing Apparatus, turnout gear, thermal imaging cameras, fire hoses of various diameters, power saws, hand-held cutting tools, ladders, positive pressure ventilation fans and smoke ejectors, salvage and overhaul equipment, vehicle extraction equipment, generators, ropes, pike poles, brush fire rakes.

### **Educational Requirements:**

High school diploma or equivalent.

### **Experience Required:**

No related experience, but willingness and ability to become State of Tennessee certified First Responder, a certified Hazardous Materials First Responder, and to successfully complete State required Firefighter I as well as TARS Vehicle Extrication Technician certification within 1 year of hire date. Completion of Firefighter II is required within 2 years. A valid State of Tennessee driver's license Class D Endorsement F or equal is required at time of hire.

### **Problem Solving Requirements:**

Solve problems in situations where most problems have occurred before and their solutions are familiar.

### **Writing Skills Required:**

Complete forms using a few words or numbers; for example, taking telephone messages. Write standard documentation using established formats; document work performed, actions taken or results by writing one or two brief sentences.

### **Speaking/Presentation Skills Required**

Answer questions with a brief response or provide standard information to citizens, visitors, callers, supervisors, or other employees; direct people to offices; answer the telephone; convey summary instructions or results to other staff.

### **Job Related Communication**

Within the department – daily

With employees in other departments – weekly

With employees in other organizations – weekly

With the public - daily

## FIREFIGHTER

### **Planning & Scheduling:**

Very limited – little opportunity to plan or schedule own activities.

### **Difficulty of Work:**

Work involves following standardized procedures to complete assigned duties.

### **Assignment of Work**

Close supervision with frequent checks.

### **Effects of Work Errors:**

Errors may cause delays in work or losses in expenditures for material and/or equipment or unjustified work time.

### **Working Conditions:**

On average 40 percent standing, 40 percent walking, and 20 percent sitting. Approximately 60lbs. or more may be required lifting.

Lifting frequency – frequent

Bending – frequent

Pushing and/or pulling loads – frequent

Reaching over head – frequent

Kneeling – frequent

Crawling – frequent

Climbing ladders – frequent

### **Mental/Visual Effort**

Typing/CRT – some

Attention to detail – frequent

Monitoring equipment – frequent

Detailed inspection – some

Transcription/proofreading – none

### **Adverse Conditions**

Exposure to temperature extremes – frequent

Dangerous equipment – frequent

Chemicals - some

Noise – frequent

Physical effort/risk – frequent

### **Other Physical Risks or Efforts:**

Firefighting and rescue activities in uncontrolled environments; exposure to environmental hazards, possibility of exposure to bio-hazard and chemicals; personal protective clothing and breathing apparatus worn when entering hazardous environments.