EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (Fire Rescue)

*** This position is covered by a collective bargaining agreement ***
**This position may require a physical ability/agility test**
*This position requires additional certifications to be obtained within a defined timeframe*

Must have the physical, developmental and mental ability to perform job tasks, work efforts, responsibilities and duties of the job illustrated. The job description herein provides for the range of duties to be performed for this position. It is not intended to reflect all duties that are required within this position.

MAJOR FUNCTION

Works as needed on a part-time basis up to 120 hours in a two-week period. Paraprofessional work in rendering out of hospital life support functions, other emergency care and rescue services, including support and backup of fire service personnel at fire scenes, accidents and natural disasters. Duties include the operation and maintenance of the ambulance.

ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES

Responds promptly to all non-emergency and emergency calls, including all fire service calls involving structures and/or danger to life. Drives ambulance with due regard for the safety of all persons at all times. Assists in extricating trapped victims and transports sick and injured persons to treatment centers. Must adhere to physician’s instructions, protocol, and standing orders. Observes, records, and reports to physicians the patient’s condition and reaction to treatments and significant incidents. When responding to an emergency call or while transporting a patient, driver may exercise the privilege set forth in chapter 316.051 (5) F.S.

Although emergency rescue work, including the administration of emergency medical treatment, is the most difficult and responsible area of activity, a major portion of time is spent on training, studying methods, techniques and organization of pre-hospital care services and on routine duties in the care and maintenance of Fire Rescue Division property and equipment. Work involves an element of personal danger and requires working on extended shifts.

Secures patient from movement during ambulance trip and drives with due caution to avoid any unnecessary cause of motions that may be detrimental to the patient.

Administers out of hospital emergency and fire rescue and medical care services, and basic life support. Under supervision of Fire Rescue Medical Director or a physician, performs the following by protocol and standing orders; defibrillate a pulseless non-breathing patient utilizing the semi-automated external defibrillator, esophageal airway, blood glucose monitoring devices, and performs other procedures as allowed by emergency medical service rules and regulations and/or by the Fire Rescue Medical Director.
ILLUSTRATIVE DUTIES (continued)

Operates radio communications with Dispatch, hospital, etc. Prepares and completes required reports keeping information regarding patients confidential. Participates in the on-duty company physical fitness program.

Must comply with the Polk County Fire Rescue Blood Borne Pathogen Exposure Control Plan. Maintains and ensures that all supplies are available in sufficient quantities as required to operate an emergency ambulance and that all equipment is operational. Keeps ambulance clean. Replaces linen on stretcher and provides clean bedding. Maintains ambulance in an efficient, operational condition. Checks gas, oil, water, belts, and tires. Reports necessary maintenance problems on shift checklist.

Performs related duties as required.

KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS

Knowledge of emergency care procedures, cardio-pulmonary resuscitation and the use of life sustaining equipment and practices. Knowledge of conducive safety and comfort manners and methods in the handling and treatment of patients. Knowledge of Florida safety requirements and privileges when responding to non-emergency and emergency calls. Ability to learn and follow the current Fire Rescue Practice Parameters for patient care (Protocols), as well as all Fire Rescue policies, procedures and Standard Operating Procedures (SOP).

Ability to analyze situations quickly and objectively and to determine the proper course of action. Ability to react quickly and calmly under emergency conditions.

Knowledge of Florida traffic and driving regulations. Knowledge of and skill in defensive driving methods. Ability to become familiar with the roadway/highway systems within Polk County.

Ability to communicate effectively both orally and in writing. Must be able to read, write clearly using rules of punctuation, grammar, diction and style. Must be able to speak the English language in an understandable manner. Ability to understand and execute complex oral and written instructions quickly.

Ability to climb stairs in multiple story buildings carrying tools and equipment. Ability to work as a team player, assist Paramedic(s), and other emergency service personnel.

Ability to support and back up fire service personnel. Ability to make sound judgments.
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KNOWLEDGE, ABILITIES AND SKILLS (continued)

Using proper body mechanics, ability to lift and carry one end of a stretcher holding patients weighing an average of 150 pounds frequently, with an upward range of 300 pounds infrequently not including the weight of the stretcher. Ability to exert an excess of 100 pounds of force occasionally, and/or in excess of 50 pounds frequently and/or in excess of 20 pounds of forces constantly to move objects. Physical demand requirements are in excess of those for heavy work.

Ability to physically and mentally perform a variety of various emergency duties under extreme conditions. Ability to distinguish colors. Ability and skill to perform minor maintenance repairs on an ambulance.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Graduate of an accredited high school or possess an acceptable equivalency diploma and possess a valid certification card as an Emergency Medical Technician issued by the State of Florida Department of Health and must possess the following requirements;

A. Is at least 18 years of age

B. Certifies under oath that he/she is not addicted to alcohol or any controlled substance.

C. Certifies under oath that he/she is free from any physical or mental defect or disease that might impair his/her ability to drive an ambulance and perform his/her duties.

D. Meet the following driving history requirements:

a. Have not accrued 12 points within 36 months or 18 points within 48 months.

b. Have not been convicted on alcohol/drug related offenses within 36 months.

c. Have not been convicted of two (2) alcohol/drug related offenses within 10 years.

d. Have not had a suspension, revocation, or restriction due to moving violations or alcohol/ drug related problem, including failure to take a breath test within the 36 months prior.

e. Must provide proof of insurance when required to use their personal vehicle as part of their daily job duties.

E. Possess a valid American Heart Association CPR "BLS for Health Care Providers" card or the American Red Cross Professional CPR card or American Heart Association (AHA) or American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI)

F. Possess a valid Emergency Vehicle Operator Course Certification card or a recognized 16 hour course that is equivalent.

G. Must have a valid driver's license and be able to secure a valid Florida driver’s license at the time of employment.
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MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (continued)

H. Possess a valid International Trauma Life Support (ITLS) or Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) provider or instructor certification, OR be able to obtain one within one year of employment.

I. Possess the following National Incident Management System (NIMS) certifications:
   a. ICS-100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
   b. ICS-200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
   c. IS-700: National Incident Management System, An Introduction

No comparable amount of training, certifications and/or experience may be substituted for the above minimum state qualifications unless such an accepted equivalent is approved by the Florida Department of Health.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

Must obtain and maintain Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Security Awareness certification through the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) as a condition of employment.

Applicants who have not been employed by the Polk County Fire Rescue Division in a Firefighter, Paramedic, or Emergency Medical Technical capacity will be required to produce documentation that they have successfully completed a physical ability exam. The exam date can be no more than one calendar year from the hire date. Either of the following is acceptable for this exam requirement:

   • Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) and the exam date can be no more than one calendar year from the hire date
   • Complete the FireTEAM testing and a Personal History Questionnaire (PHQ) at the time of application.

Must have a telephone while employed with the Fire Rescue Division, as employee is subject to call in emergencies.

Must keep certifications and licensure updated as required for employment.

Must obtain certification as a Florida certified firefighter and paramedic within four (4) years of date of hire.

This position may be required to report for work when a declaration of emergency has been declared in Polk County.
SPECIAL PREFERENCE

Preference will be given to those whose driving record reflects that they have not had any of the following:

a. Two (2) failures to pay fines within 36 months.
b. Two (2) seatbelt violations within 36 months.
c. Three (3) lapses of insurance within 36 months.
d. Serious traffic violations such as leaving the scene or driving on a suspended license within 36 months.