

## TOWN OF COLCHESTER

### JOB DESCRIPTION

**Position:** Career Firefighter

**Reports to:** Career Captain

**Department:** Fire Department

**Classification:** Non-Exempt

### JOB FUNCTION

To perform fire suppression, fire prevention, and emergency medical services. Duties include fire suppression, emergency medical services, hazardous materials mitigation, related trainings, and maintenance of emergency vehicles, emergency equipment and fire station.

### DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS & ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:

This position will perform and meet all the characteristic duties and responsibilities of the Firefighter/EMT.

- Perform interior firefighting activities utilizing fire hoses heavy stream appliances, extinguishers and ladders, ventilates burning buildings;
- Wear and use Self Contained Breathing apparatus to enter extremely hazardous environments, and perform search and rescue procedures to evacuate and rescue persons in danger;
- Operate all emergency equipment to include fire engines, aerial devices, and specialized rescue equipment;
- Perform hazardous materials mitigation to the certified operations level;
- Perform specialized rescue, as programs are implemented;
- Administer emergency medical services to sick and injured persons, including performing vital signs, semiautomatic defibrillation, patient assessments and other related patient care tasks in conjunction with state approved guidelines;
- Interact with injured and sick patients, with frequent exposures to illness, bodily fluids, and potential blood and air-borne pathogens;
- Perform daily emergency apparatus and equipment inspections to ensure proper service of all equipment, including minor maintenance and repairs, and apparatus and equipment tests;
- Conduct daily routine station maintenance in accordance with established schedule;
- Assist with daily record keeping activities, to include computer based incident reporting and emergency medical documentation;
- Attend Department training programs and occasionally instruct at Departmental training;
- Maintain positive public relations while participating in conducting fire prevention programs and other related fire educational activities;

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- Make frequent contact with general public, municipal emergency service agencies and other private agencies when responding to fire and emergency medical incidents;
- Is involved in activities on a routine basis where patient medical information and other information is sensitive in nature and must be kept confidential;
- Work under the general direction of a superior officer and in accordance with departmental rules and regulations;
- Requires frequent strenuous physical efforts in situations of severe personal danger with exposure to all types of weather conditions and extreme hazardous environments, and therefore must maintain a level of physical conditioning necessary to successfully complete annual medical testing and agility/skills testing, including the ability to lift weight up to 150 pounds;
- Occasionally serve in a leadership role in the absence of superior officers or until they arrive;
- Other duties as assigned.

### **SUPERVISION RECEIVED**

- This position receives direction from the Fire Chief, Full-Time Captains, Lieutenants, Deputy Assistant Chiefs, and Battalion Chiefs.

### **DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Must be at least 18 years of age, hold a High School Diploma or equivalent, possess a valid driver's license, hold a Vermont State Firefighter Level One Certification and possess current Certification as Vermont State Emergency Medical Technician.

Must also have:

- Thorough knowledge of firefighting principals, equipment, and techniques;
- The ability to obtain a working knowledge of Departmental policies and procedures;
- The ability to operate aerial devices, fire engines, and other emergency vehicles;
- The ability to use fire hoses, forcible entry tools, and other emergency equipment;
- The ability to perform continuous strenuous effort for extended periods of time under hazardous conditions and adverse weather conditions;
- Working knowledge of the town layout and streets in Colchester;
- The ability to effectively communicate both orally and in writing;
- Understand and follow oral and written instructions in the English language
- The ability to rely on sense of sight and hearing to help determine the nature of an emergency and make operational decisions;
- The ability to comprehend and make inferences from written material in the English language;
- A valid Vermont Emergency medical technician – Basic certification required.
- Background check required.
- Valid Vermont Driver's License

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### Physical Requirements:

These are physical and mental requirements of the position as it is typically performed. Inability to meet one or more of these physical or mental requirements will not automatically disqualify a candidate or employee from the position. Upon request for a reasonable accommodation, the organization may be able to adjust or excuse one or more of these requirements, depending on the requirement, the essential functions to which it relates, and the proposed accommodation.

x seeing	x ability to move distances within warehouses and offices
x color perception (red, green, amber)	x lifting (specify 150 pounds)
x hearing/listening	x carrying (specify 150 pounds)
x clear speech	x climbing
x touching	x driving
x dexterity hand finger	x ability to mount and dismount forklift
x reading basic	x pushing/pulling
x reading complex	x shift work
x math skills basic	x moving objects
x math skills complex	x pressurized equipment
x writing basic	x extreme heat
x writing complex	x extreme cold
x analysis/comprehension	x high places
x judgment/decision making	x noise
x clerical	x fumes/odors
x inside	x dirt/dust
x outside	x hazardous materials
x works alone	x electrical equipment
x works with others	x mechanical equipment
x face –to-face contact	x verbal contact w/others

### Disclaimer:

The above statements are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed by employees to this classification. They are not intended to be construed as an exhaustive list of all responsibilities, duties and/or skills required of all personnel to be classified. Nothing in this job description should be construed as a promise of employment at a particular level or for any particular time frame. This position is an “at will” position. The Town of Colchester reserves the right to determine, in its sole discretion, which functions are performed by which employees and to make changes to functions or responsibilities at any time, with notice to employees of such changes.