

Jurisdictional Class: Competitive
Adopted: February 6, 2014
Revised: December 13, 2023

SENIOR AIRPORT FIREFIGHTER

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This is a supervisory level position involving potentially dangerous and physically demanding work overseeing and supervising all aspects of aircraft firefighting operations. The incumbent must be physically capable of performing difficult tasks in a high degree of heat, stress, and noise. The incumbent supervises the training of assigned firefighting personnel; oversees the station housekeeping; ensures general maintenance of station vehicles, equipment, and apparatus; responds to emergency fire suppression; and participates and exercises control at aircraft emergencies. Additionally, employees in this class perform a variety of semi-skilled buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance activities to include snow removal and grass cutting. An employee in this class works under the direction of the Airport Fire and Safety Coordinator with leeway allowed for exercise of independent judgment in carrying out details of the work. The Senior Airport Firefighter has complete charge of fire station activities and operations at the scene of a fire in the absence of, or pending arrival of, the Airport Fire and Safety Coordinator. Supervision is exercised over Airport Firefighters. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: (Illustrative only)

Supervises the driving, operation, and directing of firefighting equipment to the scene of an emergency, participates in the use of extinguishing or suppressant agent(s) to the aircraft, and uses rescue and/or extrication equipment to gain entry to damaged aircraft;

Supervises and participates in daily standby aircraft fire protection coverage at the fire station during scheduled periods as well as non-scheduled flying activities or additional special circumstances as required;

Supervises and participates in such activities as: containing and absorbing fuel spills, engine run-ups, refueling and defueling of aircraft in hazardous conditions, etc.;

Supervises and responds, as needed, to calls for aircraft emergencies, including but not limited to: adverse conditions, bomb threats, hi-jack alerts, structure fires, wild land fires, hazardous materials emergencies, and ground transportation accidents;

Establishes fire lines to prevent unauthorized persons from entering a crash or emergency area;

Coordinates actions/tactics and assistance from local fire departments and their mutual aid companies, emergency medical personnel, law enforcement, and others at scene;

Instructs and/or participates in in-service training for airport firefighting, rescue, safety, and security purposes in accordance with Federal Aviation Regulation (FAR) Part 139 and keeps records of such training;

Inspects and does minor maintenance to Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting (ARFF) vehicles;

Oversees and participates in the routine maintenance and cleaning of assigned fire apparatus and equipment, and ensures that they are in a constant state of readiness for emergency response;

Maintains proficiency with ARFF fire apparatus and equipment, to include training with and inspection of firefighting and resource equipment;

Performs and assists in routine fire and safety inspections of sprinkler and alarm systems, fuel tanks, aircraft hangars, and other airport property in accordance with FAA, NFPA, OSHA, DEC regulations and New York State Fire Code requirements;

Assists and participates in ARFF training and keeps records of such training;

Completes daily inter-office duties related to firefighting activities and maintains logs and required related reports such as facilities inspection records, firefighter training records, emergency incident reports, etc;

Escorts authorized personnel around the airport and runway as needed for repair crews, inspections, tours, etc.;

Oversees and conducts regular inspections of airfield runways and taxiways for safety and security purposes;

May file NOTAMS for airfield, as necessary;

Oversees and participates in housekeeping around the airport, the fire station, and fire station grounds;

Senior Airport Firefighter

Oversees and assists in snow removal activities;
Oversees and assists in grass cutting activities;
Assists with repairs to minor discrepancies that occur in airport owned buildings;
Performs a variety of semi-skilled buildings and grounds cleaning and maintenance activities;
Is responsible to learn and follow all Department Standard Operations Procedures (SOP) and Standard Operations Guidelines (SOG).

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES & PERSONAL

CHARACTERISTICS: Good knowledge of principles, practices, techniques, tools, and materials used in aircraft firefighting and rescue;

Good knowledge of the Incident Command system;

Good knowledge of the physical layout of the airport and safety techniques for responding to emergencies;

Good knowledge and skill in the operation and maintenance of firefighting apparatus and equipment;

Working knowledge of modern principles and practices of supervision;

Ability to give clear and concise oral instructions;

Ability to supervise the work of others in a manner conducive to full performance and high morale;

Ability to respond quickly and effectively in emergency situations and remain calm;

Ability to operate and maintain specialized equipment for firefighting and air crash rescue;

Ability to wear respirator per OSHA regulations and other personal protective equipment as deemed necessary; Ability to get along with others;

Ability to operate large snow removal equipment;

Ability to operate grass cutting equipment;

Ability to understand and follow oral and written instructions;

Ability to use departmental computer equipment to input, review, and access forms, information, and other various data;

Skill in the use of hand tools and machinery used in keeping airport buildings in good repair.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from high school or possession of an equivalency diploma, Five (5) years of documented paid or volunteer firefighting experience within the last ten (10) years, of which two (2) years shall have been in aircraft rescue fire-fighting at a military or civilian airport;

AND possession of the following FEMA courses:

ICS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System

ICS-200 ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents

IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), an Introduction

IS-800 National Response Framework, an Introduction.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS:

Eligibility for an appropriate level New York State driver's license at time of application; possession of license at time of appointment.

Applicants will be required to obtain and possess a valid EMT-B (Emergency Medical Technician - Basic) Certification.

Possession of an Aircraft Rescue and Firefighting Certificate (ARFF) is required within one (1) year of appointment with capability of wearing respirator and other personal protective equipment as necessary per OSHA regulations. Certification must be kept current throughout employment.

Completion of FEMA course ICS-300 Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents must be completed within one (1) year of appointment.