



Code: 8750
Family: Public Safety
Service: Public Safety
Group: Fire Service
Series: Firefighting

CLASS TITLE: PARAMEDIC

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE CLASS

Under general supervision of a Paramedic In-Charge or Ambulance Commander, a paramedic provides emergency medical care and transportation to victims of trauma, injury or illness; participates in training drills and exercises, attends training programs, maintains paramedic equipment and fire house facilities; and performs related duties as required

ESSENTIAL DUTIES

- Responds to calls for emergency medical assistance to provide pre-hospital emergency medical care
- Treats sick and injured persons at fire and emergency scenes by assessing the nature and extent of illness or injury and following established protocols
- Uses medical equipment and applies paramedical protocols to administer injections of medications and drugs, monitor cardiac patients and perform other required medical procedures
- Prepares patients for transport to hospital facilities, placing them on a stretcher or other conveyance devices, lifting and carrying patients as required
- Prepares patient care reports and other documents as required
- Inspects and ensures that medical, electronic and communications equipment on an ambulance are in proper operating condition
- Inspects the operational condition of ambulance and related apparatus and performs routine operator maintenance checks of ambulances
- Inventories supplies on ambulance, inspects the condition and quality, and restocks supplies following each run or as required
- Ensures safe operation while driving the ambulance and other vehicles to and from emergency scenes and hospitals
- May participate in public education safety programs to educate the public concerning fire prevention and safety programs
- Attends training classes and participates in company drills relating to paramedic protocols; hazardous materials awareness and operations, extrication and related Emergency Medical Service (EMS) operations
- Performs general maintenance and cleaning of Fire Department equipment and general housekeeping of firehouse facilities
- Strictly employs universal precautions, proper barrier devices and routine hand washing in the prevention of disease transmission

NOTE: *The list of essential duties is not intended to be inclusive; there may be other duties that are essential to particular positions within the class.*

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education, Training, and Experience

- Paramedic candidates must successfully complete all requirements of the Fire Academy

Licensure, Certification, or Other Qualifications

- Must have and maintain State of Illinois certification as a licensed Paramedic/EMTP for the duration of employment with the Chicago Fire Department
- Must have a valid State of Illinois Driver's License
- Must have a CPR (Cardiac Pulmonary Resuscitation) certification
- Must have one of the following certifications:
 - Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS)
 - Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS)
 - Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
 - International Trauma Life Support (ITLS)
 - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
 - Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)

WORKING CONDITIONS

- Stressful and physically demanding environment
- Extreme weather conditions

EQUIPMENT

- Two-Way Radio
- Computers and peripheral equipment (e.g., personal computer, computer terminals, hand-held computer)
- Cardiac Monitor & Defibrillator
- Patient Conveyance Devices
- Airway Management Devices
- Patient Immobilization Devices
- Splinting & Hemorrhage Control Devices
- IV (intravenous) insertion equipment
- Medication Administration Devices
- Personal Protective Equipment

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Must pass all phases of the selection process including a medical evaluation, drug screen, physical performance test and background investigation

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES, AND OTHER WORK REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge

Moderate knowledge of:

- Region XI Chicago Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Policies and Procedures
- Region XI Chicago Paramedic Standing Medical Orders
- Illinois EMS Act and applicable portions of Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) regulations
- geographical locations in the City

Some knowledge of:

- fire and emergency medical procedures
- safety principles and practices
- radio, telephone, and computer-aided dispatch communications systems and their operation

Knowledge of applicable City and department policies, procedures and regulations

Skills

- **ACTIVE LISTENING** - Give full attention to what other people are saying, take time to understand the points being made, ask questions as appropriate, and not interrupt at inappropriate times
- **CRITICAL THINKING** - Use logic and reasoning to identify the strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions, conclusions, or approaches to problems
- **SERVICE ORIENTATION** – Actively looks for ways to help people
- **SOCIAL PERCEPTIVENESS** – Demonstrates awareness of others' reactions and understands why they react as they do
- **EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE** – Performs routine maintenance on equipment and determines when and what kind of maintenance is needed
- **STAMINA** – Demonstrates energy and stamina to accomplish work tasks
- **OPERATION AND CONTROL** - Control operations of equipment or systems

Abilities

- **COMPREHEND ORAL INFORMATION** - Listen to and understand information and ideas presented through spoken words and sentences
- **SPEAK** - Communicate information and ideas in speaking so others will understand
- **COMPREHEND WRITTEN INFORMATION** - Read and understand information and ideas presented in writing
- **WRITE** - Communicate information and ideas in writing so others will understand
- **MAKE SENSE OF INFORMATION** - Quickly make sense of, combine, and organize information into meaningful patterns

Other Work Requirements

- **PERSISTENCE** - Persist in the face of obstacles on the job
- **INITIATIVE** - Demonstrate willingness to take on job challenges
- **CONCERN FOR OTHERS** - Demonstrate sensitivity to others' needs and feelings and be understanding and helpful on the job
- **SELF CONTROL** – Maintains composure, keeps emotions in check even in very difficult situations, controls anger and avoids aggressive behavior
- **ATTENTION TO DETAIL** - Pay careful attention to detail and thoroughness in completing work tasks

All employees of the City of Chicago must demonstrate commitment to and compliance with applicable state and federal laws, and City ordinances and rules; the City's Ethics standards; and other City policies and procedures.

The City of Chicago will consider equivalent foreign degrees, accreditations, and credentials in evaluating qualifications.

* May be required at entry.

City of Chicago
Department of Human Resources
April, 2019
March, 2023 (certification updated)