

**Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority  
Fire & Rescue Department**

**FIREFIGHTER MEDIC (F12)**

*Nothing in this job description restricts management's right to assign or reassign duties and responsibilities to this job at any time.*

**DUTIES** Serves as a Firefighter Medic with the Fire and Rescue Department (Department) of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (Airports Authority). Performs full performance level Firefighter functions in fire prevention, suppression, and rescue, and emergency medical services (EMS) at the advanced life support (ALS) level, in airport, other public transportation (roadway, tunnel and rail), office and community settings. [Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) certification is required.] Responds to all types of emergency situations and, under the direction of the Incident Commander or other authority (or a physician in certain ALS situations), carries out assigned duties to mitigate the emergency. Maintains assigned apparatus and equipment in clean and operationally ready condition. Helps maintain facilities in a clean, safe and healthy condition. May serve as a Water Rescue Technician. May serve as a member or shift team leader on the Hazardous Materials (HAZMAT) Team. Performs related Firefighter Medic functions.

--Responds to and mitigates emergency incidents including, but not limited to, structural fires, aircraft accidents and/or fires, medical emergencies, automobile accidents, boating/water accidents, HAZMAT releases, confined space emergencies (including tunnel emergencies), terrorism-related emergencies, weather-related emergencies and other emergencies. Performs all tasks required to mitigate an emergency, including ALS tasks which require specialized training and certification as an EMT-P. If certified and assigned as a Water Rescue Technician or HAZMAT Technician, performs or leads safe, effective response to waterborne incidents, industrial accidents (including HAZMAT releases), etc. If not assigned to a special Team, supports HAZMAT efforts or River Rescue efforts of the Department. Also responds to tunnel emergencies and technical rescue efforts (performed by mutual aid jurisdictions on Airports Authority property), as required.

--Drives vehicles and apparatus safely and effectively. Uses proper approach routes and speed and adheres to all other pertinent factors, and positions vehicle/apparatus according to the nature of the emergency and pertinent conditions and factors. For aircraft emergencies, pertinent conditions and factors include weather and visibility and aircraft characteristics, such as tanks and other hazard areas and general occupancy capacities, for effective suppression, extrication and rescue. Drives all makes and models of Department vehicles, as certified and assigned.

--Performs individual and team fire ground operations to ensure life safety, fire control and property conservation. Forces entry into structure or aircraft so that barrier is removed and opening is safe and ready for entry, egress, or passage.

--Sizes up dangerous/hazardous situations through established risk assessment procedures, identifies courses of action and acts decisively, according to training and guidelines, to alleviate or minimize risk to self and others from harm, and property from damage to the extent possible.

--Operates apparatus safely and effectively to attack, suppress and extinguish fires. Operates fire pumps, foam systems, aerial devices, turrets, ground sweep nozzles, etc., to produce desired effects, such as effective water and foam fire streams at the proper rate. Operates all types and models of Department apparatus, as assigned, including apparatus of Special Teams.

--Operates all equipment and tools in safe and efficient manner, such as attack lines, ladders, axes, flashlights and specialized forcible entry tools and medical instruments and materials, to extinguish fires, locate and rescue victims and perform EMS at the ALS level.

--As ALS provider, performs EMS assessment, treatment, disposition and transportation tasks, directs Basic Life Support (BLS) providers who may be assisting, and may perform as EMS supervisor (until relieved).

Responds to calls for service, including victims of fire, sudden illness, injury, industrial accident, and water-related incident.

Assesses medical emergency situation (age/sex, patient condition/chief complaint, associated conditions/injuries, pertinent medical history, signs and symptoms, vital signs and best emergency treatment), including own need for personal protective equipment (PPE) and universal and specialized precautions.

Provides BLS and ALS treatment (including cardiac care and invasive procedures) according to established protocols and/or after consultation with physician; this includes control for adverse reactions.

As necessary, usually in mass casualty situations, performs triage and helps determine the most appropriate medical facility to receive patients based on assessment of the capabilities of the medical facilities available to receive patients and established guidelines.

Uses ambulance(s) or other vehicle(s) available to transport patients from the emergency scene to the receiving facility. Helps emergency room personnel establish in-facility care until relieved.

--If assigned to HAZMAT Team, performs as a member or a shift team leader to control and stabilize releases or potential releases of HAZMAT when approaching the material is required. Performs HAZMAT materials response, such as containing fuel spills with spill boom and other equipment, and possibly serving as on-scene commander until relieved. Team member/shift leader work of a Firefighter Medic includes such ALS tasks as assessing toxicity, exposure and dose and performing medical aspects of primary and secondary decontamination on victims.

--Supports HAZMAT Team efforts, if not assigned to the Team. Team support work includes such ALS tasks as assessing toxicity, exposure and dose and performing medical aspects of primary and secondary decontamination on victims.

--If assigned as a Water Rescue Technician, operates appropriate boat with crew member(s) to safely manage all waterborne routine and emergency situations, including aircraft, boat, hazardous materials,

and swimming accidents. Performs surface rescue and recovery by launching and operating a response boat, coordinating the work of the crew, and rescuing and recovering people and property. Water Rescue Technician work of a Firefighter Medic includes such ALS tasks as performing medical aspects of rescue and treatment to victims.

--Supports River Rescue efforts, if not assigned to the Water Rescue Team as a Technician. Examples: May perform such River Rescue and recovery tasks as distributing flotation devices and pulling people or items from the water. Team support work includes such ALS tasks as performing medical aspects of rescue and treatment to victims.

--Performs daily inspections of apparatus and equipment to ensure their operational readiness.

Ensures that assigned apparatus and pertinent equipment are operational, clean, properly stowed and secure. Notes and reports discrepancies to the appropriate shift officer or Apparatus Maintenance Officer. May maintain or help maintain unassigned self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and team equipment. (If assigned to MA-321, DCA, River Rescue boats and related equipment are included. If assigned to MA-322, IAD, tunnel rescue equipment and breathing apparatus are included.)

--Prepares for duty. Stands roll call/inspection, receives assignments, reviews logs and other materials to update self on incidents, policies and procedures, and provides information to fellow firefighters. Inspects and does operator maintenance on personal protective equipment used and requests repair, as needed. Maintains readiness to respond to calls for service ranging from emergencies to routine public assistance calls. Performs related duties.

--Inspects or helps inspect airport buildings to become familiar with their layout, the nature and location of particular hazards, utility shut-offs, fire protection systems, egress routes, quarantine measures, etc. and, under a Fire Code Enforcement Division specialist, to help ensure adherence to baseline fire and life safety codes.

--Performs station maintenance and housekeeping, cleaning assigned areas of the station and surrounding areas to ensure a clean, safe and healthy working and living environment.

--Attends in-service, mandatory, basic, advanced and/or specialized training to maintain currency and proficiency, learn new information and update/improve skills in fire prevention, suppression, rescue, EMS, tunnel, rail and/or River Rescue and, as assigned, HAZMAT Technician and/or Water Rescue Technician functions. Participates in all pertinent classroom and practical/hands-on training exercises. Maintains and updates technical and non-technical knowledge, on own or in a group, including but not limited to:

Knowledge of runways, taxiways, water supplies, alarm boxes, mutual aid areas, nearby hospitals and roads used by the Department to get to and from off-airport emergencies and transport injured personnel to the nearest hospital facility by the most effective route.

Knowledge of aircraft emergency exits, cut-in areas, hazard areas, fuel capacities and passenger and crew capacities.

Knowledge of the latest methods and techniques in aircraft and structural firefighting, including principles of combustion, ventilation, etc.

Knowledge of the latest Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) methods, techniques and equipment.

Knowledge of the latest Technician-level methods, techniques and equipment in HAZMAT and/or Water Rescue operations, as assigned.

--As assigned, or on a volunteer basis, prepares and/or leads, or helps lead, team-type training modules/sessions (other than HAZMAT Team training and Water Rescue Team training) and performs related training tasks. (Shift Team Leaders assign and ensure completion and documentation of required Special Team training.)

--As assigned, assists with the Department's EMS internship programs (ALS and/or BLS), to include documenting candidate performance, identifying and correcting deficiencies, and providing remedial training as needed.

--Communicates and interacts effectively with business contacts (such as other emergency personnel, hospital personnel, victims and the general public); communication examples include exchanging information (from routine to emergency) with the public and medical personnel, providing technical and non-technical information on services and situations (including limits of ALS treatment, risks of invasive procedures and need to transport victim to a medical facility) and receiving technical and non-technical information on nature of emergencies, problems, actions and concerns.

--As assigned, participates in Airports Authority and/or community relations programs. May establish contact and meet with persons or groups and instruct them in fire safety and prevention, cardiopulmonary resuscitation/automatic external defibrillator (CPR)/(AED) methods/use, first aid, or fire extinguisher training. Performs related duties which may include being held on overtime to ensure scheduled CPR/AED classes are taught.

--Reviews training and policy documents. Completes various reports and documents, such as patient care reports, basic incident reports, inspection reports and equipment maintenance tracking measures. As assigned, performs administrative support duties using a variety of modern office equipment.

--Uses a computer and modern office suite software (such as MS Office) to plan, schedule, communicate (using email), word process (light word processing only) and perform research (Internet use, as in searching for emergency medical technology information), and uses specialized equipment and software (such as Physio-Control Lifepak 15, Glidescope, and Image Trend) to perform ALS functions. Uses radio and telecommunication devices to exchange work information.

--Performs related duties as assigned by any Department officer or higher authority; this includes serving as responder-in-charge of an emergency scene until relieved.

--\*Performs other duties as assigned.\*

*Critical features of this job are described under the headings below. They may be subject to change through reasonable accommodation or otherwise.*

### **MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS (MQs)**

To be rated qualified for this job, an applicant must meet all of the MQs listed below at the time of vacancy announcement closure.

1. Age 18 (or older).
2. A high school diploma, a Certificate of General Educational Development (GED), or an equivalent combination of education, experience and training.
3. One year of progressively responsible experience (post high school) as a full firefighter member (not a trainee) of an organized fire department.

For volunteer service to be creditable, the volunteer service must include regularly recurring participation in training/instruction and response to fire calls and other emergencies.

4. Possession of Firefighter II certification, which must include HAZMAT Operations (HMO) certification, accredited by National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (Pro Board) or the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC).
5. Possession of EMT-P certification by the Virginia Department of Health, Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS), showing effective date and expiration date or ability to obtain this certification within 90 days of the date of the Final Offer letter. An EMT-P qualified candidate who is selected, but lacks certification by Virginia, will have 90 days from the date of the Final Offer letter to obtain certification from the Virginia Department of Health, OEMS.
6. Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) certification accredited by the American Heart Association or the American Safety and Health Institute (ASHI) showing effective and expiration dates.
7. Ability to perform effectively without adverse effects of motion sickness, claustrophobia or similar factors.

### **PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS**

The qualifications listed below (if any) are preferred and may be considered in the selection process, but they are not required to be rated qualified for this job.

1. Experience in Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF), which includes Airport Firefighter certification by the NFPA, or a fully equivalent certification.
2. One year of experience as an EMT-P provider released to independent practice with documented

ambulance responses providing patient care, including patient assessment, with an EMS Operational Program.

### **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND OTHER FACTORS (KSAOs)**

The following KSAOs are required for successful performance of this job and are a basis for rating and ranking applicants who are found to meet the MQs. *Local, Federal, airport industry or Airports Authority specific bodies of knowledge listed below may typically be acquired on the job; ability to rapidly acquire them is required at the time of vacancy announcement closure.*

1. Knowledge of, and skill in, fire prevention, suppression and rescue methods, tactics, techniques, apparatus, equipment, tools and materials to respond to, mitigate and help close out a wide variety of routine and emergency incidents in airport, other public transportation, office and community settings. This includes knowledge of key fire and rescue aspects of a wide range of types of aircraft (construction and materials) and baseline knowledge of fire and life safety codes.
2. Knowledge of, and skill in using, ALS and ACLS methods, tactics, techniques, apparatus, equipment, tools and materials, and knowledge of, and skill in using, established medical protocols, altogether to respond to, mitigate and help close out a wide variety of routine and emergency medical incidents in airport, other public transportation, office and community settings.
3. Knowledge of the Department's organization, jurisdiction, policies and procedures, knowledge of the layout of the airport of assignment/duty, and knowledge of the location of key terrain, roadways and facilities in mutual aid jurisdictions altogether to respond to calls for service quickly and safely and transport injured persons to nearby hospitals.
4. As certified and assigned, Technician level knowledge of, and skill in, HAZMAT and/or Water Rescue operations, equipment and techniques, such as specialized entry and rescue, surface rescue/recovery, specialized containers and practical chemistry, to perform or lead HAZMAT responses and/or to perform Water Rescue operations.
5. As the duty location and assignments dictate, operational level knowledge of HAZMAT response and/or River Rescue, and skill in the application of associated equipment and procedures.
6. Skill in the operation of large, specialized motor vehicles of the Department under normal and adverse driving conditions and in emergency situations.
7. Skill in the maintenance and use of fire suppression apparatus and fire/EMS/rescue equipment to maintain and use them safely and effectively.
8. Skill in problem solving to select, organize and logically process relevant information (verbal, numerical or abstract) to solve a problem. This includes the ability to recognize significant emergency medical problems and identify relevant information.
9. Skill in oral communication to understand verbal information (including instructions, descriptions and ideas), and to express such information verbally so that others will understand. This includes the

ability to encourage oral communication by others during significant medical emergencies, such as victims of trauma and witnesses who may be able to provide information critical to EMS.

10. Skill in written communication to understand written information (including instructions, descriptions and ideas) and to express such information in writing so that others will understand.
11. Interpersonal skills to interact effectively with business contacts in a businesslike, customer service-oriented manner. This includes skill in approaching or responding to people of different ethnic or socio-economic backgrounds needing or providing information or assistance in routine and emergency situations.
12. Skill in using a computer, modern office software for such applications as planning, scheduling, communicating (email) and word processing, and specialized equipment for performing ALS functions.
13. Ability to work under pressure, multi-task, and maintain emotional self-control during emergencies, critical incidents and other situations.

**RESPONSIBILITY** Is responsible for performing fire prevention, suppression (as firefighter or apparatus operator) and rescue functions, and for providing ALS and ACLS at the EMT-P level. May also serve as a Water Rescue Technician and/or a Technician level member or shift team leader on the HAZMAT Team.

Typically reports to a Fire Officer, usually a Fire Captain-EMS, during shift, but may report to another rank or a civilian (in River Rescue operations, for example); also works with and is monitored by the Battalion Fire Chief-EMS. The Supervisor makes individual assignments for the shift or other prescribed period by indicating generally or specifically what is to be done, priorities, and any special conditions, concerns or approaches that may apply. The Supervisor provides additional, specific instructions for new, difficult or unusual prevention, suppression or rescue assignments. The Firefighter Medic uses experience and training in carrying out individual and team assignments independently without specific instructions about how to do the work or the precise methods to apply; communicates in the field with the Supervisor or a physician (by radio) in accordance with ALS/ACLS protocols and may refer to the Battalion Fire Chief-EMS for technical and practical advice on other ALS/ACLS issues. The Firefighter Medic is to call for help or backup or otherwise seek teammate, physician and/or supervisory or staff assistance and advice, as appropriate and available, in unusual situations. The Supervisor typically reviews work (in progress or upon completion) through reports, inspections, direct observations and other means to assess technical effectiveness (including soundness of EMS judgments and skill of treatments/interventions made), operational efficiency, compliance with requirements, standards and special guidance (if any), customer service, teamwork, timeliness, performance management goals and measures, and other factors; the Supervisor may refer to the Battalion Fire Chief-EMS on some ALS/ACLS matters. The frequency and depth of work review tends to increase with more difficult assignments if the Firefighter Medic has not previously performed similar assignments.

Guidelines include a variety of regulatory, operational and administrative conditions and constraints, such as: Federal, state and county laws, ordinances and regulations, Airports Authority regulations,

Department policies and procedures, established medical protocols, EMS regulations, and NFPA or Virginia Department of Fire Programs and Virginia Department of Health standards. The Firefighter Medic uses judgment to identify technical problems and dangerous/hazardous conditions and select and apply the proper procedures and techniques in specific situations, according to guidelines.

**EFFORT** Core functions require heavy physical effort on a regular, recurring basis, although type, degree and intensity of effort vary greatly based on duty assignment – duties range from very light desk work to very strenuous firefighting for short or long periods. Work may also require considerable mental attention to maintain alertness and concentration of vital importance, such as that used to avoid or minimize danger when working in very close proximity to fires, energized electrical wires and unstable substances or surroundings. Uses strength, climbing/balancing, stooping/kneeling/crouching/crawling, reaching, handling/fingering/feeling, talking/hearing and seeing to fight fires, provide emergency medical services and perform other tasks. Examples: lifts, carries, pushes and pulls to move equipment, objects and people (using learned techniques to gain leverage); climbs and balances on ground and aerial ladders and ledges; stoops, kneels, crouches and crawls to operate equipment and overcome obstacles; reaches, handles, fingers and feels to grasp, pick and perceive objects, temperatures and textures; exchanges information face-to-face and by radio and telephone and responds to cries for help; reviews documents with small print, such as incident reports and training manuals; and distinguishes color-coded objects up close and beyond 20 feet, judging distances, speeds and spatial relationships to drive vehicles, avoid obstacles and operate equipment during all weather conditions, day and night, and in smoke-obscured situations. Recognizes abnormal behavior in a given situation and the signs of potential mental illness, especially in medical emergencies. Stays alert and maintains concentration amid distractions to suppress and extinguish fires, locate and extricate victims and provide emergency medical care while identifying and avoiding potentially dangerous/hazardous situations or working through them.

**WORKING CONDITIONS** Working conditions vary greatly based on duty assignment. Firefighter and ALS/ACLS work can be indoors or outdoors in all types of weather, including extreme heat and cold, and potentially for long work periods. Is constantly subject to automotive and aircraft noise and exhaust when working outdoors. Is regularly subject to dangerous/hazardous situations (vision-obscure conditions, chemical spills, fires, collapse hazards, electrical hazards, rough water, etc.) and job pressures from the intensity of work (including critical incidents). Is subject to significant potential for serious injury or death from moving vehicles, fires and other factors, including confined space and height hazards and exposure to regulated and non-regulated solids, liquids and gases. Is subject to communicable diseases. Wears personal protective clothing and equipment (including SCBA), stays alert, maintains concentration, and follows training and guidelines to reduce or minimize risk to self. Despite conditions, must maintain personal bearing and emotional composure and continue to provide proper emergency response and/or polite instructions and assistance, as appropriate.

**OTHER SIGNIFICANT JOB ASPECTS** The incumbent is subject to one-time and recurring training, certification and other requirements and standards mandated by the Commonwealth of Virginia and other proper authority, including certification as EMT-P by the Virginia Department of Health, OEMS (or successor organization) and certification as an ACLS provider accredited by the American Heart Association. The incumbent must also (after successful completion of the preceptor program) be authorized by the Airports Authority Fire and Rescue Department Operational Medical Director to independently perform ALS functions. Also included is successful completion of National Incident

Management System modules, as required. Must obtain any new required certifications (as specified by the Virginia Department of Health or other authority) and must maintain all required certifications.

Works established shifts. Is subject to holdover and recall for staffing shortages, emergencies and other reasons including but not limited to teaching CPR/AED classes. May be assigned to DCA (MA-321) or IAD (MA-322) at the sole discretion of the Department.

As assigned, must be able to drive all vehicles and operate all apparatus (ARFF, structural, EMS and specialty) safely and effectively.