

**CITY OF GONZALES  
POSITION DESCRIPTION**

**TITLE:** Firefighter  
**DEPARTMENT:** Fire Department

**JOB CODE:** Full-Time  
**FLSA:** Non Exempt

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**Summary:** The entry-level position in the Gonzales Fire Department is that of Firefighter. This is responsible skilled work in combating, extinguishing, and preventing fires. Work involves training for and participating in the protection of life and property through firefighting, fire prevention, fire education, and rescue activities. Work includes firefighting, rescue, hazard mitigation, and efficient operation and maintenance of equipment. Although work is performed under general supervision and established regulations, it requires initiative, and an individual understanding of firefighting, fire prevention, rescue methods, and emergency medical techniques. Work is reviewed by command officers through inspections, observation, and results obtained.

**Essential Job Functions:**

- As a Firefighter, drives fire apparatus to the scene of an emergency, operates pump as needed to proper pressures, and directs operations until relieved by a superior officer.
- As a member of a team, squad, or individually, advances and operates hose lines, erect and climb ladders, perform rescues, and participate in all aspects of firefighting operations
- Performs fire inspection work as assigned, pre-incident planning, and public fire education
- Attends training and instruction sessions in such subjects as firefighting methods, equipment operation, hazard mitigation, hydraulics, street, hydrant, and fire alarm locations, and departmental activities
- Instruct other firefighters in the operation of firefighting, or medical equipment and procedures.
- Assumes incident command when so designated by a superior officer.
- Responds to rescue and emergency calls.
- Keeps the fire station in a clean and orderly condition.
- Checks and maintains pumps, apparatus, and other firefighting equipment.
- Performs related work as required.
- Performs assigned vehicle and station maintenance.
- May be asked to fill-in as acting company officer.
- Other duties as assigned

**Required Knowledge and Skills:**

- Skill in the operation of fire tools and equipment.
- Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with other employees, supervisors and the public.
- Ability to perform work requiring good physical condition.
- Ability to communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

**Required Education, Experience, and Certifications:**

- Certification through Texas Commission on Fire Protection as Basic Firefighter or higher
- Certification through Texas Department of State Health Services as EMT-Basic or higher
- NIMS certification (IS-100,200,700,800)
- Have or obtain Courage to be Safe certification within 90 days of employment
- Have or obtain Driver/Operator certification through Texas Commission on Fire Protection within one year of employment
- Have or obtain Wildland Firefighter Protection certification through Texas Commission on Fire Protection

**Environmental Factors and Conditions/Physical Requirements:**

- Must possess, or be able to obtain within 60 days of hire, a valid State Driver's License (CDL-B) without record of suspension or revocation in any state.
- No felony convictions or disqualifying criminal histories.
- Ability to read and write the English language, proficiently.
- Work is performed in office and field environments
- May be subject to repetitive motion such as typing, data entry, and vision to monitor.
- May be subject to exposure to extreme temperatures, extreme weather conditions, hazardous chemicals, toxic fumes, unstable buildings and structures, infectious diseases, body fluids, air and water borne pathogens.
- May be subject to wearing full protective clothing and self-contained breathing apparatus for extended periods of time.
- May be subject to extended periods of bending, reaching, kneeling, climbing and standing on ladders and lifts, walking over unstable surfaces and terrain, lifting and carrying up to 70 pounds unassisted, dragging up to 160 pounds unassisted, and handling and operating high pressure water hoses.
- May be exposed to hostile, angry or emotional citizens, patients and business owners.

**Equipment and Tools Utilized:**

- Fire apparatus, fire pumps, hoses, and other standard firefighting equipment. Ladders, first aid equipment, radio, pager and personal computer.