

Paramedic

Nature of Work

This is very responsible emergency medical response work performed for the Sevier County Emergency Medical Service. Incumbents are expected to react and respond to a wide variety of emergency situations upon dispatch, administer emergency first aid procedures and transport victims to the nearest and/or most appropriate medical facility depending upon the nature of medical emergency, injuries sustained, etc. Activities associated with the job require considerable physical strength and effort and the ability to make consistently sound and logical decisions in response to potentially life-threatening situations. Incumbents are required to work extended shifts up to twenty-four (24) hours on a rotating basis and operate as two person teams assigned to various parts of the county. Job performance is evaluated by the Shift Supervisor and/or EMS Director through review of the incumbent's emergency response abilities, decision-making capabilities, technical knowledge and physical abilities.

Illustrative Examples of Work

- Inspects the readiness of emergency response vehicles to insure an adequate supply of medical supplies, equipment, and materials prior to each shift.
- Awaits dispatch to a wide variety of medical emergencies and responds in an expedient and safe manner.
- Assesses the situation upon arrival and attends to individuals in need of emergency medical care and/or advanced life support procedures as required prior to transport.
- Obtains pertinent information from family members, witnesses and other individuals associated with the victim to determine and address the nature of the medical emergency.
- Transports accident victims and/or other individuals experiencing physical distress to the nearest and/or most appropriate medical facility depending upon the nature of injury and/or likelihood of life-threatening situations.
- Administers intra-venous medications and other emergency medical techniques to assist and stabilize victims during transport, monitors their blood pressure and other vital signs and administers advanced life support techniques and procedures if necessary.
- Utilizes tracheotomy equipment, endotracheal intubation equipment and chest decompression kits to assist the victim in emergency situations.
- Administers various narcotics and paralytic agents when necessary to immobilize accident victims.
- Communicates with physicians, nurses and other medical personnel upon arrival to relay important medical information regarding the status of accident victims, observations during transport, etc.
- Conducts routine non-emergency transfers of individuals requiring advanced medical transport between medical facilities, nursing homes, dialysis clinics, etc.
- Completes required documentation for each transport to obtain required patient information, insurance coverage, mileage, dispatch times, etc.

- Communicates with dispatch regarding location, current and on-going activities and availability to respond to emergency situations.
- Observes standard first aide procedures pertaining to universal precautions when dealing with bodily fluids.
- Assists with maintaining the cleanliness of the EMS facility including all equipment and vehicles.
- Makes presentations to school groups, civic organizations, church groups, etc. about EMS services, basic first aid, etc.
- Ensures the cleanliness and proper functioning of all medical equipment and supplies on the emergency response vehicles.
- Performs related duties as required.

Necessary Requirements of Work

Graduation from an accredited four year high school and current certification from the State of Tennessee as a Paramedic; ability to perform the physically demanding aspects of the job in a variety of weather conditions; strong decision making, organizational and interpersonal skills; ability to communicate effectively in writing; or any equivalent combination of education and experience to provide the following knowledge, abilities, and skills:

- Thorough knowledge of the first aide techniques and medical procedures necessary to be certified as a Paramedic in the state of Tennessee.
- Thorough knowledge of the equipment, materials, and supplies utilized to administer advanced emergency medical procedures, obtain vital signs and administer intravenous fluids.
- Thorough knowledge of the proper use of endotracheal intubation equipment, tracheotomy devices, chest decompression kits, mechanical suction devices and cervical and spinal immobilization devices.
- Thorough knowledge of universally accepted precautions for dealing with and/or exposure to bodily fluids.
- Thorough knowledge of the medical facilities in the area and the capacity of each to deal with various types of medical emergencies.
- Thorough knowledge of emergency response protocols regarding the use of emergency flashers and sirens.
- Thorough knowledge of the State of Tennessee regulations pertaining to the provision of Emergency Medical Services.
- Thorough knowledge of Sevier County regulations and medical protocols pertaining to the provision of Emergency Medical Services.
- Knowledge of Sevier County roadways and the general location of streets, neighborhoods, etc.
- Knowledge of the documentation required to obtain reimbursement for provided medical services.
- Knowledge of acceptable radio protocol when communicating with dispatch.
- Knowledge of the laws pertaining to deceased persons including proper notification of authorities, protection of personal property, etc.

- Ability to administer emergency medical procedures to accident victims and individuals experiencing physical distress including administering CPR for extended periods of time, inserting intravenous fluids, stabilizing broken bones, preventing further loss of blood, etc.
- Ability to react in a calm and professional manner in response to medical emergencies and crisis situations and obtain relevant medical information from bystanders, family members, etc.
- Ability to interact in a compassionate and considerate manner with accident victims, individuals experiencing physical distress, family members and other concerned parties.
- Ability to prepare detailed and legible reports and other required documentation pertinent to the care and transportation of clients.
- Ability to read road maps, street signs and recognize pertinent landmarks when responding to emergency situations.
- Ability to respond quickly to emergency situations and make timely and appropriate decisions in response to stressful and/or crisis situations.
- Ability to remain alert and responsive during extensive shift assignments.
- Ability to perform the physically demanding aspects of the job in a variety of weather conditions.
- Ability to maintain effective relationships with medical providers, physicians and other medical support personnel.
- Skill in the use of medical diagnostic and first aid equipment, splints, intravenous needles, medical supplies, etc.
- Skill in the use and operation of emergency response vehicles.

Necessary Special Requirements

- Possession of a current certification from the State of Tennessee as a Paramedic.
- Possession of a valid Tennessee Drivers License Class D with an “F” endorsement and the ability to be insured at standard vehicle liability rates.
- Incumbents must obtain a minimum number of Continuing Educational Units (CEU’S) every two years to maintain a Paramedic certification.

Physical Requirements

- This is very heavy work requiring considerable static, explosive, dynamic and trunk strength and requiring the exertion of up to 125 pounds of force occasionally and up to 20 pounds of force frequently to move objects
- Work requires considerable flexibility, mobility and speed of limb movement
- Work requires considerable effort and stamina
- Work requires both gross body equilibrium and coordination for balancing, bending, stooping, kneeling and walking
- Work requires considerable arm/ hand steadiness and manual and finger dexterity
- Vocal communication is required for expressing or exchanging ideas by means of the spoken word
- Hearing is required to perceive information in both quiet and noisy

- environments and determine the direction and source of sounds
- Visual acuity is required for the inspection of small defects and/or small parts, use of measuring devices, operation of office equipment, determining the accuracy and thoroughness of work, color differentiation, and observing general surroundings and activities
 - The worker is subject to inside and outside environmental conditions, temperature extremes, bodily fluids, oils and lubricants, loud noises and slippery surfaces.