

# TOWN OF SOMERS

**Title: Firefighter/Paramedic**

**Department: Public Safety – Fire**

**Reports to: Fire Chief**

**Bargaining Unit: Full Time Positions are part of IAFF Local 4284**

**Organization:** The Town of Somers – Fire Department (SFD) is a municipally operated combination fire and EMS agency. The department provides fire suppression, rescue, and emergency medical care to our community. The department responds to about 2,500 calls annually, of which about 70% are EMS in nature. SFD operates out of one centrally located station with two engines, two tenders, two BLS ambulances and two ALS fly-cars. Our ALS program has become a regional resource and our units routinely respond into neighboring communities. All of our career members are trained on both fire and EMS roles and cross-staff apparatus based on the needs of the incident.

**Position Summary:** Performs firefighting, emergency medical services, and equipment operation in responding to fire calls, accidents, or community disasters; performs skilled repair and preventive maintenance work in maintaining fire apparatus, equipment, alarm system and buildings; and completes assigned administrative tasks. Provides accurate, timely and high-quality service to all internal and external customers. Performs additional duties as deemed necessary by the Fire Chief. Must be able to work well in a combination volunteer/career department.

## **Major Job Duties:**

**Fire Service:** Responds to fires, accidents, medical calls or community disasters. Drives fire and emergency medical vehicles and operates auxiliary equipment. Assumes fireground command in absence of Fire Chief or superior officer. Controls and extinguishes fires, protects life and property. Selects hose nozzle, depending on type of fire, and directs water or chemicals onto fire. Positions and climbs ladders to gain access or to assist occupants in vacating a building. Operates power equipment or uses hand tools, including axes, chisels, crowbars, power saws, etc., to open building for entrance or ventilation. Takes precautions to protect persons and property. Responds to vehicle accidents or other emergencies. Operates power tools to remove victims from vehicles. Extinguishes vehicle fires. Coordinates activities with the fire investigators at incident scenes as needed.

**Emergency Medical Service:** Administers emergency medical services. Properly assess patients for pertinent injuries or illness. Develops an appropriate treatment plan based on local protocols. Treats and/or stabilizes ill or injured patients, often in less than ideal conditions. Comfortable working in an environment with longer patient care times (up to 90 minutes.) Continuously reassess patients and adjusts treatment options as appropriate. Ability to properly supervise and direct crews of various skill levels. Transport patients to the most appropriate treatment facilities. Communicates condition of patient by radio or computer to health care personnel. Appropriately transfers patient care to receiving facility. Completes patient care documentation in a timely manner.

**Equipment/Building Maintenance:** Routinely tests fire and emergency equipment. Performs skilled repair and preventive maintenance work in maintaining vehicles and equipment. Prepares

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recommendations for new equipment purchases, including equipment specifications and cost estimates. Evaluates need for major mechanical work, and recommends referral to private garages as necessary. Performs minor carpentry, plumbing and electrical repairs to department buildings and facilities.

**Administrative:** Maintains activity logs. Provides statistical and narrative reports to the Fire Chief. Maintains inventory of supplies and materials. When requested by the Fire Chief, prepares purchase orders for replacement parts, materials and supplies as needed. Assists with the development and delivery of training programs for the entire department.

**Community Risk Reduction:** Participates in informational fire and injury prevention programs for schools, community groups, and members of the community. Performs periodic site visits of target hazards in our community and assists with the development of pre-incident plans. After two years of employment, all career members have the option to become certified as Fire Code Inspectors.

## Minimum Qualifications:

- State of Connecticut or Pro-Board certification as a Fire Fighter I
- Completed Hazardous Materials Operational
- Must have a valid State of Connecticut Paramedic license or be able to demonstrate that they can obtain State of Connecticut licensure as a Paramedic within 60 days of hire.
- Current CPR, ACLS, and PALS certifications
- Must be a US citizen or otherwise authorized to work in the US, and able to pass a criminal background check
- Must have a valid driver's license
- High School Diploma or GED

Additional consideration may be given to applicants who are veterans of the US Military or are presently members of the Somers Fire Department.

The Town of Somers would also prefer (but does not require) applicants to have some of the following certifications:

- Valid CDL or Connecticut Class II with Q endorsement driver's license
- Fire Fighter II
- PHTLS
- Fire Service Instructor
- EMS Instructor
- Certified Pump Operator
- Rescue Tech Core
- Hazardous Materials Technician
- CPAT certification

## Physical Requirements:

This position combines field, maintenance and firehouse activities, with more than 50% of the job performed in the form of fire and ambulance calls. The incumbent must be able to:

- Pass physical fitness examination including satisfactory heart, pulmonary, hypertension and spirometry examination, as well as other fitness and agility requirements in accordance with NFPA 1582.

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- Regularly wear and carry firefighter protective equipment in excess of 50 lbs. on his/her back.
- Climb ladders in the delivery of firefighting services.
- Tolerate occasional exposure to hazardous situations including heat, smoke and flames while wearing firefighter protective clothing and equipment for periods in excess of one hour.
- Tolerate exposure to recently extinguished fire scenes where there may be smoke and smoldering building remains.
- Stand, lift, bend and walk to perform firefighting, emergency medical services, and equipment/building maintenance.
- Intermittently sit and work using a computer and telephone, or listen to information for periods in excess of one hour
- Lift 50-100 pounds independently, and in excess of 100 pounds with assistance from another firefighter/EMT.
- Drive a fire truck or an ambulance during the conduct of duties.

This information is designed to give the general nature and level of work to be performed by employees assigned to this job title and must not be construed to be a complete inventory of the position's duties, responsibilities and qualifications.

## Method of Selection:

- Required minimum qualifications	Pass/Fail
- Background Check	Pass/Fail
- Oral Board Interview	80%
- Chief's Interview	20%

Applications are available online at [www.somersct.gov](http://www.somersct.gov). Completed [applications](#) should be submitted to the Somers Operations Director, Somers Town Hall, 600 Main Street, Somers, CT 06071 [klafleur@somersct.gov](mailto:klafleur@somersct.gov) . Applicants must submit copies of any certifications listed above with their application.

The Town of Somers reserves the right to limit the number of candidates invited to each stage of the selection process.

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