

**SHREVEPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT**  
**Shreveport, Louisiana**

**Kelvin J. Cochran**  
**Fire Chief**

**JOB DESCRIPTION**  
**FIREFIGHTER**

Firefighter in the Shreveport Fire Department is one of the most critical and important employment positions within the City of Shreveport. Firefighters extinguish fires of all types that threaten life and property, perform searches and rescues, provide the primary emergency medical services within the city limits, and assist in educating citizens regarding fire and other safety issues.

**Summary of Duties:**

This is an entry level training position in the Shreveport Fire Department and is under the supervision of the Fire Department's Training Academy until such time as the basic instruction in firefighting skills and EMT skills and all examinations are completed. In addition to all written and practical examinations given in the Basic Academy, all recruits must pass the IFSAC Firefighter I certification examination prior to graduating.

During the Basic Academy, recruits are trained to work under immediate supervision of an officer during response to fire alarms, rescue calls, emergency medical services calls, etc., with the goal of protecting life and property. Classroom instruction and hands-on experience and drills combine to teach safety, teamwork, first aid and the practical knowledge of firefighting. Recruits will perform individually and as members of a firefighting team on training exercises including, but not limited to, firefighting, rescue, first aid, ventilation, forcible entry, salvage, overhaul, inspection practices, emergency medical, public fire education, hazardous materials, and other classroom training.

Approximately one hour and a half of each training day will be dedicated to physical training. **All recruits must participate in the daily training.** The physical training will include, but is not limited to, calisthenics, weight training, push ups, lunges, crunches, track running, running up stairs, sprints, hose and dummy drags, hose stacking, and other cardiovascular drills.

The Basic Academy lasts approximately 18 - 22 weeks. Recruits are paid a salary during training. Recruits will not live on campus and are expected to provide their own living arrangements. Uniforms and equipment will be provided.

Upon successful completion of the Basic Academy, the recruit will begin a working test period as a probationary firefighter. The recruit will be assigned to duty at a designated training station where the training received will be applied under the supervision of a fire company officer. The recruit will also receive additional training and testing throughout the working test period. The

work schedule consists of shifts lasting 24 hours, alternating with 24 hours off-duty for five consecutive tours of duty. This is followed by six consecutive days off-duty. A work week is 56 hours.

Prior to the expiration of the working test period, the recruit must pass all tests required to become certified as an EMT by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians and the Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services. Upon successfully completing the working test period, the recruit will be certified as a firefighter by the Shreveport Municipal Fire and Police Civil Service Board. If the recruit does not successfully complete the working test period, the recruit shall be terminated.

### **Essential Functions:**

Although this is not a complete list of all duties, the following duties are essential functions and duties of the position of firefighter in the Shreveport Fire Department. Applicants must have the ability to perform all of the essential functions of the position of firefighter. Some of the listed functions require special knowledge or training and some do not. Applicants are not expected to already know how to perform those functions that require special knowledge as that will be taught in the Basic Academy.

- ◆ Read, write, and speak the English language
- ◆ Safely drive and operate a vehicle (in excess of 26,000 pounds)
- ◆ Wear full turnout gear (bunker coat, pants, boots, protective hood, gloves, and self-contained breathing apparatus weight approximately 46 pounds)
- ◆ Raise and climb ladders up to 35 feet
- ◆ Climb fully extended aerial ladder up to 110 feet
- ◆ Pull/drag charged hose lines of all sizes
- ◆ Lay and connect hoses
- ◆ Carry fire hoses up to 54 pounds
- ◆ Climb multiple flights of stairs in full turnout gear while carrying firefighting equipment
- ◆ Start/use power tools, including but not limited to chain saws, circular saws and Hydraulic Rescue Tools
- ◆ Use hand tools, including but not limited to, sledge hammers, saws, pliers, wrenches, screwdrivers, pry bars, gas expanders, and axes
- ◆ Grasp and manipulate small objects with either hand or both hands with and without gloves
- ◆ Effectively communicate using two-way radio, telephone, and in writing
- ◆ Lift and carry up to 70 pounds
- ◆ Pull/drag up to 165 pounds
- ◆ Crawl and kneel
- ◆ Tie knots in ropes
- ◆ Operate Air Monitoring Equipment
- ◆ Read building numbers and street signs

- ◆ Distinguish between similar objects of different colors
- ◆ Work long periods of time in high and low temperatures and humidity
- ◆ Work continuously at a high level of physical activity for 20 minutes without stopping
- ◆ Work and complete assigned tasks in Immediately Dangerous to Life and Health environments wearing complete turnout gear and SCBA
- ◆ Perform assigned task in environments that includes exposure and proximity to traumatic injury and death
- ◆ Be capable of communicating effectively in stressful and hazardous environments
- ◆ Be capable of entry and exit of all Shreveport Fire Department vehicles without assistance
- ◆ Search for victims inside structures, including structures that are on fire
- ◆ Direct water onto burning structures
- ◆ Use other firefighting techniques such as ventilating burning buildings through positive pressure and/or cutting holes in floors, roofs, and walls
- ◆ Be capable of and willing to enter buildings on fire
- ◆ Perform initial assessments of patients and accurately communicate information to the Medic Control Doctor via radio
- ◆ Read prescription bottles
- ◆ Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation
- ◆ Administer first aid to injured persons, including but not limited to, administering oxygen, starting IV's, accurately taking vital signs, bandaging and dressing wounds
- ◆ Perform salvage and overhaul operations
- ◆ Conduct public fire education
- ◆ Assist in mitigating hazardous materials incidents
- ◆ Inspect assigned district to assure knowledge of access and to identify fire hazards
- ◆ Routine custodial maintenance of the fire department equipment such as self-contained breathing apparatus, resuscitation equipment, etc., apparatus, and stations
- ◆ Draft reports regarding medical services rendered
- ◆ Review training material on computers