

FIRE PROTECTION SPECIALIST

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: A Fire Protection Specialist conducts investigations into the cause and origins of fires, complaints of natural gas or other odors, and inspections of buildings to assure compliance with the Town Fire safety code and related bodies of law. Work is performed under the general supervision of the Senior Fire Protection Specialist with some leeway in the planning of the work. The incumbent does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES:

During assigned rotation, responds to fire location to investigate cause and origins of fires when requested by the fire protection district/department;

Inspects places of public assembly and industrial or commercial buildings for compliance with Town fire prevention code and related codes or laws;

Issues violation notices if needed;

Responds to emergency reports of natural gas emergencies or carbon monoxide alarms when requested by the fire protection district/department;

Testifies in court as expert witness regarding cause and origin of fires;

Prepares and conducts fire safety education programs;

Takes photographs, collects materials, and conducts field visit to document violation or cause and origin of fires;

Responds to requests for information on products or procedures which may affect fire safety;

Participates in Town of Colonie Hazardous Material Response Program as "Technician";

Testifies in court in regarding building/fire code violations;

Maintains required records and reports;

Inspects schools for fire safety and compliance with NYS code;

May assist in fire suppression activities at fire scenes if qualified and if requested by the ranking member of the fire department at the scene;

May act as technical advisor to Fire Chiefs or other fire personnel at fire scenes if qualified and if requested by the ranking member of the fire department at the scene;

May assist in the Town "Confined Space" training program.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS:

Thorough knowledge of fire prevention laws and ordinances; good knowledge of building codes and related regulations; good knowledge of the methods of fire prevention and fire suppression; ability to conduct investigation into cause and origin of fires; ability to prepare and present reports and or testimony on cause and origin of fires; ability to conduct thorough and comprehensive fire safety inspections and to act quickly to remedy problems if necessary; ability to prepare and present fire safety education programs; good knowledge of PC based programs including but not limited to Citiworks.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Graduation from a regionally accredited or New York State registered college or university with an Associate's Degree in Fire Science, Civil Technology or related field and two (2) years of experience in the application of fire prevention laws and ordinances including NYS Building Code; **OR** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and four (4) years of experience in the application of fire prevention laws and ordinances including New York State Building Code; **OR** Graduation from high school or possession of a high school equivalency diploma and either five (5) years of full time paid experience as a fireman or ten (10) years of fully credited experience as a volunteer fireman.

SPECIAL NOTE: Incumbents are required to obtain within one year of appointment and maintain certification as the following:

- A) New York State Code Enforcement Official
- B) Hazardous Material (technician level)
- C) Fire Prevention and Control (Level II Investigators)

Amended 7/19/12
Amended 6/24/22
Town of Colonie
Personnel Officer