



COLORADO SPRINGS FIRE DEPARTMENT LATERAL ENTRY FIREFIGHTER PARAMEDIC

Closing Date: October 16, 2015

Salary: \$5,029 - \$5,633/month, depending on experience

The City

The City of Colorado Springs is located in south-central Colorado between the foothills of the Rocky Mountains and the eastern plains of Colorado. The city is 195 square miles and the elevation is 6,035 feet with an estimated 2012 population of 428,277. Colorado Springs is the state's largest city in terms of area and second only to Denver in population. The city lies in a semi-arid climate with an average snowfall of 42.7 inches annually.

There are five major military institutions in the Colorado Springs area: Fort Carson, Schriever Air Force Base, Peterson Air Force Base, Cheyenne Mountain Air Station, and the United States Air Force Academy. These bases are a significant factor in the local economy, constituting over 20% of all employment. Other major industries include defense contracting, healthcare, software development, semiconductor manufacturing, telecommunications, data centers, religious and nonprofit organizations, and tourism.

Some of the major attractions in Colorado Springs include Pikes Peak, Garden of the Gods, Cheyenne Mountain Zoo, Broadmoor Hotel, Pro Rodeo Hall of Fame, United States Olympic Training Center, and United States Air Force Academy.

The Department

The Colorado Springs Fire Department, an internationally accredited department, went into service on February 12, 1894, with one fire station, a staff of six and a horse-drawn pumper. Today, the department has 21 fire stations, 468 full-time employees, and 31 front-line emergency apparatus. These apparatus include 21 engine companies, six truck companies, a heavy rescue team, a hazardous materials response team, and two medical squads. Additionally, the department has 11 brush trucks for wildland firefighting, one air supply truck, one hazardous materials decontamination vehicle, and one hose wagon. Fire stations are staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week with daily minimum staffing of 115 personnel. Major programs include Hazardous Materials Response, Heavy Rescue, High Angle Rescue, and Wildfire Suppression, with many other programs that support the department's mission. The Colorado Springs Fire Department is the first responder on all medical emergencies within the city. All firefighters are EMT-Basics, and the department provides advanced life support services with a Firefighter Paramedic on each engine company and squad. The department is also as well as the provider of all fire code enforcement activities. The department responds to almost 60,000 calls annually and approximately 68% of those are medical emergencies.

Lateral Entry Firefighter Paramedic

Lateral entry firefighter paramedic trainees are entry level, at-will employees, primarily responsible for learning the didactic knowledge and manipulative skills required for the position of Firefighter Paramedic with the Colorado Springs Fire Department.

Upon successful completion of an abbreviated fire training academy, lateral entry firefighter paramedic trainees will be sworn-in as firefighters and must be able to:

- Respond to emergencies involving fire, medical, rescue, environmental, and all hazards situations.
- Provide skilled work in fire prevention, fire suppression, rescue, emergency medical treatment and recovery programs.
- Work may include fighting fires, performing various rescue activities and basic emergency medical activities, including the performance of routine duties in the maintenance and upkeep of the fire station, vehicles and equipment.
- Perform duties in office, household, and emergency scene environments.
- Participate in fire training and manipulative drills, the study of fire science and techniques, and the study of emergency medical knowledge and skills.
- Work 24-hour shifts, working for extended periods with little rest or sleep, living, eating and sleeping at the station for the entire period, including weekends and holidays.
- Perform in adverse weather, natural disasters, extreme heat or cold, dense smoke, toxic or explosive

- atmospheres, extreme heights, traffic hazards, and with patients posing infectious disease hazards.
- Operate a variety of power and hand operated equipment.
- Perform inspections of commercial and public buildings for compliance with all applicable fire codes and ordinances.
- Perform search and rescue operations at the scene of a fire, automobile accident or other emergency extrication from entrapment of all types.
- Administer assistance to injured or sick persons and stabilizes patients as needed or directed by paramedics, hospital staff, and/or emergency physicians; assists in transport of injured or sick persons to appropriate medical facility.
- Make quick, lucid decisions during stressful situations.

Upon successful completion of the Colorado Springs Fire Department Paramedic Task Book (blue book) and successful testing with the department's medical director, employees will be eligible for promotion to Firefighter Paramedic. As a Firefighter Paramedic you must be able to do everything listed above as well as provide advanced life support level care to patients.

Minimum Qualifications

The following qualifications must be met upon application.

- Have a high school diploma or GED certificate
- Be in appropriate physical condition and meet medical standards as established by the City of Colorado Springs Fire Department
- Have not been convicted of a felony
- Have not been convicted of a crime that would affect certification by the Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)
- Have and maintain a valid driver's license
- Successfully completed the IAFF/IAFC Candidate Physical Abilities Test (CPAT) within the last 12 months.*
- Maintain a valid FireTEAM score using National Testing Network (NTN)**
- Maintain a current National Registry or Colorado Paramedic Certificate. The candidate must be able to seek Colorado State reciprocity for their paramedic certificate, if needed. You **MUST** attach a copy of this certification to your online application.
- Three (3) years of paid firefighter paramedic work experience within the most recent five years. You **MUST** attach a letter of recommendation from your current Medical Director to your online application.
- Fire Fighter II Certification – endorsed by the International Fire Service Accreditation College (IFSAC) or the National Fire Service Qualification Board (Pro-Qual). You **MUST** attach a copy of this certification to your online application.
- Current Advanced Cardiovascular Life Support (ACLS) certification. You **MUST** attach a copy of this certification to your online application.
- Current Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) certification. You **MUST** attach a copy of this certification to your online application.

*Only a CPAT licensed by the International Association of Firefighters (IAFF) and the International Association of Fire Chiefs (IAFC) will be accepted. The Colorado Springs Fire Department requires candidates to have a valid CPAT at the time of testing (see specific date on specific hiring postings and communications) and at the time of final employment offers. Find CPAT organizations here.

** A FireTEAM score is deemed valid by NTN. Scores are determined with the following minimum and weighted scores.

All testing must be conducted with National Testing Network. Please visit www.nationaltestingnetwork.com to schedule an exam.