

City of Iowa Falls EMS

Job Description – Full-time and Part-time (PRN) Paramedic and RN Exception

Responsibilities:

Paramedics and RN Exceptions (hereafter referred to simply as “Paramedic”) respond to emergency calls to provide efficient and immediate care to the critically ill and injured, and to transport the patient to a medical facility. After receiving the call from the dispatcher, the paramedic responds with the ambulance or quick response vehicle to the address or location given, using the most expeditious route, depending on traffic and weather conditions. The paramedic must observe traffic ordinances and regulations concerning emergency vehicle operation.

The Paramedic:

- ◆ functions in uncommon situations;
- ◆ has a basic understanding of stress response and methods to ensure personal well-being;
- ◆ has an understanding of body substance isolation;
- ◆ understands basic medicolegal principles;
- ◆ functions within the scope of practice as defined by the Iowa Department of Public Health-Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services and the Iowa Falls EMS Medical Director.
- ◆ complies with regulations on the handling of the deceased, notifies proper authorities, and arranges for protection of property and evidence at the scene until released.

Upon arrival at the scene of crash or illness, the paramedic parks the ambulance in a safe location to avoid additional injury. Prior to initiating patient care, the paramedic will also "size-up" the scene to determine: that the scene is safe; the mechanism of injury or nature of illness; the total number of patients; and to request additional help, if necessary. In the absence of law enforcement or fire department personnel, the paramedic creates a safe traffic environment, such as the placement of traffic warning devices, removal of debris and redirection of traffic for the protection of the injured and those assisting in the care of injured patients. The paramedic determines the nature and extent of illness or injury and establishes priority for required emergency care. The paramedic renders emergency medical and or trauma care, to adults, children and infants based on assessment findings. Duties include but are not limited to:

- ◆ opening and maintaining an airway;
- ◆ ventilating patients;
- ◆ administering cardiopulmonary resuscitation, including use of automated external defibrillators;
- ◆ providing prehospital emergency medical care of simple and multiple system trauma such as:

- controlling hemorrhage,
- treatment of shock (hypoperfusion),
- bandaging wounds,
- immobilization of painful, swollen, or deformed extremities,
- immobilization of painful, swollen, or deformed neck or spine;

◆ providing emergency medical care to:

- assist in emergency childbirth,
- manage general medical complaints of altered mental status, respiratory, cardiac, diabetic, allergic reaction, seizures, poisoning behavioral emergencies, environmental emergencies, and psychological crises,

Additional care is provided based upon assessment of the patient and obtaining historical information and searching for medical identification emblems as a guide to appropriate emergency medical care. The paramedic will perform indicated Advanced Life Support (ALS) and Basic Life Support (BLS) procedures per State of Iowa protocols under the direction and supervision of the Iowa Falls EMS Medical Director, Medical Control Physician, through standing orders, radio, or telephonic communications.

The paramedic will reassure patients and bystanders by working in a confident, efficient manner. Avoiding mishandling and undue haste while working expeditiously to accomplish the task. Where a patient must be extricated from entrapment, the paramedic assesses the extent of injury and gives all possible emergency care and protection to the entrapped patient and uses the prescribed techniques and appliances for safely removing the patient. If needed, the paramedic radios the dispatcher for additional help or special rescue and/or utility services. Provides simple rescue service if the ambulance has not been accompanied by a specialized unit. After extrication, provides additional care in triaging the injured in accordance with standard emergency procedures.

The paramedic is responsible for:

- ◆ lifting the cot, stair chair, or other extrication device.
- ◆ placing it in the ambulance and assuring that the patient and cot are secured.
- ◆ continuing emergency medical care while enroute to the medical facility.

The paramedic uses the knowledge of the condition of the patient and the extent of injuries and the relative locations and staffing of emergency hospital facilities to determine the most appropriate facility to which the patient will be transported, unless otherwise directed by medical direction. The paramedic reports directly to the emergency department or communications center the nature and extent of injuries, the number being transported and the destination to assure prompt medical care on arrival. The paramedic identifies assessment findings, which may require communications with medical control, for advice and for notification that

special professional services and assistance be immediately available upon arrival at the medical facility.

The Paramedic:

- ◆ constantly assesses the patient enroute to the emergency facility, administers additional care as indicated or directed by medical control,
- ◆ assists in lifting and carrying the patient out of the ambulance and into the receiving medical facility
- ◆ reports verbally and in writing, their observation and emergency medical care of the patient at the emergency scene and in transit, to the receiving medical facility staff for purposes of records and diagnostics
- ◆ upon request provides assistance to the receiving medical facility staff.

After each call, the Paramedic:

- ◆ restocks and replaces used linens, blankets and other supplies,
- ◆ cleans all equipment following appropriate disinfecting procedures,
- ◆ makes careful check of all equipment so that the ambulance is ready for the next run
- ◆ maintains ambulance in efficient operating condition
- ◆ ensures that the ambulance is clean and washed and kept in a neat orderly condition
- ◆ in accordance with local, state or federal regulations, decontaminates the interior of the vehicle after transport of patient with contagious infection or hazardous materials exposure.

Additionally, the Paramedic:

- ◆ will possess a valid, unrestricted driver's license with a satisfactory driving record and be coverable by the City's insurance carrier.
- ◆ will possess the appropriate certification from the Iowa Department of Public Health-Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services and be currently certified in CPR to the AHA Healthcare Provider level, ACLS, and PALS.
- ◆ will complete emergency vehicle operations training as soon as reasonably possible following hire.
- ◆ will attend monthly staff meetings, special meetings, continuing education and refresher training programs as required by employers, medical control, and the Iowa Department of Public Health-Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services.
- ◆ will, in consultation with the EMS Director, sign-up for open shifts of call-time as your schedule allows. Shifts will include nights/weekends/holidays.
- ◆ is expected to wear the pager and/or radio issued by Iowa Falls EMS whenever reasonably prudent to be available for situations that arise where additional staff are needed to assist the on-duty crew or respond to a third-out call.

Additionally, full-time Paramedics:

- ◆ will be assigned both first-out and second-out shifts of call at the discretion of the EMS Director and in accordance with the employment agreement.
- ◆ will assist with rig maintenance, rig and medication checks, and other station duties as assigned by the EMS Director and/or Crew Chief.
- ◆ will assist with paperwork, billing, and other office related duties as assigned by the EMS Director and/or Crew Chief.
- ◆ will assist with public relations and other community events as assigned by the EMS Director and/or Crew Chief.
- ◆ will, at a minimum, maintain a valid Class D Iowa Driver's License.
- ◆ will complete other duties as assigned.