

Essential Tasks

The treating physician shall use the list of essential tasks in evaluating the ability of a volunteer member to perform specific skills.

(1) Wearing personal protective ensemble and SCBA, performing fire-fighting tasks (e.g., hose-line operations, extensive crawling, lifting and carrying of heavy objects, ventilating roofs or walls using power or hand tools, forcible entry), rescue operations and other emergency response actions under stressful conditions, including working in extremely hot or cold environments for prolonged time periods. Wearing an SCBA, which includes a demand valve-type positive-pressure facepiece or HEPA filter masks, which requires the ability to tolerate increased respiratory workloads.

(2) Exposure to toxic fumes, irritants, particulates, biological (i.e., infectious) and nonbiological hazards, and/or heated gases, despite the use of personal protective ensembles and SCBA.

(3) Depending on the local jurisdiction, climbing six or more flights of stairs while wearing protective ensemble weighing at least 50 pounds (22.6 Kg) or more and carrying equipment/tools weighing an additional 20 to 40 pounds (9 – 18 Kg).

(4) Wearing protective ensemble that is encapsulating and insulated, which will result in significant fluid loss that frequently progresses to clinical dehydration and can elevate core temperature to levels exceeding 102.2 degrees F (39 degrees C).

(5) Wearing personal protective ensemble and SCBA, searching, finding, and rescue-dragging or carrying victims ranging from newborns to adults weighing over 200 pounds (90 Kg) to safety despite hazardous conditions and low visibility.

(6) Wearing personal protective ensemble and SCBA, advancing water-filled hoselines up to 2 1/2 inches (65mm) in diameter from fire apparatus to occupancy [approximately 150 feet (50 M)], which can involve negotiating multiple flights of stairs, ladders, and other obstacles.

(7) Wearing personal protective ensemble and SCBA, climbing ladders, operating from heights, walking or crawling in the dark along narrow and uneven surfaces, and operating in proximity to electrical power lines and/or other hazards.

(8) Unpredictable emergency requirements for prolonged periods of extreme physical exertion without benefit of warm-up, scheduled rest periods, meals, access to medication(s), or hydration.

(9) Operating fire apparatus or other vehicles in an emergency mode with emergency lights and sirens.

(10) Critical, time-sensitive, complex problem solving during physical exertion in stressful, hazardous environments, including hot, dark, tightly enclosed spaces, that is further aggravated by fatigue, flashing lights, sirens and other distractions.

(11) Ability to communicate (i.e., give and comprehend verbal orders) while wearing personal protective ensembles and SCBA under conditions of high background noise, poor visibility, and drenching from hoselines and/or fixed protections systems (e.g., sprinklers).

(12) Functioning as an integral component of a team, where sudden incapacitation of a member can result in mission failure or in risk of injury or death to civilians or other team members.

(13) Staffing shifts, including during nighttime, that can extend beyond 12 hours.

[] is physically able to perform the Essential Duties of a volunteer firefighter. **Doctors note must accompany this form.**

Physician Signature: _____ Date _____ Phone Number _____