FIREFIGHTER/PARAMEDIC

ABOUT THIS JOB

Firefighters/Paramedics assess injuries, administer emergency medical care and help with a wide range of emergency medical needs. They are often the first on scene of an accident and are involved in transporting an injured or sick person to a medical facility where they can receive care. An individual seeking this position should be able to control and keep emotions on an even keel, be flexible in thinking, and have empathy for and be supportive of others in a time of need.

FIREFIGHTERS/PARAMEDICS PERFORM THE FOLLOWING TASKS:

- Administer first aid treatment or life support care to sick or injured persons on site
- Perform emergency diagnostic and treatment procedures such as stomach suction, airway management or heart monitoring during emergency transportation
- Observe, record and report to a physician the patient's condition or injury, the treatment provided and reactions to drugs or treatment
- Immobilize patients for placement on stretcher and emergency transport
- Maintain vehicles, and medical and communication equipment, and replenish first aid equipment and supplies
- Assess the nature and extent of illness or injury to establish and prioritize medical procedures
- Communicate with dispatchers or treatment center personnel to provide information about a situation to arrange reception of victims or to receive instructions for further treatment
- Operate equipment such as electrocardiograms (EKGs), external defibrillators or bag valve mask resuscitators in advanced life support situations
- Train personnel on Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certifications
- Take a lead role in fire fighting and rescue at the mine site

PREPARATION AND TRAINING FOR THIS POSITION

Becoming a Firefighter/Paramedic requires a high school diploma or GED. It also requires specialized emergency medical training in vocational schools, related on-the-job experience or an associate's degree.

EDUCATION:

- * **HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA OR GED**
- * **ASSOCIATE'S DEGREE**
- * **VOCATIONAL SCHOOL**