

Summary of Duties: A Fire Inspector inspects potentially hazardous structures, equipment, and processes for compliance with fire prevention and life safety laws and regulations. An employee in this class may conduct technical and legal research related to the standards of fire safety. A Fire Inspector may perform specialized staff duties and other related work.

Distinguishing Features: A Fire Inspector conducts fire inspections requiring a high degree of specialized knowledge and training in fire prevention laws, ordinances, regulations, and procedures. The types of inspections conducted by Fire Inspectors are different from those performed by Firefighters in the Bureau of Fire Suppression and Rescue. Fire Inspectors conduct the more difficult fire and life safety inspections including:

- * Complex occupancies such as high-rise buildings.
- * Places for public assemblages of over 99 people, such as restaurants, auditoriums, hotels, and stadiums.
- * Schools and church buildings with over 749 people.
- * Residential buildings which are over five stories high.
- * Large commercial or industrial buildings which are over 40,000 square feet, or are over three stories high.
- * Industrial processes and equipment which use hazardous materials.
- * Buildings used to store hazardous materials.

A Fire Inspector may check construction plans for proposed buildings and industrial installations for fire and life safety aspects. An employee in this class normally does not supervise, but may train others to become inspectors in the Fire Prevention Bureau.

Examples of Duties: A Fire Inspector:

- * Conducts detailed and comprehensive inspections of occupancies and structures to verify that means of egress, fire protection equipment and systems, building construction, interior finishes and decorations, and the occupant load conform with applicable fire and life safety standards and regulations.
- * Conducts detailed and comprehensive inspections of all businesses that handle, process, transport, or store hazardous materials to make sure they meet applicable fire and life safety standards and regulations.
- * Explains and interprets provisions of fire code to building owners, managers, and employers.
 - Points out violations and potential violations to them.
 - Gives technical advice on how to conform to standards of fire and life safety.
- * Issues written notices of fire and life safety violations.

- * Checks engineering and construction plans of commercial, industrial, and public safety occupancies to evaluate interior layout, construction, and fire protection systems and equipment for fire and life safety aspects.
- * Checks the plans, construction, and use of underground tanks for conformance to standards of fire and life safety.
- * Reviews and approves plans, issues permits, and conducts inspections of special events such as exhibits, conventions, concerts, and carnivals.
- * Approves devices and equipment used in fire prevention or to extinguish fires such as fire alarms, standpipes, fire pumps, emergency lighting, and automatic fire sprinkler systems.
- Inspects a building after a fire to analyze the nature, cause, and point of origin of the fire, assess the damage, and evaluate operation of the fire protection systems.
- * Schedules inspection workload based on relative priorities for inspection such as last inspection date, immediacy of risk, complaints received, and geographic location.
- * Maintains accurate and detailed records of inspection activities.
- * Does research to develop or revise fire prevention and life safety laws, ordinances, regulations, or procedures.
- * Studies reports and information from other agencies about current developments in industrial processes, methods, and materials.
- * May require the immediate closure of buildings where there is a serious violation of fire/life safety standards such as overcrowding or illegal use, storage, or handling of hazardous materials.
- * May act as a Safety Officer at film production locations, fireworks shows, and concerts.
- * May prepare and submit cases for criminal prosecution in situations where initial enforcement action did not gain compliance.
- * May act as unit commander in his/her absence.
- * May perform the duties of a firefighter when required during major emergencies.

Sometimes may do other work for training purposes or to meet technological changes or emergencies.

Qualifications: Incumbents must have the following knowledges and abilities:

A Good Knowledge of:

- * The Los Angeles City Fire Code.
- * Title 19 __ Public Safety (California Fire Code) of the State of California Code of Regulations.
- * The Los Angeles City Fire Department (LAFD) Rules and Regulations, General Orders, Manual of Operations, and Bulletins Manual concerning fire inspection activities and

operations of the Department.

- * LAFD Fire Prevention Bureau Inspector's Manual and Fire Safety Officer Manual.
- * LAFD radio operations and communications procedures.
- * The types of inspections, and their priorities, performed on buildings and structures by a Fire Inspector.
- * The structure and organization of the LAFD and Fire Prevention Bureau.

A Working Knowledge of:

- * The Uniform Fire Code, National Fire Code, and National Fire Protection Association Handbook.
- * The State of California and City of Los Angeles Building and Electrical Codes as they pertain to fire and life safety.
- * The location of major structures within assigned inspection district.
- * Usage, storage, handling, and disposal of various types of hazardous materials.
- * Various types of industrial equipment, processes and materials.
- * Fire protection devices and equipment such as automatic fire sprinklers, wet and dry standpipes, fire pumps, fire doors, and fire alarms.

A General Knowledge of:

- * LAFD Incident Command System Manuals covering topics such as high*rise, earthquake, brush, and hazardous materials incidents.
- * LAFD Field Incident Reporting System Instruction Manual.
- * Terminology used in the building trades to discuss fire and life safety requirements.
- * Functions of other City departments and Federal, State, and local agencies which interact with the LAFD on fire prevention and life safety issues.

The Ability to:

- * Read, comprehend, and apply difficult technical written material on fire prevention and life safety.
- * Read and interpret building plans.
- * Assess a fire scene to determine where and how a fire started and progressed.
- * Detect unsafe conditions and fire and life safety violations.
- * Use prudent judgment while applying various codes, regulations, and standards.
- * Prepare clear and concise written reports, notices, and letters.
- * Make drawings and sketches of floor plans, seating arrangements, and site plans.
- * Speak clearly, concisely, logically, and persuasively.
- * Deal tactfully and effectively with supervisors, other City

employees, and the public.

- * Work effectively and efficiently with a minimum of supervision.
- * Use geometry and arithmetic to calculate occupancy loads and exiting requirements for a particular area.
- * Read a street map to locate scheduled inspections.
- * Use a wide variety of firefighting and rescue tools to be able to act as a fully trained firefighter as needed.

Minimum Requirements: Four years of experience as a uniformed member of the Fire Department.

Completion of approved courses in a recognized college or university may substitute for up to six months of the required experience at 30 semester or 45 quarter units for six months of experience.

Physical Requirements: Candidates must meet medical and physical standards as the Board of Civil Service Commissioners may require.

Those with medical limitations may be able to perform the duties of some of the positions in this class with reasonable accommodation. The decision to accommodate someone's limitations will be made on an individual basis and depends on the types of limitations, what the hiring department can reasonably do to accommodate them, and the specific qualifications for the job.

As provided in Civil Service Commission Rule 2.5 and Section 4.55 of the Administrative Code, this specification is descriptive, explanatory, and not restrictive. It is not intended to declare what all of the duties and responsibilities of any individual position shall be.