

# JOB DESCRIPTIONS / ANALYSIS

## Firefighter Physical Ability Job Function Overview

### Static Strength

Carry and raise ladders  
equipment Drag 3-1/2" hose uphill  
Wear complete turnout gear and carry a ladder & hose  
Carry injured people up stairs  
Lift heavy objects off trapped people  
Push a disabled auto out of traffic  
Lift hose and pump can  
Carry 5-gallon water bags, shovels, and backpack

### Dynamic Strength

Pull hoses  
Pull self and equipment over fences  
Carry equipment in and out of buildings  
Climb hillsides in "bunker clothes" in grass fires  
Dive to rescue a drowning victim  
Climb ladders with equipment, hoses and personal protective clothing and equipment

### Stamina

Pull ceiling  
Repeat fires, successive fires in 24-hour shifts  
Salvage and cleanup, taking down walls  
Climb stairs with equipment  
Shift hose lines  
Shovel in a grass fire  
Pull a drowning victim to shore  
Hold and operate the "rescue equipment e.g. jaws of life," especially in awkward positions

### Extent Flexibility

Fire cleanup operations  
Carry out an injured person  
Lay hose lines  
Cleanup  
Crawl through attics  
Extricate victim from a car or overturned tractor  
Roof work  
flood) Remove victims from cars  
Carry victims down winding stairs  
Chop a hole in the roof  
Climb hillside covered with brush

### surface Gross Body Coordination

Climb a ladder through opening in a roof  
Stand on pitched roof using a chain saw  
Get out of a burning structure  
Operate a charged hose line- Roof work  
Get through building's small places

### Explosive Strength

Run up stairs with  
Jump to avoid falling object  
Kick door in  
Run and carry ladders over objects  
Remove person from burning building  
Cut a hole in the roof  
Advance charged hose line  
Breach a wall

### Trunk Strength

Lift hose  
Perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
Lift people on an EMS run  
Pick up bodies  
Overhaul and cleanup

### Effort

Repeat fires over 24-hour work shift  
Multiple tasks at a fire  
Remove a person trapped in a vehicle  
Make a rescue

### Dynamic Flexibility

Pull ceiling  
Chop through a wall  
Extend ladders  
Saw, kick down door  
Cardiopulmonary-resuscitation  
Shoveling in a brush fire  
Sandbagging (in  
Cutting up trees

### Gross Body Equilibrium

Balance on pitched roof  
Balance with backpack on an inclined  
Make rescue from bridge or superstructure  
Walk on a concrete beam  
Balance on a ladder on roof  
Carry a body down the ladder

**Mobility**

Move within a dark building  
 Climb stairs, ground ladders, aerial ladders  
 Climb over piles of fire debris  
 Flee falling objects  
 Walk fast for alarm  
 Forging streams or rivers  
 Crawl and search through smoke  
 Remove boxes and other debris  
 Moving among animals leaving fire

**Arm-Hand Steadiness**

Apply traction  
 Hold hose lines  
 Hold the hose line  
 Steady Ladder movements  
 Apply first aid methods e.g. administer IV, splinting

**Manual Dexterity**

Disassemble machinery  
 Repair chain saw  
 Operate hand tools  
 Assemble and connect equipment  
 Aerial extension  
 Aid car work  
 Tie knots on hose  
 Use a spanner wrench

**Near Vision**

Read instructions  
 Read chemical labels on containers  
 Read prescription bottles

**Color Vision**

Use color-coded safety equipment  
 Identify objects in a fire  
 Conduct search and rescue in dark building

**Smell**

Detect leaking chemicals  
 Smell material burning

**Hearing Conversation-Noisy Environment**

Localize sound in rescues  
 Avoid unseen hazards  
 Instructions (verbal)  
 Radio instructions  
 Under adverse conditions -high ambient noise levels

**Hearing Direction**

Localize cries for help - Localize warning cries

**Speed of Limbs**

Drive an emergency vehicle  
 Brake continuously during response  
 Pull rope to rescue person in the water  
 Block a punch  
 Swing an ax  
 Chopping and clearing brush

**Finger Dexterity**

Typing  
 Mechanical repairs  
 Find a pulse  
 Operate a throttle on a pump  
 Couple and uncouple hose

**Depth Perception**

Climb while balancing on a roof  
 Go up and down ladders, jumping onto roofs  
 Dive into a lake – victim rescue  
 Estimate hose distances  
 Estimate driving hazards

**Far Vision**

See end of the aerial ladder  
 Avoid electrical wires  
 See hazards in smoky buildings through mask

**Night Vision**

Drive at night, travel across irregular surfaces  
 Read addresses at night

**Hear Conversation - Quiet Environment**

General needs

**Sound Discrimination**

Instructions in a noisy environment  
 Radio instructions in a noisy environment  
 Instructions above the noise of the pump