



Bedford County, Virginia Deputy Fire Chief - Operations

Bedford County, Virginia's next Deputy Fire Chief of Operations has the opportunity to help lead a combined system that includes a history of well-trained and equipped fire and emergency personnel. The department covers all aspects of fire and rescue services and has many specialty functions, including special operations command, urban search and rescue, wildland fire, fire investigation, hazardous materials, swift water rescue, confined space, bike team, and rope and trench rescue. It is also situated in one of Virginia's most beautiful areas. Nestled in the foothills of the Blue Ridge Mountains and encompassing about half of Smith Mountain Lake, Bedford County has retained its rural charm and affordability, while providing residents with a great quality of life with access to the metro areas of Roanoke and Lynchburg.

The Deputy Fire Chief of Operations works under the general direction of the Chief of Fire and Rescue and has three direct reports, field lieutenants each of whom supervises a shift. This position is also generally the first point of contact for the volunteer chiefs. The position requires a combination of complex leadership and operational skills to ensure the provision of emergency services throughout the County. In the absence of the Chief of Fire and Rescue, the Deputy Fire Chief assumes all operational responsibilities involved in managing the department. The Deputy Chief may also respond to calls and take incident command in some instances. The position also works with chiefs in the volunteer fire companies and captains of the rescue squads to ensure there is good communication, adequate training, and adherence to systemwide policies and protocols.

This position is one of two deputy chiefs – one over operations and one over administration – and is part of a realignment of duties in the department. The Chief of Fire and Rescue may retire in the next few years.

The minimum qualifications for this position are a bachelor's degree in fire science, EMS, public administration, business administration, or a closely related field with advanced level course work in modern methods of fire suppression and rescue or a combination of course work and significant operational level experience. Applicants must possess experience in health and safety relevant to fire and rescue operations, experience in emergency management functions, and training in the field of public speaking and public education. Instructor credentials are required of the Deputy Fire Chief, thus applicants without accreditation must be able to obtain credentials within one year.

Preferred qualifications include specialized certifications such as Firefighter II and EMT, CPR, National Incident Management System's ICS-100 – 400 and 700 courses, EVOC (Emergency Vehicle Operators Course), Hazardous Materials Operations, Fire Marshal, Fire Officer, and Fire Instructor certification. Executive Fire Officer and Chief Fire Officer certification are also strongly desired. Experience working in a combined system (career and volunteer), supervision, and expertise in recruitment, training, and retention of fire and rescue personnel are also preferred qualifications.

Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have five years of driving experience, and possess a valid Commonwealth of Virginia driver's license with an acceptable driving record and proof of insurance.

While reasonable accommodations may be made for individuals with disabilities, the position of Deputy Fire Chief requires the ability to execute physically demanding work, such as the occasional exertion of over 100 pounds of force and the constant exertion of more than 20 pounds of force. While in the field, the Deputy Fire Chief often must climb, kneel, crouch, crawl, lift, reach, and perform other repetitive motions relevant to fire and rescue operations.

The salary range for this position is \$61,204-\$107,500, depending on qualifications, with an excellent benefits package.

Applications will be accepted electronically by The Novak Consulting Group at thenovakconsultinggroup.com/jobs. Applicants first complete a brief online form and then are prompted to provide one document (Word or PDF) that contains a cover letter and resume with salary history. Open until filled with a first review of applications taking place on October 18, 2018.