Career Matrix

Questions and further information: Leonard Edge at 704-330-4619 or leonard.edge@cpcc.edu
Visit our web site at www.cpcc.edu/public_safety/fire

Career Field	Job Description	Potential Salary	Opportunities	Links
Local Fire Departments Training	Carries out the training function for fire departments to include: running training operations, teaching classes and necessary paperwork	Annual Average $32,000 - $60,000 High School Diploma or equivalent. Some departments require a college degree	Job opportunities in most local fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/fire/Pages/default.aspx
Specialists	Carries out a special function of the fire department to include: fire ground management, office management and fire marshals	Annual Average $28,000 - $65,000 High School Diploma or equivalent. Some state and local agencies require some college	Job opportunities are expected to be excellent	http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/fire/Pages/default.aspx http://www.ncfma.com/
Educators	Carries out the education function of a fire department to include: giving fire and life safety presentations, running education programs and the necessary paperwork.	Annual Average $28,000 - $45,000 Qualifications vary by agency, but a Bachelor's Degree is often required	Job opportunities in some local fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.mecklenburgcounty.org/resources/Fire.html http://www.isfsi.org/
Haz-mat Specialist	Carries out the special function of haz-mat response to include: responding to hazardous material incidents for evacuation, mitigation and clean up.	Annual Average $35,000 - $60,000 Qualifications based upon certifications	Job opportunities in most local fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.charmeck.org/emergency/whoweare/Pages/HazMat.aspx http://www.fema.gov/
EMS	Carries out the function of emergency medical care to include: responding to emergencies in the capacity of first responder, emergency medical technicians and paramedics.	Annual Average $28,000 - $60,000 Qualifications based upon certifications	Job opportunities in most local fire departments and EMS agencies will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.medic911.com http://www.ncems.org/

Career Field	Job Description	Potential Salary	Opportunities	Links
Technical Rescue	Carries out one of the technical rescue functions to include: trench rescue, high-rise rescue, confined space rescue and water rescue.	Annual Average $35,000 – $60,000	Job opportunities in some local fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://rescuenc.com/ http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/FireAndRescueCommission/fr_rescue_tech.asp
State Office of the State Fire Marshall	Carries out functions for the state office to include: teaching classes, responding to state level emergencies, managing fire programs.	Annual Average $28,000 - $60,000	Job opportunities in State Fire Marshall's offices will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM/FireAndRescueCommission/fr_rescue_tech.asp http://www.ncdoi.com/OSFM http://www.ncfma.com/
Occupational Safety and Heath	Carries out functions of the state OSHA office to include: inspection of buildings, occupational safety briefings and management of safety and health programs.	Annual Average $40,000 - $65,000	State and Federal Opportunities	http://www.osha.gov/
Forestry Service	Carries out functions within the state forestry service to include: fighting forestry fires, planning forestry protection and managing forestry programs.	Annual Average $32,000 - $60,000	State and Federal Opportunities	http://www.fs.fed.us/
Federal Department of Homeland Security	Carries out functions of the Department of Homeland Security and Federal Emergency Management Agency to include: planning for emergencies, emergency properness and responding to emergencies.	Annual Average $40,000 - $75,000	Job opportunities in federal agencies such as Homeland Security, FBI, Federal Fire Departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/careers/
National Fire Academy	Carries out functions of the NFA to include: course development, teaching and emergency planning.	Annual Average $40,000 - $75,000	Job opportunities in this federal agency will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.usfa.dhs.gov/nfa/

Career Field	Job Description	Potential Salary	Opportunities	Links
Private Sector INSURANCE: Inspector	Performs inspections on properties in reference to the fire codes and insurance carrier's guidelines and recommends ways to improve hazards. Reports to underwriter's office with comments and rough sketches. Performs inspections on proposed new insurance customers and evaluates the risk involved to the underwriter.	Annual Average starting pay - $30,000	Job opportunities with insurance companies on the local and national level will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.fmglobal.com/default.aspx?gclid=CKirr-LL-aoCFZNV7AodLziMFg
Investigator:	Performs a review of incidents at client's property after fires, explosions, wind storm damage, etc., as to what the damage is, possible cost to repair or replace and the cause of the incident. This may occur during the incident or days later.	Annual Average starting pay - $40,000	Job opportunities with insurance companies on the local and national level will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.interfire.org/features/become_fire_investigator.asp
Loss Prevention Consultant:	Reviews reports from Inspectors on ways to reduce the risk of an occurrence and severity of a potential loss. This may be by recommending installing special fire protection equipment, installing additional fasteners on a roof covering to reduce possible damage in a wind storm or improving the water supply to the facility by adding a fire pump and water tank. Will determine costs of recommendations and the effect on the insurance rates.	Annual Average starting pay - $35,000	Job opportunities with insurance companies on the local and national level, also loss prevention companies both local and national, will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.fmglobal.com/default.aspx?gclid=CKirr-LL-aoCFZNV7AodLziMFg http://www.losspreventionfoundation.org/ http://www.losspreventionacademy.com/

Career Field	Job Description	Potential Salary	Opportunities	Links
Underwriters:	Those charged with reviewing reports on a facility, written by inspectors, investigators, and loss prevention consultants, and statics for industries of like type to evaluate the risk and potential for a loss and propose the rates to be charged to cover a loss. After a policy has been written it is reviewed whenever a new report is received from the field personnel or new data is available on losses in the industry	Annual Average starting pay - $45,000	Job opportunities with insurance companies on the local and national level will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.mecklenburgcounty.org/resources/Fire.html
INDUSTRY: Fire Department	An Industrial Fireman will perform duties much like a municipal fireman with the exception of working 8 hour shifts. While in some large high hazard industries the personnel may stay in a fire station until a call. In most industries they usually are performing some type of inspection or testing work until an event happens. This may include testing sprinkler systems, fire flow tests, hazard inspections, teaching fire safety, issuing hot work permits, etc. They may respond to fires, explosions, hazardous materials incidents, and medical emergencies and perform duties to extinguish fires, reduce property damage, mitigate spills and care for injured or sick individuals.	Average starting pay - $20/hour	Job opportunities in most industrial fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/fire/Pages/default.aspx http://www.firehouse.com/forums/showthread.php?t=66954

Career Field	Job Description	Potential Salary	Opportunities	Links
Inspectors:	Performs inspections reviewing the hazards in reference to the fire codes and insurance carrier's guidelines. Sends reports to the proper office. Performs hazard inspections on new buildings and processes and writes reports on these	Average starting pay $20/hour	Job opportunities in most industrial fire departments and/or industrial loss prevention offices will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.nfpa.org/index.asp
Education:	Provides training on fire and safety topics and emergency services to employees. Conducts tours of the facilities for outside fire and safety services so they are aware of the travel routes in and out of buildings, locations of hazards, special protection equipment available, or needed, in an area. The individual may develop programs and training aids to present the programs as needed	Annual Average starting pay $30,000	Job opportunities in most industrial fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.mecklenburgcounty.org/resources/Fire.html http://www.isfsi.org/
Risk Manager:	In charge of fire protection and/or safety programs in a facility. Oversee employees, handle budgets, and recommend improvements and new construction to reduce the chance of a fire, explosion or loss due to windstorms or other event. Can include reviewing new processes and conferring with the local municipal fire officials and insurance carriers loss specialists.	Annual Average starting pay $60,000	Job opportunities in most industrial fire departments and/or industrial loss prevention offices will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.fireriskmgt.com/ http://www.fs.fed.us/fire/safety/index.html

Career Field	Job Description	Potential Salary	Opportunities	Links
PRIVATE ORGANIZATION: National Fire Protection Association and other similar groups:	May develop training material, conduct training, set up meetings, review large losses and write articles on problems that have an effect on the membership. They usually travel often.	Annual Average starting pay $50,000	Job opportunities in these types of private organizations include grant writers, code enforcement, and standard writing, and will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.nfpa.org/index.asp http://www.ncsfa.com/
Fire Departments:	Private owned fire departments contract with areas to perform firefighting activities. The areas could be cities or townships, or commercial buildings or high hazard industries. The duties would be very similar to an industrial fire department.	Average starting pay $17/hr.	Job opportunities in private fire departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://charmeck.org/city/charlotte/fire/Pages/default.aspx http://www.firehouse.com/forums/showthread.php?t=66954
Emergency Medical Services:	Respond to calls and render aid as needed to transport the injured to a medical facility. In some cases they have an office in a plant to handle first aid and wellness to those employees.	Starting pay is about $7.50/hr. based on training and experience	Job opportunities in private EMS departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.medic911.com http://www.ncems.org/
Building Codes:	There are several Building Code organizations in the US. North Carolina uses the Southern Code based in Atlanta. The employees work with committees to look over suggestions for changes, draft new proposed codes, send out review copies and collect the replies. The final step is to present the changes in an annual conference for vote of the membership. There is a lot of technical writing in these positions.	Annual Average starting pay $45,000	Job opportunities in private building code departments will be excellent for qualified individuals	http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos004.htm