



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY JOB CLASS SPECIFICATION

FOREST RANGER TECHNICIAN III

Job Number: 20001494

Job Code: 72520V251016

Job Group: 7200 - FORESTRY

Job Established: 04/01/1995

Job Revised: 10/16/2025

Grade: 14 Salary (MIN - MID):

\$22,602-\$33,903 - Hourly

\$3,672.84-\$5,509.24 - 37.5 Hr. Monthly Salary

\$3,917.68-\$5,876.52 - 40 Hr. Monthly Salary

Special Entrance Rate:

NONE

NONE

NONE

PROBATIONARY PERIOD:

This job has an initial and promotional probationary period of 6 months, except as provided in KRS 18A.111.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE JOB: *Characteristics of a job are general statements indicating the level of responsibility and discretion of positions in that job classification. These are not intended to be an exhaustive list.*

Provides expertise in performing advanced forest protection, forest management, forest fire prevention, pre-suppression, suppression, prescribed fire, and law enforcement activities, such as training fire departments and agencies in fire suppression; and enforcing regulations on commercial timber harvest operations. Deploys and supervises fire suppression crews. Assists with all-risk emergency response activities; and performs other duties as required.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

EDUCATION:

Graduate of a college or university with an associate's degree in a natural, biological, social, or physical sciences.

EXPERIENCE, TRAINING, OR SKILLS:

Must have four years of forest management or forest protection experience.

Substitute EDUCATION for EXPERIENCE:

A bachelor's degree in a natural, biological, social, or physical sciences supplemented by two years of forest management or forest protection experience will substitute for the associate's degree and the four years of forest management or forest protection experience.

Substitute EXPERIENCE for EDUCATION:

Forest management or forest protection experience will substitute for the associate's degree on the basis of two years of experience for one year of education, OR four years of experience in the Forest Ranger Technician series will substitute for the associate's degree and the four years of forest management or forest protection experience.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS (AGE, LICENSURE, REGULATION, ETC.):

Must be at least 21 years of age. Must possess and maintain a valid driver's license to qualify for employment in this job classification. Must maintain any required licensure(s), certification(s), or other credentials for the length of employment in this job classification. Employing agency is responsible for ensuring employee possesses and maintains required licensure(s), certification(s) or other credentials.

EXAMPLES OF DUTIES OR RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE JOB CLASSIFICATION: *Examples of duties or responsibilities are not to be construed as describing what the duties or responsibilities of any position shall be and are not to be construed as limiting the appointing authority's ability to assign, or otherwise alter the duties and responsibilities of a position. This is not intended to be an exhaustive list.*

Serves as expert in the protection of forests. Trains fire departments, agencies, and organizations in wild land fire suppression. Recommends and implements practices for the protection and enhancements of forests. Independently, enforces the provisions of the Kentucky Forest Conservation Act as it pertains to commercial timber harvesting operations. Identifies current and potential environmental harm, determines the failure of actors to implement appropriate Best Management Practices and subsequently issues regulatory enforcement actions designed to mitigate violations, and protects both the forest resource and water quality. Serves as a technical provider for design, implementation, and completion of USDA programs relating to forestry in Kentucky. Assists private landowners in achieving individual goals and public benefits regarding forestry. Observes, collects, and analyzes information on environmental conditions including current and predicted weather, fuel types, fuel amounts, potential hazards, and the availability of firefighting personnel and equipment, and applies this conditional analysis to ongoing and eminent suppression efforts in order to efficiently and effectively contain and control wildfires. Performs forest fire prevention, pre-suppression, suppression, prescribed fire, all-risk emergency, and law enforcement activities in an assigned area. Organizes, trains, and supervises fire suppression crews in the protection of forestlands. Develops and presents resource education programs to schools, clubs, and camps. Works with the public and local officials in promoting fire prevention. Investigates forest fires and performs other law enforcement duties. Issues citations for forestry violations. Sells and distributes tree seedlings and coordinates tree seed collection. Assists landowners in the implementation of forest resource management recommendations. Marks forest stands for timber harvesting and timber stand improvement. Collects data for forest stand recommendations. Prepares tree planting plans for landowners. Works with cities and communities concerning urban forestry. Performs insect and disease diagnosis and control recommendations. Assists with surveys and inventories including Forest Inventory and Analysis (FIA) and Southern Annual Forest Inventory System (SAFIS). Prepares records and reports.

UNIQUE PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

Extreme physical effort is required when suppressing wildland fires and performing all-risk emergency tasks if mobilized to assist during emergencies. The ability to walk on steep slopes, use fire hand tools, and occasionally work long hours is required.

TYPICAL WORKING CONDITIONS: *Incumbents in the job will typically perform their job duties under these conditions.*

Work is typically performed outdoors on private forest lands. Work can be under adverse conditions due to weather, topography, or when suppressing wild land fires. Adverse conditions could be present when assisting in all-risk emergency response when mobilized. Work also involves frequent contact with citizens and organizations in the promotion of forestry programs. Duties are typically performed within the Commonwealth of Kentucky; however, some functions may occur in other states.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Upon employment, employees in this job classification may be required to drive a licensed vehicle. Applicants and employees in this job classification may be required to submit to a drug-screening test and background check. Applicants and employees in positions which perform job duties that may require contact with offenders in the custody or supervision of the Department of Corrections or with youth in the care, custody, or supervision of the Department of Juvenile Justice must meet qualifications pursuant to the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act, 28 C.F.R.115.17 and 115.317.

The Commonwealth of Kentucky does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, disability, age, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, pregnancy or related medical condition, marital or familial status, ancestry, political affiliation, genetic information, or veteran status in accordance with state and federal laws.