FOREST PROTECTION
CAREERS WITH THE FORESTRY COMMISSION

Wildland Firefighter
These positions provide an excellent opportunity for motivated individuals to form a foundation and gain fundamental experience for a successful career in wildland firefighting and forestry resource services.

Forestry Technician I
Performs forest fire protection duties including fire prevention and wildland fire suppression. Duties are performed with a bulldozer tractor, hand tools and water handling equipment. Performs firebreak plowing, water bar construction and prescribed burning assistance. Conducts routine equipment maintenance, assists with construction projects and investigates fires. Typical work is an 8-hour day, five days a week. Pace of work is set by the emergency situation. May require long hours and extended time away from home working in adverse conditions. Job training is provided for all wildland firefighter positions.

Minimum Requirements
Must be 18 years of age and possess a high school diploma (or equivalent) and experience in forest fire protection, forest management, operation of heavy mechanized equipment or relevant work experience. A Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) required but may provide a Commercial Learner’s Permit and attain a CDL within 90 working days of employment. Must pass the agency’s physical fitness test that requires a two (2) mile walk carrying a 25 lb. pack in 30 minutes. Firefighter registration with the State Fire Marshal’s Office, criminal records check and drug test are required. This is an entry level position.

Sector Fire Management Officer II/Law Enforcement Officer
Performs forest fire protection duties including fire prevention and wildland fire suppression. Recruit, train and supervise a wildland fire suppression personnel. Conducts law enforcement duties. Assists foresters in the preparation and implementation of forest management services for landowners. Typical work is an 8-hour day, five days a week. Pace of work is set by the emergency situation. May require long hours and extended time away from home working in adverse conditions.

Minimum Requirements
Possess a high school diploma and one year work experience in forest fire control or law enforcement. An associate degree in forestry or natural resources may be substituted for the required work experience. A Commercial Driver’s License (CDL) required but may provide a Commercial Learner’s Permit and attain a CDL within 90 working days of employment. Must pass the agency’s physical fitness test that requires a two (2) mile walk carrying a 25 lb. pack in 30 minutes. Firefighter registration with the State Fire Marshal’s Office, criminal records check and drug test are required. Ability to obtain a Class I Law Enforcement certification within one year of employment. Law enforcement certification training provided by the agency through the Criminal Justice Academy. Once required training is completed, employee advances to a Sector Fire Management Officer III/Law Enforcement Officer position.
BENEFITS
OF STATE EMPLOYEES

State Benefits
The state of South Carolina offers eligible employees generous benefits, including health and dental insurance; retirement and savings plan options; and paid vacation and sick leave. Plus, work-life balance programs such as telecommuting and flexible work schedules are available to employees of some state agencies.

Eligible employees may enroll in health insurance, which includes prescription coverage and wellness benefits. Other available insurance benefits include dental, vision, term life insurance, long term disability and flexible spending accounts for health and child care expenses.

Retirement Benefits
State employees are also offered retirement plan options, including defined benefit and defined contribution plans. Additionally, eligible employees may elect to participate in the South Carolina Deferred Compensation Program, which is a voluntary, supplemental retirement savings plan offering 401(k) and 457 plan options.

Workplace Benefits
State employees may also be eligible for other benefits, including tuition assistance; holiday, annual and sick leave; and discounts on purchases, travel and more.

Note
The benefits above are available to most state employees, with the exception of those in temporary positions. Employees in temporary grant and time-limited positions may be eligible for all, some or none of these benefits as benefits are associated with each position type. For these positions, contact the hiring agency to determine what benefits may be available.

Affirmative Action
The South Carolina Forestry Commission (the Commission) is committed to a policy of equal employment regardless of race, sex, gender, age (40 and over), color, religion, national origin, disability, pregnancy, genetic information or military status (including reserves), or any other legally protected category under federal, state or local law.

Where can you search for Forestry Commission jobs?
For more information about job opportunities or to apply for job vacancies, visit the South Carolina Forestry Commission website at www.scfc.gov/about-us/careers/ or the SC Division of State Human Resources website at www.careers.sc.gov.

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