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## **PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM - Class of September 2018 – June 2019**

The Manitoba Emergency Services College (MESC) located in Brandon, Manitoba, Canada is committed to providing superior emergency response programs to meet the needs of the emergency services.

The Public Fire Paramedic Program (PFPP) is one of those programs. The Manitoba Emergency Services College has a history of providing a training experience like no other for individuals pursuing a rewarding career in the emergency services. This ten month program runs from September to June each year and is an intense program that requires a significant commitment from students. Classes are held Monday through Friday, with work required outside of regular class time to enable the students to be successful. Students will be involved in the operations of a working emergency services department and be exposed to state-of-the-art facilities, equipment and technologies. Scenario based training over the length of the program allows our students to build their confidence and skills.

The Public Fire Paramedic Program is offered at the Manitoba Emergency Services College in Brandon, Manitoba with the exception of the Ambulance Practicums which the students must complete with Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service and the hospital clinical shifts with various Manitoba Regional Health Authorities.

Graduates from this program will receive a Diploma upon successful completion and are the preferred professionals for many career departments because our graduates are cross-trained. Graduates may find employment in many emergency services related fields such as federal, provincial or municipal emergency services, industrial and institutional safety and response specialists or equipment sales and service dealing with fire and medical.

The Manitoba Emergency Services College strives to ensure that our graduates will be positive, confident contributors to any Service they enter after graduation. Demanding and challenging careers await graduates of the Public Fire Paramedic Program.

### **ACCREDITATION**

The Manitoba Emergency Services College is accredited with the International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (PRO BOARD).

Accreditation is a status granted to an educational institution that has been found to meet or exceed standard criteria of educational quality. Voluntary self-regulation is the cornerstone on which the structure of accreditation has been built. While other agencies, public and private sometimes use the term “accreditation”, historically it refers to a voluntary activity in which institutions and programs have agreed to be judged by their peers. The most effective form of regulation comes from organizations that structure programs of peer review.

### **DEFINITIONS**

IFSAC - International Fire Service Accreditation Congress

PRO BOARD - National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications

PAC - Paramedic Association of Canada

NOCP – National Occupational Competency Profile

COPR – Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators

## **COURSES IN THE PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM**

***(THE MANITOBA EMERGENCY SERVICES COLLEGE RESERVES THE RIGHT TO CHANGE THE PROGRAM AND TESTING AS INDUSTRY AND STANDARDS DEEM NECESSARY WITHOUT NOTICE)***

### **Fire Fighting Practices Level I (meets NFPA 1001)**

This course is based on Chapter 5 Fire Fighting Level I, NFPA 1001 Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, and may lead to Pro Board and/or IFSAC certifications. Practical and classroom sessions are designed to provide the skills necessary to effectively perform the functions of a fire fighter and to upgrade and re-align those skills with the changing times. By the end of this course students should be able to apply departments' general operating guidelines, rules and regulations in any situations, effectively use fire department communications, perform fire ground operations necessary to ensure life safety, fire control and property conservation and, perform the activities of prevention, preparedness and maintenance to effectively reduce the loss of life and property due to fire.

### **Fire Fighting Practices Level II (meets NFPA 1001)**

This course is based on Chapter 6 Fire Fighting Level II, NFPA 1001 Standard for Fire Fighter Professional Qualifications, and may lead to Pro Board and/or IFSAC certifications. By the end of this course students should be able to assume command within an incident management system, communicate effectively using both department communication systems and incident reporting systems, perform fire ground operations necessary to ensure life safety, fire control and property conservation, perform rescue operation activities related to accessing and disentangling victims from motor vehicle collisions and helping special rescue teams and perform activities related to reducing the loss of life and property due to fire through hazard identification, inspection and response readiness.

### **Primary Care Paramedic (meets 2011 NOCP's)**

The Primary Care Paramedic course prepares the student for work in the pre-hospital field. The course consists of both theory and a significant amount of hands-on time with equipment to allow students to become comfortable prior to starting their clinical and ambulance practicum time. Clinical rotations are completed in the emergency departments in hospitals within major centres in Manitoba, where students spend a minimum of 60 hours. The ambulance practicums are completed with Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service. Our students spend a minimum of 240 hours on the ambulance and average approximately 75 calls during that time. Successful completion of the Primary Care Paramedic course allows graduates to access the National Registry Exams through the Canadian Organization of Paramedics Regulators.

### **Driver/Operator - Pumper (meets NFPA 1002)**

This course is based on Chapter 5 Apparatus Equipped with Fire Pump, NFPA 1002 Standard for Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator Professional Qualifications. This course is comprised of three separate seminars:

1. ***Emergency Driving Skills:*** Students will learn about laws and regulations as they apply to the emergency vehicle operator, daily and weekly inspections and maintenance of apparatus, and techniques to effectively and safely drive an emergency vehicle. A combination of theory and practical skills evolutions where students will operate emergency vehicles, first on a closed driving track, and then applying the principles on rural and urban roadways.
2. ***Basic Pump Operations:*** Students will learn the operation of fire pumpers including daily and weekly inspections and maintenance of pumper apparatus, pressure regulating devices, the

principles of drive trains, centrifugal pumps, and foam systems, pressurized water sources, drafting from static sources, and basic friction loss calculations to determine minimum pump pressures. The seminar includes theory and application of practical skills using fire department pumper apparatus.

3. **Advanced Pump Operations:** Students will expand on information and skills learned in the Basic Pump Operations. The theory and practical components will cover fire service hydraulics, including calculations in friction loss, flow pressures, nozzle reaction and application of these principles on the fire ground. Students will also learn how to relay pump, supply sprinkler and standpipe systems, and to perform basic maintenance tests on the water and foam systems.

### **Surface Water Rescue Technician (meets NFPA 1006)**

This course is designed for emergency response personnel who will be required to respond to and work in the open surface water environment including river (low head dams) and flood applications (not swift water). This course is designed around the use of full flotation survival emersion suits and other specialized water rescue equipment. Students will learn preplanning an incident, incident management, specialized equipment, boat operations (zodiac), shore based rescue, boat based rescue, patient management in the water environment, specialized patient packaging, and survival techniques for the rescuer, consideration for night operations, incident termination and equipment maintenance.

### **Hazardous Materials - Awareness (meets NFPA 472)**

Emergency Response Team members at the awareness level are those persons who, in the course of their normal duties, could be the first on the scene of a hazardous materials emergency response. This course stresses how responders can protect themselves, call for trained personnel, and secure the area. Information is also provided on Transport Canada placarding, utilizing various resources like CANUTEC, and use of the Emergency Response Guidebook.

### **Hazardous Materials - Operations (meets NFPA 472)**

This course meets NFPA 472 Standard for Competence of Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Incidents at the Operations level. The course provides responders with an intermediate understanding of operational response to hazardous materials incidents, focusing on defensive tactical methods through a combination of theory and practical skills evolutions. Practical and classroom sessions cover an all-hazards approach to mitigating a hazardous materials incident. The focus will be on the following priorities, life safety, incident stabilization and property/environment conservation.

### **Fire and Life Safety Educator Level 1 (meets NFPA 1035)**

This course is designed to provide the skills necessary to deliver and co-ordinate Fire and Life Safety Education at various levels within a community. The curriculum development process is outlined and general guidelines for planning successful presentations are taught. It will provide the student with information on what motivates people to learn and how people learn differently. Other topics will include learning characteristics of different age groups, educational materials selection and program evaluation, working co-operatively with other community agencies, finding and using resources and working with the media.

## Incident Command System 100

This introductory course will cover the basics of the Incident Command model of emergency management. All members of Emergency Services should take this course so they are aware of how the Incident Command model works.

## Rescue Practices

This course is designed to prepare emergency services personnel with the skills to enter into other rescue specialties. The student will be able to operate under a recognized command structure, perform basic rescue skills, identify specific equipment and learn proper maintenance procedures. This course will teach the student the basic skills that can be applied to many rescue situations.

## Vehicle Extrication

This course provides the responder with a basic understanding of technical vehicle rescue incidents and their hazards. Practical and classroom sessions focus on stabilizing the incident, stabilizing the vehicle(s) and stabilizing the patient. Realistic training evolutions using the latest in equipment and techniques ensure student retention of this material.

## Physical Fitness Training

The Manitoba Emergency Services College incorporates a Physical Training (PT) program to assist students in maintaining a high standard of physical fitness in order to assist them in the physical demands of the day-to-day operations of the emergency services field. The PT program consists of two mandatory, one hour workout sessions each week. These sessions include training which incorporates various aspects of physical fitness such as interval training, aerobic training, muscular strength, aquatics and organized team events.

## FEES, EXPENSES AND DUE DATES

<b>PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM 2018-2019</b> <b>(ALL FEES AND DUE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE)</b>		
<b>STEP</b>	<b>FEES</b>	<b>DUE DATE</b>
Step #1 Application	\$100.00	January 26 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
Step #2 Academic Testing	\$100.00	April 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
Step #3 Interview	No Fee	TBA – Mid May 2018
Step #4 Registration	\$1,000.00	July 6 <sup>th</sup> , 2018
Fitness Testing	TBA	Late June/Early July
Tuition Fee (1 <sup>st</sup> half)	\$9,500.00	First Day of Class
Tuition Fee (2 <sup>nd</sup> half)	\$9,500.00	January 25 <sup>th</sup> , 2019
Student Insurance (Mandatory)	\$50.00	First Day of Class
It is recommended that Students should budget an additional \$4,000.00 for textbooks, safety clothing and uniforms, trips, practicums and extra supplies that may be required during the program.		
<b>Students must have a laptop for this program.</b>		
<b>Students are responsible for their own accommodations while attending this program.</b>		

All fees must be payable by Visa, MasterCard (**up to \$1,000.00 maximum will be accepted on Visa or MasterCard**), Cash (Do Not send cash in the mail), Money Order, Interac, "CERTIFIED" cheque (**No Personal Cheques will be accepted**). All cheques and money orders are payable to "Minister of Finance".

## REFUNDS

Refunds will be considered as per the Public Fire Paramedic Program policy and will be outlined by letter throughout the process.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

The Manitoba Emergency Services College application process consists of four (4) steps. **Information contained in the application process is personal and will only be discussed with the individual submitting the application. Applications are not transferable from year to year.** Individuals wishing to reapply must complete and submit a new application with the application fee and proceed through each step. Candidates must meet the following requirements:

### STEP #1 – Application

Candidates must submit a completed Public Fire Paramedic Application Form and the \$100.00 non-refundable application fee. Application forms can be found on the website at [www.firemedic.ca](http://www.firemedic.ca). Candidates must provide the following information by ([\*Please see Fees, Expenses and Due Dates\*](#)):

- Must be 18 years old at the time of the Step #1 application
- Original copy of High School Transcript meeting Manitoba Grade 12 (Senior 4) Diploma or Equivalent
  - One Senior level (grades 11 or 12) in Biology
  - One Senior Level (grades 11 or 12) in Chemistry
  - One Senior Level in English
- Copy of a valid Manitoba Class 5 F (Full) Driver's License
- Must meet the National Fire Protection Association Standard NFPA 1582 for vision as the time of this application ([\*\*form supplied by MESC\*\*](#))
  - Visual Acuity: Far visual is at least 20/40 binocular, corrected with contact lens or spectacles
  - Far visual acuity uncorrected is at least 20/100 binocular for wearers of hard contact lens or spectacles (successful long term soft contact lens wearers that is, 6 months without a problem, are not subject to the uncorrected standard)
  - Color perception:
    - Normal – passes Ishihara Test
    - Acceptable – passes Farnsworth D-15
- [STEP #1 - Application Form](#)

**ALL COPIES MUST BE CLEAR AND LEGIBLE OR THEY WILL BE RETURNED. INCOMPLETE PACKAGES WILL BE RETURNED AND THE CANDIDATE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE TO RESUBMIT BY THE SPECIFIED DEADLINE.**

## **STEP #2 – Academic Testing**

After the deadline date for Step #1, candidates will receive a confirmation letter to proceed to the academic testing. This letter will outline the time, date, location and fee for the Canadian Adult Achievement Test (CAAT). **Photo identification is required for this test.**

The CAAT is a Level D test (with a Level C Mechanical Reasoning add on) that will examine knowledge and ability in several academic areas. This is a timed test and covers the following areas:

**Vocabulary** – assesses knowledge and understanding of words that are frequently used by adults in their work and daily activities.

**Reading Comprehension** – measures the examinee’s comprehension of written material. The reading passages include material of a functional nature and material of an educational nature, testing literal and inferential comprehension.

**Spelling** – includes words which are representative of the types of words that adults need in written communication and words which sample the most common phonetic and structural principles of spelling.

**Number Operations** – assesses concepts of numbers and computation. Objectives measured by this test include reading and writing numerals, interpreting fractions and percents, understanding the operations and using “0” as an operator.

**Problem Solving** – measures the examinee’s ability to determine an outcome, to record and retrieve information, to use geometric concepts and to measure. Problems involve the use of whole numbers, decimals, fractions and percents.

**Language** – measures the examinee’s functional knowledge and effective use of the English language. The test assesses reference skills, language sensitivity and paragraph arrangement.

**Science** – measures the understanding of the basic concepts of physical and biological sciences such as conservation of matter and energy, changes in the physical universe and environmental interactions between living things.

**Study Skills** – focuses on the examinee’s ability to locate and use information; to find information in the dictionary and other reference sources; to interpret information in Tables of Contents and Indexes; and to apply organizational principles in outcomes.

### **Taken from CAAT Level C:**

**Mechanical Reasoning** – requires the examinee to solve 70 items consisting of pictorially presented mechanical situation together with a simply worded question.

### STEP #3 – Interviews

Candidates selected from Step #2 will proceed to an interview with a Selection Committee from the Manitoba Emergency Services College. **THE DECISIONS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE ARE FINAL.**

The Manitoba Emergency Services College is seeking candidates with the potential to do well in the Public Fire Paramedic Program and that demonstrate the attitude and aptitude to become a successful member of the emergency services.

Interviewers will be assessing candidates' abilities and asking questions that relate to following areas, interpersonal skills, and respect for authority, professional appearance, team player, work ethic, attendance, tardiness, demonstrated initiative and leadership.

### STEP #4 – Selection of Candidates

Candidates accepted into the Public Fire Paramedic Program from Step #3 must complete the following within a given timeframe that will be outlined in a letter of conditional acceptance.

**As some of these items take several weeks to obtain (i.e. Class 4 Driver's License) it is recommended that candidates begin the process to obtain some of these items earlier than Step #4.**

Candidates will be required to submit the following:

- A \$1,000.00 registration fee by the date stated in their conditional acceptance letter. This registration fee will be deducted from the tuition fee. This registration fee will not be refunded after the date stated in the conditional acceptance letter;
- A full medical examination from your Family Doctor (**form supplied by MESC at Step 4**)
- Current Standard First Aid course and CPR - Health Care Provider (HCP) level through one of the following ILCOR agencies: Heart & Stroke, Red Cross, St. John Ambulance, Royal Life Saving Society or Canadian Ski Patrol. This must remain current for the duration of the program;
- A clear Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check (Original copy, current within 6 months from the start date of the program);
- A clear Child Abuse Registry Check (Original copy, current within 6 months from the start date of the program);
- A clear Adult Abuse Registry Check (Original copy, current within 6 months from the start date of the program);
- A current Pleasure Craft License or Safe Boaters Operators License;
- A current driver's license equivalent to a FULL Manitoba Class 4 with Air Brake Endorsement (candidates from outside of Manitoba must have a license equivalent from their Province);
- A current Driver's Abstract (Original copy);
- Fitness testing for the purposes of counselling must be completed at the University of Manitoba Campus in Winnipeg. Dates and fees for the fitness tests will be confirmed during Step 4 of the process. Fitness testing will take place in June/ July 2018.
- Up to date record of immunizations for the following (**form supplied by the MESC**):
  - Diphtheria, polio and tetanus (booster required every ten years)
  - MMR (measles, mumps, rubella)
  - Hepatitis A & B (twinrix 3-step vaccine)
  - Varicella (chicken pox) titres to verify immunity
  - Mantoux test (tuberculosis) within 12 months or repeat single step test
  - Influenza vaccine annually