



*'Training to Save Lives'*

# **PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM**

**2023-2025**

# PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

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## OUR PROGRAM

The Manitoba Emergency Services College (MESC) is committed to providing superior training to meet the needs of today's dynamic emergency services fields. The MESC operates under the Province of Manitoba's Department of Municipal Relations and is the only provider of accredited training in Fire and Rescue in Manitoba. For individuals pursuing a career in the emergency services, our College provides training experience like no other.

The Public Fire Paramedic Program (PFPP) is the MESC's flagship program. Unique to Manitoba, the program trains in Fire Fighting, Rescue, and Primary Care Paramedicine, as well as Community Education, Safety, and Mental Wellness programming. Our graduates are the preferred professionals and are ready for direct entry with many career departments.

Through classroom study, hands-on learning, and clinical/practicum placements, students are involved in the operations of a working emergency services department and will learn skills using state-of-the-art facilities, equipment, and technologies. Scenario-based training and assessment over the length of the program allows students to build confidence in a demanding yet encouraging hands-on environment.

Located in Brandon, MB, classes are held at the Manitoba Emergency Services College which includes an 11.4-acre Practical Training Site. Graduates from this program receive the Public Fire Paramedic Program Diploma, hold certification\* in additional industry-specific courses, and are eligible to write the COPR exam for paramedic licensure

\* accrediting bodies include International Fire Service Accreditation Congress (IFSAC) and National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications Inc. (ProBoard)

# PFPP COURSES

## Primary Care Paramedic

The Primary Care Paramedic course prepares the student for work in the pre-hospital field. The course consists of both theory and hands-on teaching with regular use of specialized equipment.

Students have access to didactic lab/classrooms, training spaces, MESC ambulances with full apparatus, high fidelity simulation mannequins, and a multitude of equipment that is used in the EMS profession. This course provides knowledge in areas such as routine and emergency care in both medical and trauma environments, medication administration, proper patient lifting, cardiac monitoring, and IV administration and infusions.

In-house instruction modules are followed by ambulance and clinical practicum placement components. These placements allow the opportunity for students to apply knowledge and skills in controlled, real-life situations through exposure to emergent and non-emergent ambulance calls as well as hospital clinical rotations with supervised experience in emergency room, long-term care, pediatrics, cardiology, and more.

The ambulance practicums are completed with various Manitoba Shared Health Ambulance Services. Clinical rotations are completed in Manitoba Regional Health Authority hospitals.

Graduates are eligible to write the Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR) examination for paramedic licensure.

This course meets the National Occupational Competency Profile (NOCP) competencies for Primary Care Paramedics (2011).



## Fire Fighting Level I

Practical and classroom sessions provide the skills necessary to effectively perform the functions of a fire fighter as well as the ability to adapt those skills with the changing times. By the end of this course, students will be able to apply fire department general standard operating guidelines, effectively use fire department communications, perform fire ground operations, 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.

This course meets the most recent edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1001, 2019 Fire Fighting Level I.

## Fire Fighting Level II

By the end of this course, students are 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, helping special rescue teams and be confident to perform activities related to reducing the loss of life and property due to fire through hazard identification, inspection and response readiness.

This course meets the most recent edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1001, 2019 Fire Fighting Level II.

# PFPP COURSES

## Rescue Practices

This course prepares students with the knowledge and skills to safely construct and operate a range of rope system rescue specialties. Students will be able to operate under a recognized command structure, perform basic rescue skills, and identify and maintain hardware components.

## Rope Rescuer Awareness, Operations, and Technician

These courses train in personal rope skills as well as the skills to be fully functional as a member of a technical rope rescue team. Students will learn to assess and construct single and multi-point anchor systems, rappel using various devices and maneuver around obstacles on a fixed rope system, operate as a member of a low-angle rope rescue team and a high-angle rope rescue team, perform rappel pick-offs, operate raising and lowering systems, prepare and package patients, and move them in the high-angle environment.

These courses meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1006 (2021, Chapter 5), Rope Rescuer Awareness, Operations and Technician Levels.

## Vehicle Rescuer Awareness, Operations, and Technician

These courses provide knowledge and skills to effectively respond to light passenger and/or heavy vehicle rescue situations. The course includes both theory and practical instruction based on stabilizing the scene, stabilizing the vehicles, and stabilizing the patient.

These courses meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1006 (2021, Chapter 8 & 9), Vehicle Rescuer Awareness, Operations and Technician Levels.



## Surface Water Rescuer Awareness, Operations and Technician

These courses are 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).

Course content is designed around the use of full flotation survival immersion suits and 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, survival techniques, consideration for night operations, incident termination, and equipment maintenance.

These courses meet the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1006 (2021, Chapter 17), Surface Water Rescuer Awareness, Operations and Technician Levels.

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Questions can be directed to Student Services at:

[student\\_services@mbmesc.ca](mailto:student_services@mbmesc.ca)

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# PFPP COURSES

## **Hazardous Materials Awareness**

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. Training covers 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 (ERG).

This course meets the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 470 (2022, Chapter 5), Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Standard for Responders.

## **Hazardous Materials Operation**

This course provides 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 with the focus on life safety, incident stabilization, and property/environment conservation.

This course meets the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 470 (2022, Chapter 7), Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Standard for Responders.

## **Hazardous Materials Technician**

Hazardous Materials Technicians are those persons who respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous materials for the purpose of controlling the release. Emergency Response Team members at this level are expected to use specialized chemical protective clothing and specialized control equipment. Topics such as monitoring, formal decontamination, technical resources, and incident implementation are stressed in this program, with the overall safety of the responder in mind.

This course meets the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 470 (2022, Chapter 11), Responders to Hazardous Materials/Weapons of Mass Destruction Standard for Responders.

## **Driver Operator - Pumper**

This is comprised of three seminars:

### **Emergency Driving Skills Seminar:**

This course covers subjects ranging from daily and weekly inspections and maintenance of apparatus to learning about techniques, laws, and regulations as they apply to the emergency vehicle operator. The course is a combination of theory and practical skills. Students will operate an emergency vehicle effectively and safely on a closed driving track, and then while applying principles and practices on rural and urban roadways.

### **Pumps Basic Seminar:**

Through theory and the application of practical skills, students learn the operation and upkeep of fire pumper trucks and apparatus. This includes regular inspections, maintenance of pumper apparatus and pressure regulating devices. Topics also include 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.

### **Pumps Advanced Seminar:**

Students will expand on information and skills learned in the Pumps Basic Seminar. Theory and practical components cover fire service hydraulics, including calculations in friction loss, flow pressures, nozzle reaction, and application of these principles on the fire ground. Also covered is how to relay pump, supply sprinkler and standpipe systems, and how to perform maintenance tests on water and foam systems.

Pumps testing meets the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1002, Fire Apparatus Driver/Operator.



# PFPP COURSES

## **Fire & Life Safety Educator**

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. Instruction will outline the curriculum development process and give general guidelines for planning successful presentations. It will familiarize students with information on what motivates people to learn and how people learn differently. Other topics will include learning characteristics of different age groups, selecting educational resources, program evaluation, working co-operatively with other community agencies, and working with the media.

This course meets the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard 1035 (2015), Fire & Life Safety Professional Qualifications.

## **Traffic Control Seminar**

This seminar provides information and training to conduct emergency scene traffic control management. Topics for discussion include the Highway Traffic Act, Workplace Safety and Health Regulations, high-visibility safety apparel, radio communication skills, emergency scene vehicle placement, and the effective use of hand signals and STOP/SLOW paddles. The classroom portion is followed by live traffic exercises which include demonstration of the skills acquired.

## **ICS-100 Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS Canada)**

This course introduces the Incident Command System model of emergency management through educating students on the history, features and principles, and organizational structure of the Incident Command System.

## **Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) – Basic and Advanced Levels**

CISM demonstrates crisis intervention strategies for emergency personnel. This course assists students in developing and managing a CISM team, preparing peer support personnel, and liaising with mental health professionals to provide a variety of crisis services for afflicted emergency personnel. The services described in the training include, among others: pre-incident education, defusing, demobilizations, and debriefings.

## **The Working Mind First Responders (TWMFR) – Primary and Leadership Levels**

TWMFR is seminar-based learning to focus on the importance of mental wellbeing in a first-responder setting. This training promotes awareness of and reduces the stigma of mental wellness. There is a focus to reduce barriers and provide the tools and resources to promote positive mental health outcomes.



## FEES, EXPENSES AND IMPORTANT DATES

### PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM 2023-2025

(ALL FEES AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE)

STEP	FEES	IMPORTANT DATES
Step #1 - Application	\$100	June 16, 2023
Step #2 - Interview (done virtually)	n/a	June 26-30, 2023
Step #3 - Selection of Candidates	n/a	July 4, 2023
Paramedic Physical Fitness Assessment (University of Manitoba)	\$140* + GST	July, 2023 *subject to change
Conditional Acceptance Requirements Met Includes: Registration Fee \$1,000 Student Insurance \$50	\$1,050	August 11, 2023 *deadline extension may be considered
Year 1 - Late August 2023 to July 2024		
Year 1 Tuition Fee	\$9,500	December 1, 2023
Year 2 - Late August 2024 to July 2025		
Year 2 Tuition Fee	\$9,500	December 1, 2024

Total program tuition is \$20,000.

It is recommended to budget an additional \$5,000 for textbooks, safety clothing, uniforms, practicums, extra supplies, and incidental costs required during the program.

Students must have a laptop for this program.

Students are responsible for their own accommodations.

Fees for application, registration, and insurance are payable by Visa, MasterCard, cash, money order, Interac, certified cheque or by requesting an emailed payment link.

Note: Do not send cash in the mail.

No personal cheques will be accepted.

Certified cheques and money orders are payable to *Minister of Finance*.

The PFPP program is full time training through the Manitoba Emergency Services College. Students may be eligible to qualify for student financial assistance (ie: Canada Student Loan) or other funding/sponsorship.

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 three steps. Applications are not transferable from year to year and individuals wishing to reapply must begin at Step #1.

Applicants must be 18 years of age. Information contained in the application process is confidential and will only be discussed with the individual submitting the application. All documents must be complete, clear, and legible.

The MESC admissions office will provide all communication with applicants electronically. It is essential to monitor your email (including junk folders) from the date your application is submitted until you receive notice of being a successful or unsuccessful applicant. Failure to do this could result in missing important messages and/or deadlines and may result in forfeit of your application and associated fees.

## STEP #1 – Application

Submit an application package that includes:

- Completed *Public Fire Paramedic Application Form*.
- \$100 non-refundable application fee. See page 7 for payment options.
- Copy of a valid Manitoba Class 5 F (Full) Driver's License.
- Official stamped high school transcript meeting Manitoba Grade 12 (Senior 4) Diploma (or equivalent) with the following Grade 12 credits:
  - o English
  - o Chemistry OR Physics

NOTE: Transcripts from other countries must also attach an assessment document from an accredited assessment agency showing equivalency to Manitoba Grade 12 diploma (or equivalent) that includes the required credits mentioned above. This document must be written in English. Please contact your local immigration agency for assistance.

- Completed *Vision Check Form* to verify National Fire Protection Association Standard NFPA 1582 – 2022 vision requirement.
- Official lab report proving immunity to Hepatitis B for previously completed vaccination series. If you have recently received a new Hep B vaccination series, proof showing first vaccination completion is required. Please consult a health care professional for assistance.

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Application forms including the Vision Check form are available at:

[Office of the Fire Commissioner | MESC | Public Fire Paramedic Program | PFPP Brochure \(gov.mb.ca\)](#)

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## **STEP #2 – Interview**

Candidates selected from Step #1 will proceed to an interview with a Selection Committee from the Manitoba Emergency Services College. Interview will be conducted virtually.

The MESC 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 profession.

Interviewers will be assessing candidates' abilities and asking questions that relate to the following areas: time management, personal values/character, flexibility/adaptability, integrity, and interpersonal/professional communications. Decisions of the selection committee are final.

## **STEP #3 – Selection of Candidates**

Candidates accepted into the Public Fire Paramedic Program from Step #2 must complete the following within a timeframe outlined in a letter of conditional acceptance.

NOTE: As some of these items take several weeks to obtain (e.g., Class 4 Driver's License) it is recommended to begin the process to obtain some of these items prior to Step #3.

Candidates will be required to submit the following:

- \$1,000 Registration fee. This non-refundable fee will be deducted from the Program tuition fee.
- \$50.00 Student Insurance fee. This is a mandatory fee.
- Proof of successful completion of 6 credit hours of Anatomy & Physiology (A&P), including the lab component (official stamped post-secondary transcript). See link below for course information:  
[Human Anatomy and Physiology Courses : Red River College Polytechnic: Advising \(rrc.ca\)](http://rrc.ca)
- Proof of successful completion of Canadian Red Cross Medical Terminology course.
- Physical Fitness Assessment. To be completed at the University of Manitoba Campus in Winnipeg. Dates and fees for the fitness testing will be confirmed during the selection process. If unsuccessful on the first testing attempt, as a condition of continued enrollment, retesting must be arranged, and a successful attempt obtained within the first 90 days of the Program.
- Copy of valid Pleasure Craft License or Safe Boaters Operators License.
- Copy of valid Driver's License equivalent to a Manitoba Class 4 (F) Full with Air Brake Endorsement. Candidates from outside of Manitoba must have an equivalent license from their home province. Candidates within Manitoba can work to obtain Class 4 and then wait for further instruction from the MESC regarding the Air Brake component.
- Current Driver Abstract (original document).
- Full medical clearance from your Family Doctor (form supplied by the MESC).
- Copy of valid certification in Standard First Aid and CPR Health Care Provider (HCP)/BLS level. This must remain current for the duration of the program.
- Clear Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Sector Check (original document, current - within six months of the start date of the program).
- Clear Child Abuse Registry Check (original document, current - within six months of the start date of the program).
- Clear Adult Abuse Registry Check (original document, current - within six months of the start date of the program).
- Up-to-date record of immunizations for the following (form supplied by the MESC):
  - o Diphtheria, Polio and Tetanus, MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella), Hepatitis B, Varicella (Chicken Pox), Mantoux test (Tuberculosis), Influenza, COVID-19 (minimum 2 immunizations required, 3 recommended).