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PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM - Class of September 2019 – June 2020

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), the National Board on Fire Service Professional Qualifications (PRO BOARD) and Accreditation Canada.

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

Accreditation Canada

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 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 situation, 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 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 PAC's NOCP's - 2011)

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. This course meets PAC's NOCPs (2011) and is accredited by Accreditation Canada.

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. **Pumps Basic Seminar:** 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. ***Pumps Advanced Seminar:*** 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 1072)

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 1072)

This course meets NFPA 1072 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.

I-100 Introduction to Incident Command System (ICS Canada)

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 Rescuer Level I & II (meets NFPA 1006)

This course provides emergency response personnel with the knowledge and skills to be able to effectively respond and operate at a light passenger, and/or heavy vehicle rescue situation. The course includes both theory and practical evolutions based on stabilizing the scene, stabilizing the vehicles, and stabilizing the patient.

Traffic Control Seminar

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

CISM – Awareness Seminar

The seminar provides an opportunity for discussion surrounding how some individuals may be affected by the stress of a critical incident and potential reactions to that stress. The seminar provides basic information emphasizing the importance of both recognition and management of CIS. Participants should be aware that this is not a certificate course. The seminar content does not train individuals to provide CISM services; it focuses upon identifying when a referral should be recommended.

Physical Fitness Training

The Manitoba Emergency Services College incorporates Physical Fitness Training (PT) 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 Physical Fitness Training 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

PUBLIC FIRE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM 2018-2019		
(ALL FEES AND DUE DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE)		
STEP	FEES	DUE DATE
Step #1 Application	\$100.00	January 11 th , 2019
Step #2 Academic Testing	\$100.00	February 4 th , 2019
Step #3 Interview	No Fee	TBA – mid March 2019
Step #4 Registration	\$1,000.00	May 3 rd , 2019
Fitness Testing	TBA	April/May
Tuition Fee (1 st half)	\$9,500.00	First Day of Class
Tuition Fee (2 nd half)	\$9,500.00	January 31 st , 2020
Student Insurance (Mandatory)	\$50.00	First Day of Class
TOTAL PROGRAM TUITION IS \$20,000. 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.		
Students must have a laptop for this program.		
Students are responsible for their own accommodations while attending this program.		

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. Candidates must also provide the following information with their application by ([*Please see Fees, Expenses and Due Dates*](#)):

- Must be 18 years old at the time of the Step #1 application
- Must have completed high school and supply an official stamped copy of their High School Transcript meeting Manitoba Grade 12 (Senior 4) Diploma or Equivalent. The following credits are required:
 - 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 submit form indicating they 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
- Must provide official laboratory documentation proving IMMUNITY to Hepatitis A AND B (NOTE: or at minimum provide documentation to show that the first vaccination has been completed). Please consult your health professional for assistance.
 - Rapid dosing for TwinRix vaccination (4 doses) is NOT RECOMMENDED.
- [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.

NOTE: 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 Program tuition fee of \$20,000.00. 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 the MESC**);
- Current Standard First Aid course and CPR - Health Care Provider (HCP) level. See https://www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/training.html#wsh_train_list for approved training providers. 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 April/May 2019.
- 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