

Application Information

2025 Intake

Fire & Rescue Certificate

Primary Care Paramedic Certificate



'Training to Save Lives'

Public Fire Paramedic Program
Manitoba Emergency Services College

Important Dates

Step 1	Initial Application Deadline	March 7, 2025
Step 2	Proficiency Testing	early April 2025
Step 3	Applicant Interviews	early May 2025
Step 4	Successful Applicant Notification	end of May 2025
Start Date	Primary Care Paramedic track	mid-August 2025
Start Date	Fire & Rescue track	mid-September 2025

Step 1: Initial Application

- Submit a complete application package by the application deadline.
- Documents to be submitted as originals, color photocopies, or color scans (pdf format).
- Applicants must be 18 years of age on or before the application deadline.

Application Package to include:

1. Public Fire Paramedic Program Application Form (available on our website)
2. \$100 application fee
 - This non-refundable, non-transferable fee is payable by cash, certified cheque, money order, Debit, MasterCard, Visa, or by requesting an emailed payment link. Note: No personal cheques are accepted. Do not send cash in the mail.
 - Certified cheques and money orders are payable to the *Minister of Finance*.
3. Official stamped high school transcript equivalent to a Manitoba Grade 12 (Senior 4) diploma
 - Required for Fire & Rescue track:
 - credit in Grade 12 (Senior 4) English
 - Required for Primary Care Paramedic track:
 - credit in Grade 12 (Senior 4) English; and
 - credit in one of Grade 12 (Senior 4) Chemistry, Biology, or Physics

Transcripts from other countries must also include an assessment document from an accredited agency showing equivalency to a Manitoba Grade 12 diploma with the required credit(s) mentioned above and be written in English. Contact your local Immigration Agency for information.

4. Proof of valid Driver's License equivalent to a Manitoba Class 5 Full (F) stage
5. Personal Driver Abstract current within 6 months of your application date
6. Your resume
 - Demonstrate to the Selection Committee how your knowledge and skills make you an ideal candidate.
7. Two personal references (use the form available on our website)
 - To be completed by those who can speak to your attributes of how you will be successful in the Public Fire Paramedic Program (PFPP). At least one of the references must be from a non-relative of the applicant.

Step 2: Proficiency Testing

Applicants selected from Step #1 will be invited to the Manitoba Emergency Services College (MESC) for an information session, tour, and to complete a written assessment.

For this step there is no preparation required. This is general knowledge testing used as a standardized evaluation tool to identify applicant strengths.

Step 3: Applicant Interview

Applicants selected from Step #2 will be invited to participate in an interview with a Selection Committee.

The MESC is seeking candidates with the potential to do well in the Public Fire Paramedic Program and that demonstrate the ability for success.

Interviewers will be assessing each candidate's abilities by asking questions that relate to the following areas: time management, personal values/character, flexibility/adaptability, integrity, and interpersonal/professional communications.

For those applying for the for the Primary Care Paramedic track, interviewers will be asking about the following, as preference will be given to candidates who have completed:

- Human Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) - Six credit hours, including the lab component. As this prerequisite is currently on hold by our accrediting body, this is not a requirement. This may change in subsequent intakes.
- A medical terminology course.

Step 4: Conditional Acceptance

Applicants selected from Step #3 will be conditionally offered a spot for the 2025 intake of the Primary Care Paramedic or Fire & Rescue track of the MESC's Public Fire Paramedic Program. With this conditional acceptance, you will receive a package detailing the next steps and deadlines.

Final Prerequisites:	Required for:	
	Primary Care Paramedic track	Fire & Rescue track
This information is included for reference purposes. Only applicants who receive Conditional Acceptance are required to obtain the following which will be confirmed during the selection process.		
\$1,000 non-refundable deposit This holds your spot in the program and is deducted from your tuition.	X	X
Vision check The <i>Vision Check Form</i> to be completed by an Optometrist will be supplied by the MESC.	X	X
Medical clearance The <i>Medical Examination Form</i> to be completed by a medical doctor, physician assistant, or nurse practitioner will be supplied by the MESC.	X	X
Physical fitness assessment This reflects the requirements of working in an emergency services environment. Arranged by the MESC. Location, dates, and fees TBA.	X	X

Final Prerequisites, continued:	PCP	F&R
Valid Pleasure Craft Operator Card		X
Valid Driver's License equivalent to a Manitoba Class 4 Full (F) stage	X	X
Air brake endorsement Candidates within Manitoba: Work to obtain your Class 4 license and then wait for further instruction from the MESC regarding the air brake component. Candidates outside of Manitoba: Must have an equivalent certification from your home province.		X
Certification in Standard First Aid CPR Level C This may also be referred to as an intermediate level (not the emergency or basic levels). Training must be obtained from an approved provider on the list found here: www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/training.html This must remain current for the duration of the program.	X	X
Certification in Health Care Provider (HCP) Basic Life Saver (BLS) Training must be obtained from an approved provider on the list found here: www.gov.mb.ca/labour/safety/training.html If possible, obtain this through Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada. This must remain current for the duration of the program.	X	
Police Service Criminal Record (including Vulnerable Sector) check Current within six months of the program start date. Candidates outside of Manitoba: Provide this from your home province.	X	X
Adult Abuse Registry check (AARC) Current within six months of the program start date. Candidates from outside of Manitoba: Apply for a Manitoba AARC.	X	X
Child Abuse Registry check (CARC) Current within six months of the program start date. Candidates from outside of Manitoba: Apply for a Manitoba CARC.	X	X
Workplace Hazardous Materials Information System (WHMIS) Certification This is online training through SAFE Work Manitoba. Look for <i>WHMIS 2015 for Workers</i> at the following link: https://www.safemanitoba.com/Education/Pages/E-Learning-Courses.aspx	X	X
Laboratory report proving immunity to Hepatitis B More information regarding this will be provided to you from the MESC.	X	
Proof of Immunization The form to be completed will be supplied by the MESC.	X	
Incident Command System (ICS) 100 This is an online, self-directed course provided by the MESC. Information will be provided upon conditional acceptance.	X	X
Comfortable training in situations such as open water, confined spaces, and at heights A test (swim 25 meters and tread water for 2 minutes) is completed.		X
Human Anatomy & Physiology (A&P) Six (6) credit hours, including the lab component As this prerequisite has been put on hold by our accrediting body, this is not currently required. This may change in subsequent intakes.	see Step 3	

More information is available at www.mbmesc.ca

Questions can be directed to mescfpfp@mbmesc.ca

Program FAQs

How does the training work?

- Students enroll in single track, one-year training to obtain a Fire & Rescue certificate or Primary Care Paramedic certificate. Students may also choose to earn a certificate in both tracks to receive a Public Fire Paramedic Program (PFPP) diploma.
- There is one intake per year with classes beginning annually in the fall.

How many students are accepted to the program?

- The admission target is to have 20 students fill seats in each of the tracks. The MESC reserves the right to award fewer admissions based on educational requirements, teaching-learning infrastructure, and overall suitability of candidates.
- Applicants who reside in the Province of Manitoba are given priority for the first available seats. Applications from non-Manitoba residents will be considered only if seats remain available.

I applied last year but wasn't accepted. Do I have to apply again?

- Yes. Applications received are only current for the applicable academic year. We do not maintain a waitlist.

What if I want to take both Fire & Rescue and Primary Care Paramedic?

- Students who are enrolled in Year 1 and wish to continue and complete the alternate track in Year 2 will be given the opportunity to confirm their interest in advance of seats being offered to non-students. Before a current student is offered a seat, consideration will be given to the individual's attendance, grades, and overall program success. The MESC Registrar will have the final say in a student continuing to Year 2. If this is offered, a \$1,000 deposit will be required to hold the seat, and prerequisites will need to be met as required.

Do I have to take the 2 years together?

- Students who complete Year 1, take a gap period, and then wish to return to the MESC and complete the alternate track will be required to reapply from Step 1. Should the student return and be successful in completing both certificates, they may be eligible to receive the Public Fire Paramedic Program diploma.

How much is tuition? Or other expenses?

- Tuition for one year is \$10,000. This is due prior to the first day of class.
- Student Insurance for one year is \$50. This is due prior to the first day of class.
- Applicants are responsible for all costs associated with application/acceptance steps.
- It is recommended to budget an additional \$4,000 per year for textbooks, safety clothing, uniforms, supplies, and incidental costs.

How can I pay fees?

- Certified cheques and money orders are payable to the *Minister of Finance*. No personal cheques are accepted.
- Application fee (\$100): Cash, certified cheque, money order, Debit, MasterCard, Visa, or by requesting an emailed payment link.
- Program deposit (\$1,000): Cash, certified cheque, money order, Debit, MasterCard, Visa, or by requesting an emailed payment link.
- Tuition (\$9,000): Cash, certified cheque, money order, or Debit.

- Student Insurance (\$50): Cash, certified cheque, money order, Debit, MasterCard, Visa, or by requesting an emailed payment link.

Do I need a computer or anything else?

- Students must have a laptop or tablet.
- Upon acceptance, a list will be provided which includes textbooks, safety gear, uniform, and other items.

Can I attend any of the classes online?

- No. All training is full-time and in-person at our Brandon campus. It is strongly recommended to live within Brandon as the weather can make commuting a challenge. Attendance is essential to success and is closely monitored.

Do you have access to a residence or dorm?

- No. Students are responsible for their own living accommodation.

Is there a fitness requirement?

- Physical fitness is a valuable attribute for students of the Public Fire Paramedic Program. When working in emergency services, strength, agility, and flexibility are essential. For the Fire & Rescue track, there are consecutive days of physically demanding training, carrying, climbing, and exposure to extreme temperatures in all environments. For the Primary Care Paramedic track, students will experience movements of pushing, pulling, lifting (alone and with partners), climbing, as well as areas where strong motor skills for precise tasks are needed.

Does the MESC have a gym?

- Though the MESC has no in-house fitness facility, our students are offered substantial membership discounts at fitness centres in Brandon.

What happens if I'm worried about my documents to be submitted?

- Driver abstract and security clearance checks received that are not clear are subject to review and consultation.

Is there funding? Can a RESP account be used?

- The MESC is recognized as a federally designated educational institution. Students are eligible to receive a tuition tax credit and may qualify to receive financial support in the form of education savings plan withdrawals, student loan, scholarship, sponsorship, bursary, or other funding. As funding is often granted on a case-by-case basis, contact your preferred funding service provider for more information. Examples of entities through which students may be eligible for funding are Canada Student Financial Assistance Program, Manitoba Student Aid, Workforce and Industry Programs and Partnerships, Indigenous Services Canada, Manitoba Metis Federation.

What if my family or a funding service provider has a question about my application?

- Information contained in the application process is confidential and will only be discussed with the individual submitting the application unless written consent is given.

How will I receive information from the MESC about my application?

- The MESC admissions office will provide 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 the forfeiting of your application and associated fees.