

Program Information

2026 Intake

Fire & Rescue Certificate

Primary Care Paramedic Certificate



Training to Save Lives

Public Fire Paramedic Program
Manitoba Emergency Services College

Manitoba Emergency Services College

Through full-time, in-person training, earn your:

Fire & Rescue Certificate

or

Primary Care Paramedic Certificate

With completion of both certificates, earn your:

Public Fire Paramedic Program (PFPP) Diploma

The Manitoba Emergency Services College (MESC) is a leader in specialized vocational training throughout Manitoba and across Canada. We are committed to providing superior training to meet the needs of today's dynamic emergency services fields.

Located in Brandon, the MESC is managed by the Province of Manitoba and is the sole provider of accredited training for firefighting and rescue in the region.

For individuals pursuing a career in the emergency services, the MESC provides training in Fire Fighting, Rescue, and Primary Care Paramedicine, as well as community education, safety, and mental wellness components.



Our graduates are the preferred professionals and prepared for direct entry to many emergency services fields, including federal, provincial, and municipal emergency services, industrial safety, response teams, and private industry.

The MESC campus features ample classroom space, medical simulation laboratory, indoor training arena, 11-acre Practical Training Site, and equipment used in today's medical, fire, and rescue industry. Students prepare for the everyday realities of emergency response in a safe and controlled setting.

Questions can be directed
to MESC Admissions at:
mescpfpp@mbmesc.ca



Fire & Rescue Certificate

This 9-month program is delivered through theory and hands-on instruction. Students learn how to respond to incidents that threaten life, property, and the environment. Training is in areas of fire fighting, incident safety, being part of specialized rescue teams, and more.

The MESC offers fully accredited* training. Certifications received are in alignment with the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards. Certification received by students is recognized globally which leaves unlimited possibilities for graduates.

Our Fire & Rescue instructors are experienced fire service members with years of experience working in emergency services as paid firefighters and volunteer members.

*Certified training meets the most recent edition of the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standard.

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

Fire & Rescue Certificate Certified Training

Fire Fighting Level I

This course provides a combination of fire fighting skills taught through theory and practical instruction. Students learn about personal protective equipment, fire behaviour, types of building construction, fire service communications, search and rescue techniques, and survival techniques.

Fire Fighting Level II

This course expands on the knowledge and skills necessary to perform the functions of a fire fighter, including advanced response readiness, fire suppression, assisting special rescue teams, fire origin and cause, incident reporting systems, fire control, rescue operations, and hazard identification.

Driver Operator - Pumper

This certification includes a written and practical evaluation plus completion of the following:

1. Emergency Vehicle Driving Skills Seminar:

This course covers subjects ranging from regular 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 learn to operate an emergency vehicle on a closed driving track.

2. 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, foam systems, pressurized water sources, drafting from static sources, and calculations relating to pump pressures.

3. 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.

Common Passenger Vehicle Rescue - Awareness, Operations, and Technician Levels

This course provides the knowledge and skills to be able to respond to a light passenger vehicle incident, including vehicle stabilization, extrication tools and techniques, scene management, and victim stabilization procedures.



Hazardous Materials - Awareness Level

This course delivers the knowledge and skills necessary to respond to a hazardous materials incident, including personal protection, resources, introduction to criminal/terrorist activity, calling for trained responders, and securing the scene.

Hazardous Materials - Operations Level

This course gives the knowledge and skills to respond to hazardous materials incidents to protect persons, the environment, and property, including detecting the presence of hazardous substances and chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE), consulting references for additional information, and implementing work practices that will minimize the possibility of contamination.

Surface Water Rescue - Awareness, Operations, and Technician Levels

This course provides the knowledge and skills to respond to static and/or slow-moving water rescue operations, including rescue skills, patient management and packaging, boat operations, equipment maintenance, and scene management.



Ice Rescue - Awareness, Operations, and Technician Levels

This course is for response with rescue situations involving cold weather and ice. The ice rescue course builds on the knowledge and skills learned in surface water rescue, pre-planning, reading the ice, moving on the ice, and entering the water using specialized ice rescue suits and equipment.

Fire & Rescue Seminars and Other

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 in a low angle rope environment, and identify and maintain hardware components.

Traffic Control Seminar

This seminar provides the knowledge and skills to conduct emergency scene traffic control management, understand various applicable legislation, and utilize safety and communications equipment.

Physical Fitness Orientation

Students receive an orientation to physical fitness training stations that replicate what would be experienced as part of a fitness assessment when in the hiring process for Fire Fighter-Paramedic employment. This gives opportunity to set goals and measure progress.

Note: The course offerings listed are subject to change at the discretion of the MESC.

More information is available at www.mbmesc.ca

Questions can be directed to mescpfpp@mbmesc.ca

Primary Care Paramedic Certificate

The Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) program** provides skills to assess and treat critically injured or ill patients. Students learn to collaborate with patients, family members, healthcare professionals and other emergency service providers including fire, rescue, and law enforcement in both routine and emergency settings. Course work also includes mental well-being support tailored to first responders.

Our instructors are experienced and licensed paramedics who are registered with the College of Paramedics of Manitoba and have a minimum of 5 years of experience in the field.

During this 12-month program, students will participate in:

- 8 months of instructor-led classes and hands-on scenarios;
- 6 weeks of practical skills sessions;
- 4 weeks of supervised clinical shift placements; and
- 8 weeks of supervised practical/ambulance placements.

Upon completing the Primary Care Paramedic Certificate, students are eligible to write the Canadian Organization of Paramedic Regulators (COPR) Licensure Exam. Successful candidates can then apply for licensure with the regulator in the province that they wish to practice in.

**MESC Primary Care Paramedic training meets the National Occupational Competency Profile (NOCP) competencies for Primary Care Paramedics (2011).

Primary Care Paramedic Certificate Courses

Foundations of Paramedicine Level I

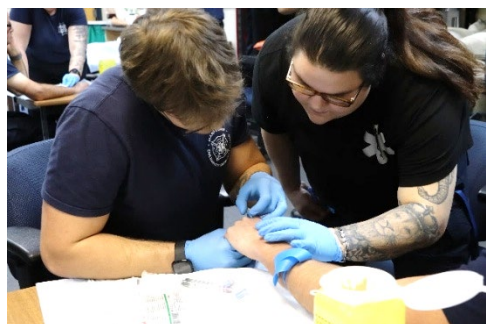
Foundations of Paramedicine I teaches the building blocks for the entire PCP program. Topics include pathophysiology, pharmacology, roles & responsibilities, elements of paramedic physical and emotional well-being, communication, documentation, and ethics.

Foundations of Paramedicine Level II

This course builds on the content learned in *Foundations of Paramedicine Level I*. Expanding on techniques to gather patient history, complete physical examinations, and do thorough assessments of the patient as well as the emergency scene. It covers the proper use of medical equipment, disposal of contaminated equipment, administering IVs, and basic principles of pharmacology and common medication classifications.

Medicine & Systems

In *Medicine and Systems*, pathophysiology of organs and systems is explored. Students expand their knowledge of human development (infants to late adults), anatomy, function, and medical emergencies, including respiratory, cardiovascular, neurological, allergic, and other events.



Trauma

The *Trauma* course covers various traumatic emergency situations including wounds, management of burns, lacerations, as well as spinal, abdominal, head, and other trauma sustained as a result of high velocity injuries.

Treating Diverse Demographics

Students learn about specialized assessment and treatment for patients in areas such as childbirth, pediatrics, geriatrics, chronic care, patients with special needs, and patients with chronic conditions.

Special Considerations

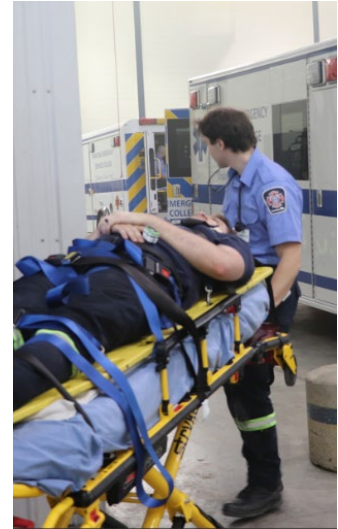
This includes focus on crime scene awareness, harm caused from neglect, communicable diseases, drowning, extreme temperature exposure, substance abuse, poisoning, patient safety, and critical decision making.

Mass Casualty Incidents

Students receive training in medical incident command, rescue awareness, terrorism, chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosives (CBRNE), and hazardous materials to be able to assist other agencies and manage multiple patients at critical incidents.

Practical Skill Sessions

This time is spent reviewing a multitude of situations that reflect what students may come across when working in the emergency services field. Scenarios begin right from receiving a call from dispatch, arriving 'on-scene' to the incident, working in partners to treat and transport, and conclude with completing patient care documentation and self-assessment. To reinforce classroom learning, these sections are completed throughout the training with significant focus given before placements begin. It is during this time that students complete skill competencies that are required to meet NOCPs.



Clinical Shift Placements

Students complete a four-week placement in Manitoba RHA and Shared Health Facilities. During this time, students complete NOCP competencies that are required in areas such as Long-Term Care, Pediatrics, Emergency Department, Recovery, Obstetrics, Mental Health, Cardiac Diagnostics, and Respiratory Therapy.

Practical/Ambulance Placements

Students complete an eight-week placement with Shared Health Emergency Response Services, Winnipeg Fire Paramedic Service, and Brandon Fire & Emergency Services. When possible, this placement is split between an urban and rural setting. During this placement, students complete NOCP competencies required for patient care in an ambulance setting.

The National Occupations Competency Profile (NOCP) contains competency sets describing the entry to practise expectations for paramedics. The Paramedic students are required to demonstrate skills in different performance environments including simulation, clinical and practicum or field preceptorship. The paramedic student must demonstrate proficiency in each of these skills for a certified/qualified paramedic, or other healthcare provider of similar or higher qualifications including physicians and nursing staff.

Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) – Basic Level

This course provides knowledge and skills for CISM activities, including traumatic responses to stress, participating in peer support networks, the Mitchell Model of CISM, and additional mental health programming available to emergency services personnel.

The Working Mind First Responders (TWMFR) – Primary Level

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 tools and resources to promote positive mental health outcomes.

Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST)

ASIST is a workshop designed to help individuals develop the skills needed for life-assisting suicide first-aid and learn how to intervene to prevent the immediate risk of suicide.

Note: Exclusive of courses required by the COPM, additional offerings listed are subject to change at MESC discretion.

**'Training
to
Save Lives'**

Manitoba Emergency Services College

1601 Van Horne Avenue East
Brandon, MB R7A 7K2
Ph: 204-726-6855 TF: 888-253-1488



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