



Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training

Welcome to the Northern College **Pre-Service Firefighter** program. You have chosen to pursue an exciting and challenging career.

You should be aware that there are strict requirements used by various fire agencies for their firefighter selection testing instruments. Northern College does not use these strict requirements as entrance requirements; however we do use them for career counseling purposes.

We want you to be successful in the **Pre-Service Firefighter** program. In order to do this, Northern College will familiarize you with the criteria that will be used as part of the pre-interview assessment phase of the recruitment of firefighters. This will assist us in helping you succeed in your quest to becoming the best you can be.

The following outlines are what you will require for the first week and what is involved with the firefighter selection process:

1. **The PAR-Q+ questionnaire MUST BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED to participate in fitness testing. You must bring in a completed physical assessment form from your physician or medical practitioner indicating that you can participate in rigorous fitness testing.**

This testing process is a **COMPULSORY** part of the program and will not be repeated. It is very important to remember to bring **attire** that is **suitable for strenuous physical activity**.

2. Students must complete a **Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check** at their local police department by completing the applicable CIPC form. Students must provide a copy of the original document to the designated person in their department and must be done on the first day of class and be current within 3 months of the start of the 1st semester.

Any costs incurred when obtaining the **Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check** is the student's responsibility. More information on the process of obtaining the Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check can be found at <http://www.cpic-cipc.ca/English/index.cfm>.

3. Prior to admission, you must provide evidence that you are a **Canadian citizen** or that you have **permanent residency in Canada**. We recommend that you hold a **valid Driver's License (Class G)**.

Note: Prior to hire in a Fire Service - a DZ license may be required.

Equipment List

You will need to purchase or provide:

- Textbooks (\$750.00)
- Black safety shoes or boots
- NFPA fire gloves
- NFPA balaclava
- NFPA helmet (orange)
- Approved NFPA or CAN/CSA Structural Firefighter Boots
- Uniforms can be purchased during the first week from suppliers.

The cost of the above items is approximately \$1250.00 excluding textbooks. A list of vendors will be provided to you on Orientation Day.

This curriculum is based on the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1001 (2013) Edition which meets the body of knowledge and practical skills required to meet the job-related performance objectives. Graduates of the Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training Program are eligible to write the OFMEM Provincial Firefighter Test which will give them NFPA 1001 Firefighter I, II and NFPA 1072 Hazardous Materials Operations certification.

Note: In order to graduate and be eligible to write the OFMEM provincial tests and perform the practical skills testing, students **MUST** be able to pass an NFPA 1582 equivalent medical evaluation and an equivalent CPAT (Candidate Physical Ability Test).

In view of strenuous physical demands of professional firefighters, it is strongly recommended that applicants acquire and maintain an advanced level of physical fitness including cardiovascular and upper body strength, prior to and throughout the program.

Students are strongly advised to have their visual acuity, colour vision and hearing assessed. A career in municipal fire services requires visual requirements of a least 20/30 in each eye without corrective lenses.

Students are also encouraged to investigate and ensure they are free of acrophobia and claustrophobia. A deficit in any of these areas may prevent securing employment in the fire services field.

Students are required to adhere to the code of conduct as found in the Pre-Service Firefighter Student Manual that includes professionalism, integrity, reliability, punctuality, maturity, and strong interpersonal and communication skills.

Students are advised that all competencies specified for this program must be met, and therefore, attendance in class, lab and field placement experience is essential.

For additional information contact the program coordinator:

Timmins Campus

Craig Hartley

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2121

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Pre-Service Firefighter Education and Training

Important Program Information

Dear Student:

The following requirements must be met in order to attend labs, and learning placements during the academic year. Please note that an expectation of the (T085) Pre-Service Firefighter program is that every student must obtain and provide this required documentation. These documents include the following:

Student Name: _____

Student Number: _____

_____ **Criminal Record Check with Vulnerable Sector Screening**

_____ **Copy of Valid First Aid/CPR (HCP)**

_____ **Par-Q+ Certificate**

_____ **WHMIS Certificate** (Valid until end of June 2020)

_____ **AODA Certificate** <http://northernc.on.ca/aoda-training/>
(send/submit photocopy of certificate to Northern College)

_____ **Worker Health & Safety in 4 Steps**
<https://www.labour.gov.on.ca/english/hs/elearn/worker/foursteps.php>
(send/submit photocopy of certificate to Northern College)

***** Please ensure that you keep your originals/photocopies of requirements as instructed**

Occasionally an agency may request items that are not contained in this list. Please be aware that delays in obtaining requested information will invariably result in delays in placement start times and could jeopardize student success and/or lead to delays in eligibility for graduation and provincial qualifying exams.

Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check

The Schools of Health Sciences, Community and Emergency Services require successful completion of placements and/or visits in a variety of agencies that may include schools, health, community and social agencies. Students will be working with or have unsupervised access to, **vulnerable persons*** while on placement and therefore must complete a satisfactory Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check prior to having direct contact with vulnerable persons.

***Vulnerable persons** are defined by the Criminal Records Act as: “persons who because of their age, disability or other circumstances, whether temporary or permanent, are in a position of dependence on others or who are otherwise at a greater risk than the general population of being harmed by persons in a position of authority or trust relative to them.”

Without a clear Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check, **a placement agency may deny a student access to their premises.**

Preservice Firefighter students must provide **an original copy** of their Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check (photocopies will not be accepted). Application **must be completed at your local Police Service**. Policies may vary between Police Services regarding the provision of Criminal Record Checks, and may require a letter stating that the student is enrolled in their program and must be signed by the Dean of Health Sciences and Emergency Services. This letter will be prepared by the college and mailed to each student before July 15th, provided that the student has confirmed their attendance in a Northern College program and paid their seat deposit before July 1st. Students that confirm at a later date will experience a delay in obtaining their letter and must contact the college.

If you do not receive a letter or have any questions or concerns, please contact our Program Assistant, Amanda MacLeod at ext. 2187 or by email at macleoda@northern.on.ca.

Any cost incurred when obtaining the Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check is the student's responsibility. More information regarding this process can be found at <http://www.cpic-cipc.ca/English/index.cfm>.

Important: The Criminal Record Check and Vulnerable Person Sector Check are requirements of the school boards, institutions and agencies where students are assigned to complete their placements and are for that purpose ONLY. As such, individual agencies may require updated information prior to commencement of hire.

Physical activity improves your physical and mental health. Even small amounts of physical activity are good, and more is better.

For almost everyone, the benefits of physical activity far outweigh any risks. For some individuals, specific advice from a Qualified Exercise Professional (QEP – has post-secondary education in exercise sciences and an advanced certification in the area – see csep.ca/certifications) or health care provider is advisable. This questionnaire is intended for all ages – to help move you along the path to becoming more physically active.

- ☐ I am completing this questionnaire for myself.
- ☐ I am completing this questionnaire for my child/dependent as parent/guardian.

YES	NO	PREPARE TO BECOME MORE ACTIVE
✓	✓	The following questions will help to ensure that you have a safe physical activity experience. Please answer YES or NO to each question <u>before</u> you become more physically active. If you are unsure about any question, answer YES .
1	1	Have you experienced ANY of the following (A to F) within the past six months ?
A	A	A diagnosis of/treatment for heart disease or stroke, or pain/discomfort/pressure in your chest during activities of daily living or during physical activity?
B	B	A diagnosis of/treatment for high blood pressure (BP), or a resting BP of 160/90 mmHg or higher?
C	C	Dizziness or lightheadedness during physical activity?
D	D	Shortness of breath at rest?
E	E	Loss of consciousness/fainting for any reason?
F	F	Concussion?
2	2	Do you currently have pain or swelling in any part of your body (such as from an injury, acute flare-up of arthritis, or back pain) that affects your ability to be physically active?
3	3	Has a health care provider told you that you should avoid or modify certain types of physical activity?
4	4	Do you have any other medical or physical condition (such as diabetes, cancer, osteoporosis, asthma, spinal cord injury) that may affect your ability to be physically active?
	 ➤ NO to all questions: go to Page 2 – ASSESS YOUR CURRENT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ➤
		YES to any question: go to Reference Document – ADVICE ON WHAT TO DO IF YOU HAVE A YES RESPONSE ... ➤➤

ASSESS YOUR CURRENT PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Answer the following questions to assess how active you are now.

- 1 During a typical week, on how many days do you do moderate- to vigorous-intensity aerobic physical activity (such as brisk walking, cycling or jogging)? DAYS/
WEEK
- 2 On days that you do at least moderate-intensity aerobic physical activity (e.g., brisk walking), for how many minutes do you do this activity? MINUTES/
DAY

For adults, please multiply your average number of days/week by the average number of minutes/day: MINUTES/
WEEK

Canadian Physical Activity Guidelines recommend that adults accumulate at least 150 minutes of moderate- to vigorous-intensity physical activity per week. For children and youth, at least 60 minutes daily is recommended. Strengthening muscles and bones at least two times per week for adults, and three times per week for children and youth, is also recommended (see csep.ca/guidelines).



GENERAL ADVICE FOR BECOMING MORE ACTIVE

Increase your physical activity gradually so that you have a positive experience. Build physical activities that you enjoy into your day (e.g., take a walk with a friend, ride your bike to school or work) and reduce your sedentary behaviour (e.g., prolonged sitting).

If you want to do **vigorous-intensity physical activity** (i.e., physical activity at an intensity that makes it hard to carry on a conversation), and you do not meet minimum physical activity recommendations noted above, consult a Qualified Exercise Professional (QEP) beforehand. This can help ensure that your physical activity is safe and suitable for your circumstances.

Physical activity is also an important part of a healthy pregnancy.

Delay becoming more active if you are not feeling well because of a temporary illness.



DECLARATION

To the best of my knowledge, all of the information I have supplied on this questionnaire is correct.
If my health changes, I will complete this questionnaire again.

I answered **NO** to all questions on Page 1



Sign and date the Declaration below



I answered **YES** to any question on Page 1

Check the box below that applies to you:

- ☐ I have consulted a health care provider or Qualified Exercise Professional (QEP) who has recommended that I become more physically active.
- ☐ I am comfortable with becoming more physically active on my own without consulting a health care provider or QEP.

Name (+ Name of Parent/Guardian if applicable) [Please print]

Signature (or Signature of Parent/Guardian if applicable)

Date of Birth

Date

Email (optional)

Telephone (optional)

With planning and support you can enjoy the benefits of becoming more physically active. A QEP can help.

- ☐ Check this box if you would like to consult a QEP about becoming more physically active.
(This completed questionnaire will help the QEP get to know you and understand your needs.)