

Firefighting possesses a unique set of medical requirements in order to be hired. Although each service may have specific requirements (which you should research), generally in the Province of Ontario there are general guidelines. We highly suggest that you ensure that you can meet these requirements before entering into the program.

1. Possess visual Acuity uncorrected to 20/30 in each eye without corrective lenses
2. Have normal colour vision - passes Ishihara Test acceptable - passes Farnsworth D-15
3. Have depth perception and peripheral vision that is safe for fire fighting
4. Have prescribed normal unaided hearing – hearing thresholds no greater than 30 decibels in each ear at 500 Hz, 1000 Hz and 2000 Hz, and no significant loss in higher frequencies
5. Meet medical standards free of Acrophobia and Claustrophobia
6. Recommend an up-to-date immunization record to allow for more flexibility with volunteer opportunities

Refer to NFPA 1582 Standard on Comprehensive Occupational Medical Program for Fire Departments for more information on the medical requirements for employment as a firefighter.

The Pre-Service Firefighter Education & Training Program and pre-employment job screening require the physical capability to perform the duties of a public safety and emergency service employee. As a student in this program, you will participate in training and testing of fire job simulation tests, metabolic assessments, such as shuttle run, time 1.5mile runs, sprints, stairs, musculoskeletal fitness assessments including curl ups, push-ups, chin-ups, bench press, vertical jumps, back fitness and flexibility tests.

A Police Check is required to participate in the Pre-Service Firefighter Education & Training Program. You will be required to provide a copy of your police record check on the first day of classes. Please refer to the welcome package after course registration for more information on how to obtain a police record check.

Standard First Aid/CPR C (BLS level recommended) certification is required prior to beginning the Pre-Service Firefighter Education & Training Program. Proof of certifications must be presented the first day of classes. This certification must be current for the duration of your schooling.

A requirement of employment in the Fire Service and the Pre-Service Firefighter Education & Training Program is mask fit testing for the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) face pieces the firefighter will wear. To ensure a clean face piece seal, firefighters are required to be clean-shaven at all times. Please note that if you lose/gain a significant amount of facial weight or experience changes in your facial shape, i.e. trauma, surgery or pregnancy, fit testing should be repeated. The mask fit testing will be arranged by the Program Coordinator to take place prior to or within the first week of classes. Costs associated with the mask fit testing are included in your ancillary fees.