

Changes for 2014 and Frequently Asked Questions

The New Hampshire Division of Fire Standards and Training and Emergency Medical Services are committed to providing up-to-date information and fitness information for the Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT).

***Reciprocity for CPAT Certifications from another Licensed IAFF CPAT provider**

Your out of state CPAT certification will be eligible for reciprocity if you provide a valid and **dated certificate** from another licensed provider. The date must include the official day; month and year you passed the CPAT, the IAFF/IAFF license number, and the front page/**Item 1 of the application packet**.

The application must be submitted along with the full payment for testing if you are also taking the NH written entrance test. A candidate may be placed onto the state entrance list distributed to the participating fire departments only if they have the written testing or its equivalent of **New Hampshire Firefighter 2** or above. The deadline for out of state CPAT certificates (in our possession) will be due Friday, June 20, 2014.

***Please note if you have out of state fire certification you will need to be granted reciprocity to NH standards by the time the list is developed in June.**

Fitness Trainers for CPAT

If you would like to be referred for personalized physical training, we have contact information to provide you with instructors specializing in CPAT fitness and training. They have a professional background in fitness and are highly familiar with specific CPAT fitness techniques.

***Follow Website Information**

All applicants must visit our web site (<http://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/index.html>) and follow any changes and updates to your scheduled dates, times, and testing information. Failure to do so may lead to loss of admission to testing events.

Physicals for the CPAT

The Fire Academy has a list of walk-in clinics available to administer CPAT Physicals for candidates.

Frequently asked Questions:

- Q. Do I need to take the entrance exam every year, since the Commission has ruled that it is good for 26 months?
- A. Although the Commission has ruled that entrance test is good for 26 months, several Departments will only consider candidates who have been through the written and/or CPAT portion within the past 12 months.
- Q. What counts for written reciprocity so I don't have to take the written test?
- A. Candidates who passed a previous year's written exam can go directly to the CPAT portion of the testing and not take this year's written exam. If you have New Hampshire Certified Firefighter 2 you may skip the written test. ***Note: If you have out of state Fire Certification you must apply for and receive reciprocity through our training Bureau in order to receive credit as a written test equivalent. (This must be done before June 20th, 2014 deadline).**
*Also be aware that some departments require a **written test each year** to be considered for hire.

- Q. What if I fail this year's written test?
- A. You should continue on and take the CPAT. You may have other options for written like obtaining Fire Fighter 2 level certification in or reciprocal to New Hampshire's.
- Q. The written test has a Test Preparation Manual (TPM). Is it mandatory to have this, and if so, why doesn't the Academy include the manual in the application fee?
- A. The Fire Academy does not mandate the purchase of this manual. We can explain to you that 70% of all questions come directly from this manual and that your reading comprehension and information to assess your retention of materials will be based on information within this manual. If a candidate has a previous year's manual that is the **same edition** then they would not need to reorder another, saving them monies.
*If any candidate has a financial hardship please contact the fire academy and talk to Scott Merrill.
- Q. Once I pass the entrance exam tests of the written and CPAT what can I expect?
- A. Passing the entrance tests fulfills the pre-hire requirements Departments must meet in order to officially hire you. Departments that take part in the testing will receive a list of candidates and your certification levels. The more certification levels in fire and EMS, the greater your appeal will be to departments.
- Q. If I submit a C.P.A.T or Fire Certification for reciprocity what form do I need to fill out?
- A. For the **entrance testing**, the **reciprocity** form we will need is the front page of the testing application (**Item 1**), This form has what is needed in order to have the correct information necessary to place the candidate on the list to departments.
- **Do not confuse the application for reciprocity of your out of state fire levels i.e. FF1, 2 etc as the form needed to apply for the entrance testing/C.P.A.T and its reciprocity requirements.**
 - **Again, if you want to be put on the state list of firefighters who pass NH CPAT or submit out of state C.P.A.T certificates, than you must follow the procedures outlined above and submit the correct information to us between the dates of January 17th, and June 20, 2014!**

If you have not heard from the Fire Academy about your submitted application, do not wait until the last day to see if we have received it. You should have heard from us least 3 weeks prior to any testing.

Also go to our web page and follow the updates and time lines that information has been sent out to all applicants.