

# Northwest Arkansas Metro Fire Chiefs Firefighter Testing Consortium

## Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT)

Purpose: Provide an opportunity for candidates to prepare for and challenge the CPAT. Specifically for those working to attain an entry level firefighter position with a participating Northwest Arkansas Fire Department. Current and valid CPAT credentials from other licensed administrators are accepted.

Current participating NWA Fire Departments: Fayetteville, Lowell, Rogers, & Springdale

### Requirements:

- Candidate minimum age: 18 years
- Complete a CPAT Orientation class and Practice sessions, or sign a waiver.
- Candidates must present government issued picture identification (State issued driver's license is acceptable) or properly notarized birth certificate.
- If a candidate does not attend an orientation and practice sessions, and does not sign a waiver, they will not be allowed to take the CPAT until they have completed a CPAT orientation or waiver.
- Registration is required.

Test Dates: The current CPAT testing schedule is located at: <http://nwafirechiefs.org/cpattesting.htm>

Class times: Orientation: 9:00 A.M.; Practice: 10:00 A.M.; Exam: 10:00 A.M.  
When time permits, and with approval of the on-site test administrator, candidates may challenge CPAT once during each practice session.  
Sessions are subject to delay or rescheduling during inclement weather.

Location: Springdale Fire Department, Fire Station #1; 417 Holcomb, Springdale, AR 72764  
Fee: \$75  
Payable online to Northwest Arkansas Metropolitan Fire Chiefs Association through PayPal at: <http://nwafirechiefs.org/cpattesting.htm>  
Fee is due prior to attending any series component. Fee applies to all elements (orientation, practice, & CPAT exam) of one series only. A separate fee must be paid to attend another series. Payment will not be accepted at the door.

Admission: All persons seeking to challenge the CPAT through the NWA Metro Fire Chiefs must register prior to beginning any component of the examination process. If time permits, registrations may be accepted the day of practice and exam dates. Course fee must be paid prior to participation in any exam series component. Valid government photo identification is required for registration and admission.

Clothing: Candidates must wear long pants (ankle length)  
Footwear must cover entire foot  
Not allowed: Open heel or toe shoes  
Watches  
Loose or restrictive jewelry

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Notes: Orientation classes are held approximately 8 weeks prior to the CPAT examination. Current participating NWA Metro departments utilize CPAT for their hiring procedures. NWA Metro departments not listed at the top of this document may utilize alternative means of physical testing for entry level positions. Candidates wanting to test for an unlisted department must consult with that department to determine their requirements. Successful completion of CPAT will result in the candidate being issued credentials, which will be valid for 365 days. Registration is currently available at: <http://nwafirechiefs.org/cpattesting.htm> Registrations will only be accepted at the door if space permits and approved by the on-site test administrator.

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## CPAT Notes, Events, & General layout

During the entire test the candidate must wear a 50 lb. weighted vest (simulating the weight of a fire fighters protective clothing and equipment). Stair Climb (climbing stairs while carrying an additional 25 lb. simulated hose pack). Pass/fail time: 10 minutes and 20 seconds. Candidates exceeding this amount of time to complete all events will fail the exam.

If the candidate successfully completes CPAT during the first date in the series, they have passed the CPAT. If the candidate does not pass during the first date, they may return for the second date in that delivery series. If the candidate successfully completes CPAT during the second date in the series, they have passed the CPAT. If the candidate does not pass during the second date, they may return for the third date in that series. If the candidate does not pass on the third date in the series, they must repeat the process in another series. Candidates are limited to one attempt to pass on each date during a series. This will be in accordance with available time and with approval of the lead administrator on site. Upon successful completion of CPAT, the candidate's CPAT credential is valid for 365 days.

## CPAT Event summary:

1. Stair Climb
2. Hose Drag (stretching uncharged hose lines, advancing lines)
3. Equipment Carry (removing and carrying equipment from fire apparatus to fireground)
4. Ladder Raise and Extension (placing a ground ladder at the fire scene and extending the ladder to the roof or a window)
5. Forcible Entry (penetrating a locked door, breaching a wall)
6. Search (crawling through dark unpredictable areas to search for victims)
7. Rescue Drag (removing victim or partner from a fire building)
8. Ceiling Breach and Pull (locating fire and checking for fire extension)

