

CANDIDATE PHYSICAL ABILITY TEST (CPAT)

Proof of a passing Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) score is needed at the time of Field Investigation and is also required at the time of certification for hiring consideration. The City of Los Angeles will only accept the Candidate Physical Ability Test. The Consolidated Physical Ability Test (formerly known as the Biddle Test) or any other physical ability test will **not** be accepted. Answers to common questions regarding this requirement are listed below.

1. What is the CPAT? The CPAT is a standardized test that is **not** administered by the City of Los Angeles. The CPAT is a timed **pass/fail** test that consists of eight separate events (listed below).

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| 1. Stair Climb | 2. Hose Drag | 3. Equipment Carry | 4. Ladder Raise |
| 5. Forcible Entry | 6. Search | 7. Rescue | 8. Ceiling Breach & Pull |

During the CPAT, you must progress along a predetermined path from one event to the next in a continuous manner. Participants wear a 50-pound vest to simulate the weight of firefighter equipment during the entire testing process. An additional 25 pounds, using two 12.5-pound weights to simulate the weight of firefighter equipment, is added to your shoulders for the stair climb event. You have 10 minutes and 20 seconds to complete all eight tasks.

Included in the registration fee is an orientation to the test parts and printed material. **IT IS YOUR RESPONSIBILITY TO SCHEDULE AND PAY FOR YOUR OWN CPAT.**

2. Where can I take the CPAT? How much does it cost? The following organizations currently administer the CPAT in Southern California. Please contact them directly to obtain further information and to schedule your test.

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| <u>California Fire Fighter Joint Apprenticeship Committee</u> CPAT Testing Center 626 N. Eckhoff Street, Orange, CA 92868 (877) 648-2728 Email: cpat@cpf.org www.cpatonline.org | Cost: \$150 Practice Sessions: \$25 per session <u>Financial Assistance:</u> If you are unable to pay fees due to financial hardship, you may qualify for financial assistance through the California Fire Foundation. Financial assistance is assessed similar to the method used by community colleges. Contact the California Fire Foundation for information at (800) 890-3213 or www.cafirefoundation.org. | Re-test cost: \$150 |
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| <u>Oxnard College Fire Technology Department/Academy Office</u> 104 Durley Avenue Camarillo, CA 93010 (805) 384-8109 www.oxnardcollege.edu/departments/academic/fire_technology | Cost: \$150 Practice Sessions: \$25 per session | Re-test cost: \$150 |
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Due to CPAT availability and the need to prepare in advance of testing, it may be several weeks before you can be scheduled for your test.

3. How can I prepare for the CPAT? Included in the registration fee is an orientation that is offered by the testing agency. Contact a CPAT administrator for more information. Free practice sessions are offered by the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD) every 1st and 3rd Saturday from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., Tuesdays from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., and Thursdays from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. Call the LAFD Recruitment Unit at (855) 552-LAFD to make an appointment.

4. Will my CPAT expire? CPAT is valid for 12 months from the date you pass it. You must provide proof of a current CPAT during Field Investigation and at the time of certification for hiring consideration.

5. What if I took the CPAT out-of-state or at another agency? Proof of passing the CPAT can be submitted on agency letterhead and must include the date the test was taken.