

CPAT

Orientation & Physical Conditioning

The Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) consists of eight separate events. CPAT is a sequence of events requiring you to progress along a predetermined path from event to event in a continuous manner. The events include: Stair Climb, Hose Drag, Equipment Carry, Ladder Raise and Extension, Forcible Entry, Maze Search, Victim Drag and Ceiling Breach and Pull. This test was developed to allow fire departments to obtain pools of trainable candidates who are physically able to perform essential job tasks on the fire scene. This is a pass/fail test based on a validated maximum total time of 10 minutes and 20 seconds.

During the events, you wear a 50-pound vest to simulate the weight of a self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA) and firefighter protective clothing, a helmet and gloves. An additional 25 pounds, using two 12.5- pound weights which simulate a high-rise pack (hose bundle), is added to your shoulders for the stair climb event only. Throughout all events, you must wear long pants, footwear with no open heel or toe, a provided hard hat with chinstrap, and provided work gloves. Watches and loose or restrictive jewelry are not permitted.

All props are designed to obtain the necessary information regarding your physical ability. The tools and equipment were chosen to provide the highest level of consistency, safety and validity in measuring your physical abilities. A schematic drawing of the CPAT is included in the orientation material. The events and distances between events are always the same.

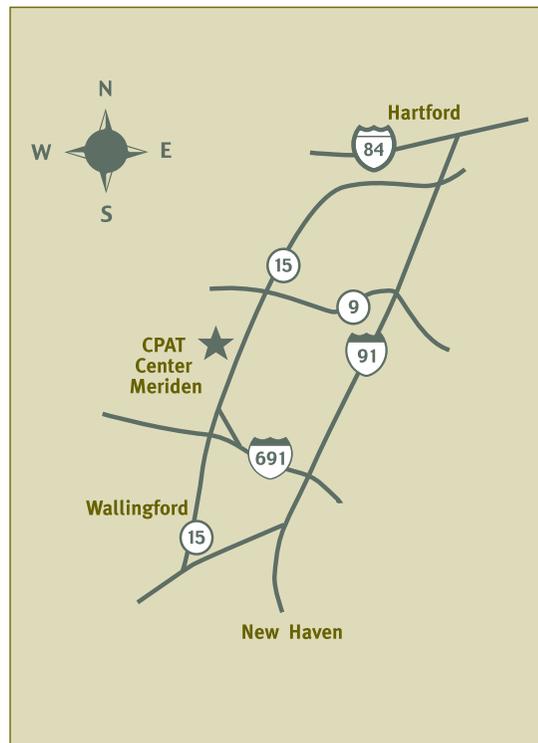
The events are placed in a sequence that best simulates fire scene events while allowing an 85-foot walk between events. To ensure the highest level of safety and to prevent exhaustion, no running is allowed between events. This walk intentionally allows you approximately 20 seconds to recover and regroup before each event.

The history of Candidate Physical Ability Testing in Connecticut has shown beyond a doubt that preparation is the key to success. CPAT is extremely demanding. CPAT tests your strength, agility, balance and ability to follow directions while under physical and emotional stress. Many have made the error in believing they can pass without proper preparation. The Connecticut Fire Academy is required to offer detailed Orientations and two Practice Tests prior to the administration of CPAT. The orientations include the review

of all materials within the Candidate Guide booklet. More importantly, the orientations give the candidate the opportunity to perform a self-evaluation by physically reviewing and using the same equipment used in the testing process. The Practice Tests allow candidates to run the test course under timed conditions. If the Practice Test is conducted under "CPAT Conditions" and the candidate passes, it will be counted as passing CPAT. Attending the orientations and practice tests is highly recommended. In addition to the required 8 week preparation period, there is an additional two weeks administrative process required. Therefore, the minimum closing date for first-time candidates taking CPAT is 10 weeks prior to the actual testing date. All testing is dependent upon date availability. Please refer to our website at www.ct.gov/cfpc for a listing of CPAT application periods.

To register for CPAT, please complete the CPAT application in this calendar or at our Web site www.ct.gov/cfpc. You will be sent an orientation packet which will include orientation, practice test and CPAT dates and times.

CPAT fee: \$150.00



Directions to Connecticut Fire Academy CPAT Center in Meriden

From the Hartford Area:

Take I-91 South

Merge onto CT Route 9 via Exit #22 North toward New Britain

Take Exit #22 toward CT Route 15 South

Turn right onto Frontage Road

Turn right onto CT Route 372 Worthington Road

Merge onto CT Route 15 South via ramp on Left toward New Haven

CPAT Center will be on your right.

From New Haven Area:

Take I-91 North

Merge onto CT Route 15 North via Exit #17 toward Berlin Turnpike

You will pass CPAT Center on your left, take next "U" turn onto

Route 15 South

CPAT Center will be on your right.



CPAT Center - Meriden, CT

Visit www.ct.gov/cfpc for additional information