

Superintendent's Policy Directive #4
Approval of Pre-service Firefighter
Training Programs

June 1, 2010

REPEALED APRIL 13, 2011

Refer to Fact Sheet # 9 for current requirements

Directive

Pursuant to paragraph 2 of section 8 Ontario Regulation 415/06 (O. Reg 415/06), as made under the *Private Career Colleges Act, 2005* ("PCCA, 2005"), programs in respect of fire protection that are meant to prepare students for admission to training programs in an occupation prescribed under the *Fire Protection and Prevention Act, 1997* (FPPA) are considered for purposes of the PCCA, 2005 to be vocational programs. Pursuant to subsection 8 (1) of the PCCA, 2005 such program(s) must be approved by the Superintendent of Private Career Colleges (Superintendent).

PCCs intending to offer a pre-service firefighter training program are required to deliver the Ontario Standardized Curriculum for Firefighters and receive an endorsement by the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs' Endorsement Review Board.

Authority

Clause 53 (1) (a) of the PCCA, 2005 enables the Superintendent to issue policy directives setting out standards for vocational programs or classes of vocational programs.

Subsection 11(2) of O. Reg. 415/06 specifies that all programs seeking the Superintendent's approval must be evaluated by a person who is approved by the Superintendent.

According to subsection 53 (2) of the PCCA, 2005, policy directives issued by the Superintendent are legal requirements that are binding on all PCCs and every PCC must comply with and operate in accordance with the policy directive.

Enforcement

Pursuant to subsection 24 (1) of the PCCA, the Superintendent may revoke a PCC's approval to provide a specified vocational program if the Superintendent believes that:

- the program fails to meet the conditions of the approval or the applicable standards or performance objectives set out in the Superintendent's policy directives; and/or
- the program no longer offers the skills and knowledge that would enable graduates to obtain employment in the vocation that is the subject of the program.

Compliance

PCCs intending to offer a pre-service firefighter training program must meet the following requirements:

- Operate a private fire department that contributes to fire protection services as defined under the FPPA and provides advisory support on the safe delivery of firefighter training.

OR

- Enter into a formal partnership with a local fire department that contributes to fire protection services as defined under the FPPA. Through this partnership, the fire department agrees to provide advisory support on the safe delivery of firefighter training.

AND

- Enter into a formalized agreement with the Ontario Fire Marshal (OFM) and the Ontario Association of Fire Chiefs (O AFC).

The purpose of this agreement is two-fold:

1. To use the OFM's Ontario Standardized Curriculum for Firefighters for the PCC's firefighter training program.
 2. To obtain a program review from the Endorsement Review Board (ERB). The PCC is liable for all fees associated with the endorsement process.
- Receive an endorsement from the ERB for the pre-service firefighter training program. The ERB is the required third party assessor for pre-service firefighter training programs. An endorsement from the ERB satisfies all program evaluation requirements set out in s. 11(2) of O.Reg. 415/06.
 - Submit a complete program approval application through the Registration Information for Private Career Colleges (RICC) system¹.

Once the Superintendent approves the program, the approval is valid for the period specified by the Superintendent, subject to future policy directives.

If at any time a PCC's program is no longer in compliance with this directive, the program approval will be revoked. If a PCC's program approval is revoked by the Superintendent under subsection 24(1) of the PCCA, 2005, it is the responsibility of the PCC to train-out current students, provide refunds on tuition paid, or arrange for training completions at other institutions.

Transitional Measures

Currently there are no approved programs to which this directive would apply. Accordingly, no transitional measures are required and this directive is in force immediately.

¹ For information on how to enter data in the RICC system, PCCs should refer to the Registration Information for Career Colleges (RICC) User Manual.



Program in Related Field

A PCC offering a program in a related field that does not intend to adhere to this policy directive must ensure that promotional materials and enrolment contracts do not suggest that the program prepares students for a fire protection occupation prescribed under the FPPA.

Effective Date

This policy directive is effective June 1, 2010.

REPEALED APRIL 13, 2011

This document is a legal document and is binding on all private career colleges. Every private career college shall comply with and be operated in accordance with this policy directive.

Need More Information?

For further information on the endorsement process contact the Ontario Association of Fire Chief's Endorsement Review Board at:
<http://www.oafc.on.ca/emailForm.asp?to=info>

Further information on the Office of the Fire Marshal can be found at:
<http://www.ofm.gov.on.ca/english/default.asp>

For further information on the requirements of the *Private Career Colleges Act, 2005* contact the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities'

Private Career College Branch at:

Private Career Colleges Branch
Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities
9th Floor Mowat Block
900 Bay Street
Toronto, ON M7A1L2

Telephone: (416) 314-0500 or 1-866-330-3395
Fax: (416) 314-0499, Email: pcc@ontario.ca

OR

Visit our website at: www.edu.gov.on.ca/eng/general/private.html

The full text of the act and regulations can also be downloaded from the Ontario government E-Laws website at:
www.e-laws.gov.on.ca