

## **CPAT Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **What is the difference between CPAT 5-Day Session and a CPAT Special Session?**

A **CPAT 5-day session** consists of 2 orientations, 2 timed practice tests and a timed final test, with the dates being spaced two weeks apart to give the candidates time to physically and mentally prepare. You have 3 opportunities to pass the exam, which includes 8 events that must be completed in a 10 minute and 20 second time frame.

The presentations at the two orientation sessions are the same. The testing process will be explained and how the event sequence works. At each orientation session, you'll have an opportunity to ask questions and try the event equipment. **The pass rate** for those candidates who attend the orientation sessions is higher than for those who do not. So, **it's highly recommended** that you attend at least one of the orientation sessions. The two timed practice sessions are the same and we attempt to run them under actual testing conditions, with respect to the mandated weather parameters that we have to follow (temperature > 44°F, or Heat Index < 96°F, or sustained wind < 21 mph or no measurable amount of rain).

A **CPAT Special Session** is a one (1) day session intended for candidates **who have taken CPAT before**, understand the physical and mental preparations for the test and want to maintain a current CPAT certificate. These candidates are familiar with the process and feel confident they can pass in one try, without attending orientations or needing a practice test. **It is not** intended to be a shortcut to obtaining a CPAT certificate. Candidates should be familiar with the 8 tasks that have to be completed within the 10 minute and 20 second allotted time.

### **Do I have to take a CPAT Orientation or Practice sessions before taking the CPAT final test?**

The CPAT Test Program includes the 2 Orientation sessions and 2 timed Practice tests, before the final CPAT test. Candidates that choose not to attend or participate in the Orientation or Practice sessions, will be required to sign a written waiver stating that they voluntarily chose not to attend. Choosing not to attend any session has no bearing on the remaining sessions offered. Candidates who choose not to attend the Orientations, should review the CPAT Orientation Guide, the Candidate Preparation Guide and the CPAT Orientation video prior to taking the test.

CPAT Orientation video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SqeVJPclOy0>

### How am I scheduled for CPAT?

To schedule a CPAT 5-Day session or a “One and Done / Special” session, click on this link <https://ctlms-cfa.ct.gov> which will bring you to the Connecticut Fire Academy’s On-Line Learning Site. If you are a first time user, follow the directions to set up a new account. After you submit your account information, our LMS Manager will approve it and you’ll receive an email with instructions on how to login and create your password. **Pay attention to our username rule. Your account will be denied if you do not provide the correct information.** If you have any problems logging in, **DO NOT** create another account. Click on the [cfa-support](#) tab and the LMS Manager will help you. Once your account is activated, log in and browse the CPAT dates and times that are available. **DO NOT SUBMIT A CFA COURSE APPLICATION TO PURCHASE A CPAT TIME SLOT.** Click on the “BUY NOW” tab and follow the directions.

If you already have an account, use the “sign in” button to log-in and browse the classes. If you have any problems logging in, **DO NOT** create another account. Click on the [cfa-support](#) tab and the LMS Manager will help you. **DO NOT SUBMIT A CFA COURSE APPLICATION TO PURCHASE A CPAT TIME SLOT.** Browse the CPAT dates and times that are available and click on the “BUY NOW” tab and follow the directions. **Please note, if you request a password reset and you do not receive an email within 1 hour, contact cfa-support for assistance.**

### What should I wear / not wear?

**All candidates are required to wear long pants and footwear with no open toe or high heels. NO SHORTS are allowed!** Candidates who do not wear the proper attire will not be allowed to test that day. You are responsible to make sure that your clothing fits properly and will stay in place during all the activities of this physical challenging test. Candidates whose clothing does not stay in place will be required to make the appropriate adjustments before moving to the next event and no extra time will be allowed.

Watches and loose or restrictive jewelry are not allowed and will need to be removed before testing. It is recommended that you do not bring these items to the testing site, as we are not responsible for personal items.

### What is the refund policy?

- Registered candidates who wish to withdraw from the CPAT testing process may do so by emailing [joseph.nadeau@ct.gov](mailto:joseph.nadeau@ct.gov) **at least two (2) days prior to the candidate’s scheduled session.** Requests for refunds will not be

considered if less than two (2) days' notice is given or once the session has begun.

- Please note, \$50 dollars of the CPAT fee is a **non-refundable processing fee** and will be deducted from all refunds issued.
- CPAT test failure or not showing up for your assigned dates / times is NOT a qualification for a refund.

### **What is the rescheduling policy?**

Should you become aware of a conflict, we **may** be able to reschedule you to another session provided:

- There is space available for additional candidates in another session; and
- You notify the CPAT Administrator @ [joseph.nadeau@ct.gov](mailto:joseph.nadeau@ct.gov) **at least 2 days prior** to the start of your session.

If there is no communication with the Administrator and you do not show, we will not reschedule you.

### **Does CPAT testing get cancelled due to weather conditions?**

CPAT testing may be cancelled and rescheduled, by the CT Fire Academy, if weather conditions exist that prevent the running of the test as specified by the IAFF / IAFC (ambient temperature < 45°F, Apparent Heat Index > 95°F, sustained wind > 20 mph or a measureable amount of rain). It is recommended that you call 860-264-9240, and listen to the recorded message, if there is any doubt that weather conditions will cause a cancellation of the testing.

If there is an expected weather event in the forecast, the CT Fire Academy will notify you via email with the rescheduled date and time.

It is your responsibility to make sure that your personal information, including an updated email address, is correct. You can check your personal information here <https://ctlms-cfa.ct.gov> and click on the “my profile” tab.

Any information change requests must be emailed to [cfa-support@ct.gov](mailto:cfa-support@ct.gov)

### **Where can I find more information about preparing for CPAT?**

Orientation Guide:

[https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CFPC/\\_old\\_files/CPATOrientationGuide2007pdf.pdf](https://portal.ct.gov/-/media/CFPC/_old_files/CPATOrientationGuide2007pdf.pdf)

