



## **MESH 2012-A Program Special Instructions Addendum**

### **Program Information:**

- 1) If you participated in the MESH 2010-A Program, your scores will expire on March 3, 2012. You will need to register for the 2012-A Program and retake all of the pertinent tests to remain active.
- 2) If you participated in the MESH 2011-A Program, your scores will remain active until the 2013 MESH Program is completed. However, should you want to retake any or all portions of the MESH test/s, you may register for the 2012-A Program and select the test/s you would like to take on the Interest Form. Remember to include the registration fee and certificates with your Interest Form.
- 3) MESH is offering you the opportunity to make a short, scripted, “meet and greet” video that will be included on the MESH List and available to the MESH Agencies for viewing. The video allows you to briefly speak about your education, military experience, and to introduce yourself to potential future employers. The videos will be filmed at the test site during the day that you choose to participate in the testing. There is a small fee for this service.

### **Facility Information:**

- 1) The testing facility for the MESH 2012-A Program has temporarily changed. With the help of our friends and co-sponsors @ BSO, we have contracted with the Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center located in Port Everglades for this program. Important things to know about this facility are:
  - a) You will go through a security check when entering the Port;
  - b) You may not bring any weapons into the Port;
  - c) You may not bring food or beverages into the Convention Center building. Food and beverages will be available for purchase at the test site (consider bringing a cooler and leaving it in your car);
  - d) You will be charged a fee for parking (consider car-pooling, public transportation, or off-site parking);

Visit this link for complete facility security information:

<http://www.porteverglades.net/about-us/security/visitor-access/>



## MESH Pre-Mailing Checklist

Prior to mailing your packet, please use this list to guide you through the registration process. Please include **ONLY** the applicable documents listed below and clip them to the Interest Form (no staples).

- ✓ **Read all instructions carefully**
- ✓ **Complete Interest Form as directed**
- ✓ **Sign & date Interest Form**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your Drivers License**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your State Fire Certificate**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your EMT and/or Paramedic License**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your EMT and/or Paramedic Certificate**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your EVOC Certificate**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your Fire Inspector Certificate/s**
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your Broward Fire Academy County-Wide Physical Ability Certificate (BPAT), or Coral Springs Fire Academy Physical Ability Certificate (with swim test). *Note: If you are registered for a future PAT, include the date of the test in the appropriate space on the Interest Form.***
- ✓ **Attach a copy of your Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) Certificate (if applicable)**
- ✓ **Enclose payment of \$55 US in the form of a cashier's check, official bank check, or a money order. Personal checks will not be accepted.**
- ✓ **Mail your packet on or before February 15, 2012 to this address:**

**MESH Program 2012-A Registration**  
**Margate Fire Rescue**  
**600 Rock Island Road**  
**Margate, FL 33063**
- ✓ **Obtain delivery confirmation from the shipper. MESH does not contact you regarding delivery of your Registration documents. Your registration is confirmed at the test site on the day that you choose to take the tests.**



## Municipal Employment Screening & Hiring Program MESH PROGRAM 2012-A

### **SECTION 1: *MESH Program Overview***

The Municipal Employment Screening & Hiring (MESH) Program is designed to consolidate pre-employment testing procedures often duplicated by Emergency Services Provider (ESP) agencies. Through MESH, participating agencies are readily able to obtain the information necessary to select potential employees.

The MESH Program allows you to test once a year for multiple ESP agencies. MESH also allows you to update your skills status without having to retake the entire test<sup>1</sup>.

The MESH Program offers PREPARATORY ORIENTATIONS designed to increase your “comfort level” both during the testing, and throughout your career.

The MESH instructors are carefully selected professionals who are positioned in the emergency services field, dedicated to improving our industry, and anxious to make sure that you reach your goals. Their primary goal is to attempt to improve your chances of gaining employment in this exciting and rewarding field.

Please read **all** of the enclosed information carefully, and follow **all** of the instructions.

**We wish you the best of luck!**

### **SECTION 2: *MESH Program / Participating Agency Requirements***

- 1) You **must** have a valid **DRIVER’S LICENSE**;
- 2) **Participating Agencies require certified firefighters** to possess or obtain a valid **BROWARD COUNTY-WIDE PHYSICAL ABILITY CERTIFICATE** from the Broward Fire Academy, or a valid **CORAL SPRINGS PHYSICAL ABILITY CERTIFICATE (with a swim test)** from the Coral Springs Fire Academy; (See SECTION 8 for PAT registration instructions)

### **SECTION 3: *MESH Program 2012-A Written & Practical Test Session Dates***

**Note: All tests are given at the Greater Fort Lauderdale Broward County Convention Center, located @ 1950 Eisenhower Blvd, Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33316.**

**You may choose to attend either session date (Friday or Saturday).**

- 1) **Firefighter Written Testing** will be offered on **Friday 3/2/12, and Saturday 3/3/12.**
- 2) **EMT & Paramedic Written Testing** will be offered on **Friday 3/2/12, and Saturday 3/3/12.**
- 3) **EMT & Paramedic Practical Testing** will be offered on **Friday 3/2/12, and Saturday 3/3/12.**

**Note: Test session times will be scheduled at the Director’s discretion.**

**PLEASE ARRIVE BY 7:30 AM FOR PRE-TEST SIGN-IN!**

<sup>1</sup> See enclosure titled “Skill Status / Personal Information Update Form”



**SECTION 4: MESH 2012-A Program Orientations**

- 1) The MESH Program includes PREPARATORY ORIENTATIONS covering the following subject matter: **(there are no fees for the orientations)**
  - a) firefighter written tests
  - b) the County-Wide Physical Ability Test
  - c) EMT & Paramedic written test
  - d) EMT & Paramedic practical skills test

***We highly recommend that you attend the Orientation!***
- 2) **Preparatory Orientations and/or Videos** for the Physical Ability Test are available for certified firefighters. Please contact the **Broward Fire Academy** [(754) 321-1300 [www.bfa.edu](http://www.bfa.edu)], or the **Coral Springs Fire Academy** [(954) 346-1774 [www.coralsspringsfireacademy.org/](http://www.coralsspringsfireacademy.org/)] for further information.
- 3) **Preparatory Orientations** for the written & practical tests will be offered at the **Institute for Public Safety (formerly CJI), 3501 S.W. Davie Road, Davie, FL**, each night from 6:00pm to 10:00pm, beginning Tuesday 2/28/12, and ending on Wednesday 2/29/12. The Orientations include a program overview, question and answer session, job-related discussions, and offer similar material each night.

**SECTION 5: MESH Program 2012-A Written & Practical Test Descriptions & Reference Materials**

- 1) The **testing information** and **reference materials** are as follows:
  - a. **Firefighter Written Test: 100** questions (allotted time 90 minutes)  
Reference material: Firefighter: *Essentials of Fire Fighting and Fire Department Operations, IFSTA, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition, ISBN-10: 0135151112*
  - b. **EMT or Paramedic Written Test: 50** questions (allotted time 60 minutes) Reference material: EMT: *DOT EMT Curriculum, AAOS Emergency Care, 9<sup>th</sup> edition ISBN-10: 0763771414*; Paramedic: *Emergency Care in the Streets, 6th Edition ISBN-10: 0763729078, ACLS Guidelines (2010 Edition)*
  - c. **EMT or Paramedic Practical Test Scenario** (allotted time varies)  
Reference material: Emergency Medical Technician: *DOT EMT Curriculum*; Paramedic: *Emergency Care in the Streets, 6th Edition ISBN-10: 0763729078, ACLS Guidelines (2010 Edition)*

**SECTION 6: MESH Program 2012-A Test Results**

Your results will be mailed to the address on file within 30 days of the release of the MESH 2012-A Master Eligibility List.



**SECTION 7: MESH 2012-A Program Registration Instructions**

- 1) You **must** submit the completed form titled:
  - a) **INTEREST FORM, and**
  - b) **a photocopy of your current DRIVER'S LICENSE, and**
  - c) **a photocopy of your STATE or NATIONAL FIRE CERTIFICATE**
  - d) **a photocopy of your EMT and/or PARAMEDIC STATE and/or NATIONAL LICENSE\* AND CERTIFICATE, and**
  - e) **(if applicable), a clean photocopy of your EVOC CERTIFICATE**
  - f) **(if applicable), a clean photocopy of your State/County Fire Inspector certificate and license**
  - g) **(if applicable), a clean photocopy of your valid BROWARD or CORAL SPRINGS FIRE ACADEMY PHYSICAL ABILITY CERTIFICATE and TIME SCORE SHEET (PAT)**
  - h) **(if applicable), a clean photocopy of your current, valid CPAT\*\*, and**
  - i) **a CASHIERS CHECK, OFFICIAL BANK CHECK, or MONEY ORDER for \$55 US, made payable to the City of Margate**  
**PERSONAL CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED;**
  
- 2) Please place these items in a stamped envelope with return address and mail to:

**MESH Program 2012-A Registration  
Margate Fire Rescue  
600 Rock Island Road  
Margate, FL 33063**
  
- 3) The envelope **must** be postmarked on or before Wednesday, February 15, 2012.

***Important Notes: 1) Delivery confirmation should be requested from the USPS, FedEx, or UPS. MESH does not contact you to confirm delivery of the Interest Form.  
2) Do not contact or hand deliver registration forms to Margate Fire Administration.***

**SECTION 8: Broward County-Wide Physical Ability Test (BPAT) or Coral Springs Physical Ability Test (PAT) Registration Instructions**

Certified firefighters **must** pass the physical ability test to be eligible for employment consideration. MESH **does not** require the PAT for Program Registration. Please contact the Broward Fire Academy @ (754) 321-1300, or the Coral Springs Fire Academy @ (954) 346-1774 for PAT registration instructions and information on available dates.

**Important Notes:** *Please do not mail Physical Ability registration forms to MESH. \*If you do not hold a current EMT or Paramedic State or National license, please register as an EMT or PM trainee and update MESH when you receive your license. \*\*Candidate Physical Ability Test (CPAT) information is used for reporting purposes only.*



<b>Official Use Only</b>	
Payment Received _____	
Fire Score: _____	Med Score: _____
Prac Score: _____	PAT Score: _____

## Municipal Employment Screening & Hiring Program INTEREST FORM

**SECTION 1: Personal Information:** Please *print clearly* or type your responses.

LAST NAME:	_____
FIRST NAME:	_____
STREET ADDRESS:	_____
CITY, STATE, ZIP:	_____
PHONE #:	(_____) _____ - _____
OTHER PHONE #:	(_____) _____ - _____
DRIVERS LIC. #:	_____
DATE OF BIRTH:	____/____/19____ Last 4 Digits of SS#: ____

**Current Certifications:** Please initial directly to the **LEFT** of your current certification/s:  
 \_\_\_\_\_ NONE; \_\_\_\_\_ FF; \_\_\_\_\_ EMT; \_\_\_\_\_ PM; \_\_\_\_\_ FIRE INSPECTOR  
 PAT DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_; CPAT DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_; EVOC DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**SECTION 2: Emergency Services Provider Agency (ESP) Selection:** Please **place a mark** directly to the **LEFT** of the ESP Agency/s that you would like to receive your test results:

<input type="checkbox"/>	ALL AGENCIES (includes additional Agencies joining MESH in the future)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	BSO Fire Rescue	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Davie	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hialeah	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lighthouse Point	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	North Lauderdale	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pompano Beach	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coconut Creek	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Delray Beach	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hollywood	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Margate	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Oakland Park	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tamarac	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Coral Gables	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hallandale Beach	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Key Biscayne	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Miramar	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/>	Pembroke Pines	<input type="checkbox"/>

**SECTION 3: Written & Practical Test Selection:** Please indicate the **test or tests** that you are taking by placing a mark in the adjacent box: (Note: only choose one Medical Regimen)

- (FF) Firefighter Written Test (Required for certified firefighters)
- (FFT) Firefighter Trainee Written Test (In School or awaiting State certification)
- (EMT) Emergency Medical Technician Written & Practical (licensed EMT)
- (EMTT) Emergency Medical Technician Trainee Written & Practical (AED completed)
- (PM) Paramedic Written & Practical (licensed Paramedic)
- (PMT) Paramedic Trainee Written & Practical (Cardiology / ACLS completed)

I certify this information to be true and agree to the release of my personal information and my test results for employment and/or training consideration:

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **DATE:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

- 1. What is the MESH Program?**

The Municipal Employment Screening & Hiring (MESH) Program is a multi-agency employment-screening program designed to eliminate the duplication of pre-employment testing.
- 2. Why is MESH called a program?**

A program, unlike a test, is constructed for the long term.
- 3. Does MESH provide training courses?**

No, MESH does not currently provide training courses for Firefighter, Emergency Medical Technician, or Paramedic. However, if you are in the MESH Program, you may be recommended for specific training.
- 4. Is MESH an employer?**

No, MESH is not an employer.
- 5. How long has MESH been around and who operates MESH?**

The MESH Program was created in 1999. The Intellectual Property Rights are the sole property of Robert G. Stevens, the MESH Program creator. MESH is operated by the City of Margate, Florida.
- 6. What agencies participate in MESH?**

Currently there are seventeen (17) South Florida area agencies participating in the MESH Program: BSO Fire Rescue, Coconut Creek, Coral Gables, Davie, Delray Beach, Hallandale Beach, Hialeah, Hollywood, Key Biscayne, Lighthouse Point, Margate, Miramar, North Lauderdale, Oakland Park, Pembroke Pines, Pompano Beach, and Tamarac.
- 7. How often is the MESH Program offered?**

The MESH Program is currently being offered once a year, usually in the winter.
- 8. Do I have to be a Florida state certified firefighter, EMT or Paramedic, to participate in MESH?**

No, MESH does not require you to have any certifications to participate. The participating agencies may require you to have specific certifications. The Broward and Coral Springs Fire Academies may require proof of firefighter certification for eligibility to take the Physical Ability Test (PAT).
- 9. What are the chances of get hired without any certifications?**

Slim to none. All currently participating agencies require some certifications.
- 10. What tests will I have to take?**

Certified firefighters will be required to take a firefighter written test. If you are a certified EMT or Paramedic you will be required to take a written medical and a practical test.
- 11. What if I haven't graduated from my training program yet?**

MESH does allow you to take the written & practical portions of the test before you graduate. If you are in the Fire Academy or still in school for your medical certification, you will be permitted to take the written and practical test/s prior to becoming certified. You should consult with your instructor regarding your level of training before testing. Please review the Interest Packet for additional details.
- 12. Will MESH contact me when my Interest Form and documents are received?**

No, MESH does not contact you about registration documents. You are responsible for tracking your mailing. Your registration is confirmed in the morning at the test site during sign-in.
- 13. What day should I plan to take the tests?**

You decide which day that you want to test. MESH does not require you to select a date and will not contact you about date confirmation.
- 14. What happens after I complete MESH?**

After completing the testing, your personal information and test scores are placed on a master eligibility list, and then released to the participating agencies. They are advised of the "Emergency Service Provider Agency Selection" that you specify on the Interest Form.
- 15. Will I be ranked on the master list?**

No, the list is created in alphabetical order. The agencies rank you based on their specific hiring criteria.
- 16. Is it possible to fail MESH?**

No, your results will be placed on the list regardless of your scores. The participating agencies set their own pass-fail standards.
- 17. Will I receive my test results?**

Yes, your test results will be mailed to the address on file within thirty (30) days of the master eligibility list release date. Your Broward or Coral Springs Physical Ability Certificate will be issued to you by the respective Fire Academy after successful completion of the Physical Ability Test (PAT).
- 18. How long are my test results good for?**

Your results are good for a period of one (1) year from the release date of the master eligibility list corresponding to the MESH Program that you participated in. List extensions may occur at the discretion of the Program Director.

**19. What is the refund policy for MESH?**

You will only receive a refund prior to the commencement of the MESH Program that you registered for. Should you be unable to attend, please contact the MESH Program Director @ (954) 935-5446.

**20. Who administers the Physical Ability Test (PAT)?**

The test is administered by the Broward and Coral Springs Fire Academies. You must register with the respective Fire Academy either in person or online. Registering for the PAT **does not** register you for the MESH Program and registering for the MESH **does not** register you for the PAT.

**21. Do I have to be Firefighter I & II certified to register for the PAT?**

Normally, yes, unless you have completed your training and have a certificate of completion and/or you are waiting for the State test. Please contact the respective Fire Academy to discuss this matter.

**22. Is there a fee for the Physical Ability Test?**

Yes, there is a fee. Please contact the respective Fire Academy for further information.

**23. How long is the Physical Ability Card good for?**

The Physical Ability Certificate is good for a period of one (1) year from date of issue.

**24. Is it possible to fail the Physical Ability test?**

Yes, the test is timed.

**25. Do I have to have the Physical Ability Test (PAT) to take the MESH tests?**

No, you may take the MESH tests that you registered for. You will be listed as Pending for the PAT. You must submit a Coral Springs PAT Certificate that includes a swim test component to be listed as Completed on the MESH List.

**26. What if I am a certified Fire Inspector?**

Please furnish MESH with a copy of your certificate and your current state & county license.

**27. Is EVOC required to take the MESH?**

No, the participating agencies request this information for the proper evaluation of your hiring status.

**28. Are there any other tests that I will be required to take?**

Each agency has a specific hiring process. They may require you to take additional steps that include tests, interviews, backgrounds, etc.

**29. Do the agencies require any special documents?**

The MESH agencies have expressed their desire to receive a current transcript of your driving record when you apply for employment. This information is usually available through your Motor Vehicle Department. The State of Florida provides information on how to obtain your driving record at the following web address:

[www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/dlnew.html](http://www.hsmv.state.fl.us/html/dlnew.html)

**30. Will I need to apply to the agencies?**

In most cases, if you qualify, the agencies will contact you and request that you submit an application. For your convenience, some agencies will make applications available at the MESH testing site. Other agencies may advertise employment opportunities via the media. Please remember to follow each agency's specific application procedure carefully. DO NOT submit applications unless directed to do so.

**31. What if I am certified in another state?**

You may participate in MESH. You will be responsible to obtain Florida certifications as required.

**32. What do I do if my skill status or personal information changes after I complete MESH?**

The SKILL STATUS / PERSONAL INFORMATION UPDATE FORM included with your packet allows you to contact MESH regarding any changes.

**33. Am I allowed to retest for MESH if I am already on the current list?**

Yes, you may register, pay the registration fee, and retest the next time that MESH is offered. You may wish to do this to improve your scores or to test for a new skill. You will only be required to take that test. ***Your new test results are listed on a separate line below your previous results on the MESH list.***

**34. Does MESH offer orientations?**

Yes, orientations for written and practical tests are offered prior to the testing period. Ability test orientations may be offered by the respective Fire Academies. See Enclosure I for more information.

**35. Does MESH offer remediation (re-tests)?**

In some cases remediation may be offered to you.

**36. How can I contact MESH?**

If you have additional questions that have not been answered by these FAQ's, you may need to contact MESH. You may contact the MESH Program Director by phoning (954) 935-5446 or via email @ [meshmail@bellsouth.net](mailto:meshmail@bellsouth.net) Please leave a brief, detailed message, which includes a contact name, best time to call back, and a valid phone number with area code (no pagers please). **IMPORTANT: PLEASE DO NOT** call the Program Director to check on the status of your Interest Form, request your test results, change your Skill Status and/or Personal Information, or to inquire about if and when you might receive contacts from participating MESH Agencies.