



Toronto Paramedic Services

Training Opportunity

Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR)

All **eligible Advanced Care Paramedics** with a minimum of one (1) year of clinical Paramedic experience with Toronto Paramedic Services are invited to submit applications to participate in a training opportunity for the Heavy Urban Search and Rescue Team.

The Toronto Heavy Urban Search and Rescue (HUSAR) Team is one of four national multi-hazard teams that can be deployed to respond to major emergencies or disasters locally, regionally, nationally or internationally. A HUSAR-capable response may be needed for a wide variety of emergencies or disasters, including but not limited to earthquakes, hurricanes, typhoons, storms, floods, dam failures, technological accidents, terrorist activities, and hazardous material releases. Toronto Paramedics assigned to the team support **all** functions within the HUSAR environment, with pre-hospital emergency medical care being the primary function.

Details & Responsibilities related to the HUSAR Paramedic position:

- Successful candidates will be working as part of two (2) teams, each comprising 65 to 75 individuals. This unique, multi-agency, multi-disciplinary team will draw its members from a wide range of backgrounds, including Toronto Fire Services, Toronto Police Services, and other divisions of the City.
- Candidates must demonstrate the highest standard of tact, diplomacy, teamwork and adaptability.
- Successful candidates must be prepared to travel in or out of the province or country on short notice.
- A valid Canadian passport is required as a team member but not a pre-requisite for application. Upkeep of the passport's validity is solely the bearer's responsibility.
- Candidates should expect that they may be in an austere environment on training and the actual deployment and must be prepared to work in a self-contained "community" with minimal amenities and limited privacy.
- HUSAR is an around-the-clock operation, and the ability to work effectively in that type of environment is essential.
- Candidates will be required to upgrade, attend and maintain specialized training, including but not limited to the following HUSAR team requirements: technical rope rescue, confined space operations, trenching and shoring, hazardous material operations, canine treatment and water/swift water/ice rescue, as well as several other disciplines. Some of this training is very physically demanding, and candidates must be prepared for increased physical activity levels beyond what is generally required in daily paramedic operations.
- Candidates must be able to operate as a single paramedic in demanding multi-casualty incidents or scenarios where paramedic backup may be delayed or non-existent.
- Candidates must be able to operate as a paramedic with multiple agencies attached to the HUSAR team.
- Each candidate must successfully complete all initial and ongoing mandatory training initiatives and be able to work within existing HUSAR policies. Failure to successfully complete these training initiatives will result in removal from the HUSAR team.

Applicants must:

1. Hold current certification as an Advanced Care Paramedic and have a minimum of one (1) year of clinical experience with Toronto Paramedic Services.
2. Be actively certified and in good standing with the Sunnybrook Regional Base Hospital as an ACP.
3. Be in good standing with their Superintendent/Commander.
4. Have exceptional communication and interpersonal skills with a proven ability to interact effectively and liaise with allied services staff, patients, and the public.
5. Have well-developed critical thinking skills, with a proven ability to problem solve and multi-task.
6. Have the ability to exercise sound judgment in emergency situations.
7. Demonstrate excellence in public relations and customer service.
8. Have the ability to work effectively within a comprehensive multi-agency team in stressful environments.
9. Have the ability to work under time pressure in critical situations with a wide degree of independent action and exercise good judgment while performing duties.

Acceptance into the HUSAR program will be based on successful completion of the entrance testing, seniority, program requirements and the recommendation of the applicant's Superintendent and Commander. Candidates successful in the selection process but not initially selected for training will be kept on a waiting list for up to six (6) months should additional candidates be required.

HUSAR Program assignments require the development of strong relationships and teamwork abilities. Consistent and reliable attendance, flexibility in scheduling and flexibility in vacation time are required. Failure to meet these requirements may result in removal from the HUSAR Program.

Testing

- All candidates are required to successfully complete a panel interview. Interview dates are to be determined.

How to Apply

Interested staff should email their intent to apply and their resume to Steve Krasl at steve.krasl@toronto.ca using the subject line "**HUSAR TRAINING OPPORTUNITY 2022**" before **noon on March 12, 2022**. Please be reminded that applicants are responsible for ensuring their application gets in on time.

Inquiries regarding the HUSAR training opportunity should be directed to Steve Krasl, Superintendent, Special Operations, steve.krasl@toronto.ca.

Note: The Collective Agreement, Article 45.18, includes provisions explaining that a Paramedic may apply for and, if eligible, become a member of up to two (2) of the Special Operations teams, provided, however, that only one of the teams is a Full-Time team.