

EMS Rural and Northern
Return of Service Initiative Procedure
2018 / 2019

Purpose

The purpose of the EMS rural and northern return of service initiative is to provide a financial incentive to recruit and retain Technician Primary Care Paramedics in rural and northern communities.

Eligibility

For the purpose of this program (**2018/2019**), a Manitoba paramedic licensed as a Technician-PCP that accepts a position with a licensed Land Emergency Medical Services (EMS) licence holder in Manitoba, may be eligible for the return of service initiative, provided that they enter into an agreement with the designated eligible Manitoba employer to remain in the position for a minimum of one year and complete 1000 hours of direct service within one continuous year of employment. **Commencement date for the one year of service is April 1, 2019.**

Designated Manitoba programs currently exclude Winnipeg Fire Paramedic service, Brandon Fire & EMS service, CFB Shilo Emergency Services, and Thompson Fire & EMS service.

Conditions

- This program is available to individuals who:
 - graduated from Red River College, Paramedicine - Primary Care Paramedic after June **2016** and who successfully completed the COPR entry to practice examination for licensure.
 - enter into an agreement with a designated eligible Manitoba EMS service licence holder to remain in the position for a minimum of one year (**April 1, 2019 to March 31, 2020**); and
 - complete 1000 hours of direct service within this one year of employment (April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020)
 - has not been a previous recipient of the return of service initiative
 - is in good standing with the regulatory body

- An applicant who applies under this program may transfer from one Manitoba EMS licensed service provider to another and remain eligible. The length of employment and accumulation of direct service hours worked with one employer may be transferred to another eligible employer. The EMS Branch must be notified of the transfer.

- Previous recipients of this initiative may not re-apply.

- Re-payment of this financial initiative is mandatory if the applicant, prior to completing their one year of service and 1000 hours of direct service
 - chooses to resign, or

- leaves the province, or
- transfers to a service that is not eligible under the program.

Amounts of Initiative

Where the primary base of employment is located between 75 km and 150 km from the City of Winnipeg “perimeter highway” at time of submission of application.	\$3,000
Where the primary base of employment is located more than 150 km from the City of Winnipeg “perimeter highway” at time of submission of application.	\$5,000

* Amount may vary dependant on the number of applicants.

Terms of the Return of Service Initiative

- An applicant will submit the following information to the EMS Branch, Manitoba Health, Seniors and Active Living (MHSAL) through their prospective qualifying employer:
 - an EMS Rural and Northern Return of Service Initiative application form – **Originals will only be accepted.** No faxed or scanned copies will be accepted
 - proof of Manitoba EMS licence status (copy of present paramedic licence)
 - confirmation of primary base of employment as of **date on application**
 - other documentation as required by MHHLS to establish eligibility for the program
- The employer is responsible for submitting to MHSAL EMS Branch **immediate** notification should the recipient of the initiative leave their employ. (Notice of Termination form).

Payment of Initiative

- Funding for this program is limited and will be awarded upon review by the MHSAL EMS Branch.
- On review of the application by the EMS Branch, confirmation of eligibility will be confirmed to the RHA within a reasonable period.
- Cheque(s) will be mailed to the respective RHAs for distribution to the applicant(s) once processed within the department. (**March/April 2019**)
- The EMS Rural & Northern Initiative is a taxable incentive.
- A T4 will be issued to the recipient of this financial incentive.