

**FE170**  
**Firefighter Practicum**

**8 Credits**

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## FE170 Version: 11



### Firefighter Practicum

#### Calendar Description

This practicum is a 160-hour supervised work experience. It allows the student to apply his/her knowledge and skills in real emergency response situations. P/F.

#### Rationale

This is a required course for Emergency Services Technology students. The practicum allows the students to apply learned academic skills in a practical workplace situation under guidance, which makes them aware of the actual work environment that they have to work in.

#### Prerequisites

FE205

Clear criminal record check and a valid driver's license, Class 5

#### Co-Requisites

None

#### Course Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of this course, the student will be able to

1. function as a:
  - pump operator; however, many fire departments allow students to operate fire pumps as a shadow only (see Item "k" in Appendix A)
  - structural firefighter, member of a patient extrication team
  - member of a company fire inspection team, and member of a first response hazardous materials/dangerous goods team.

## **Resource Materials**

The accepting cooperating facility supplies the required SCBA and any other associated equipment. Lakeland College supplies the required firefighting clothing which meets NFPA standards.

## **Conduct of Course**

Students work 160 hours in an approved fire department. The fire department coordinates and supervises duties assigned to the students. This requires students to work the hours and under the conditions of the fire department, which may include shift work.

A Workplace Agreement (contract) between the college, the cooperating fire department, and the student is entered upon to formalize work experience/practicum arrangements.

## **Evaluation Procedures**

Evaluation is primarily based on three completed forms:

### 1. Employer/Preceptor Form (to be completed by the employer/preceptor)

It is recommended that work preceptors go through the form with the student several times during the practicum. This procedure makes it easier for the preceptor to convey to the student his expectations and methods whereby the student meets those expectations. Preceptor evaluation forms are mailed to the college upon completion of the work experience.

### 2. Student Daily Log Book Form (to be completed by the student)

The student is expected to maintain a daily work experience log. This work log must be neat and legible. Work logs allow the student to evaluate work activities and to self-evaluate their performance. Work logs are submitted to the supervising college instructor not later than 5 working days after the completion of the work experience assignment.

### 3. Graduating Student Form (to be completed by the student)

This is a summary form to be completed by the student at the end of his/her practicum. It gives the student the opportunity to assess the value of the practicum and work experiences encountered. It also gives the student an opportunity to evaluate the entire study program which they have just completed. The completed form is submitted to the supervising college instructor not later than 5 days after the completion of the work experience assignment.

The grade for the practicum is a pass/fail mark as arrived at by an examination of the three above completed forms and from discussions the supervising instructor may have with the student and/or employer/preceptor. College staff may visit the work placement before or during the placement period to exchange information among employer/preceptor, student, and college. This exchange is helpful to ensure problems or misunderstandings can be managed before the start or

end of the practicum. The pass/fail grade is established by the supervising instructor using the following weighting system:

### Weight

Employer/Preceptor form	40%
Student daily log book	40%
Graduating student form and any discussions	<u>20%</u>
Total	100%

### **Attendance**

Attendance and conduct by the student are those normally required of the cooperating agency and his regular employees. Hours of work and conduct is mutually agreed upon by the work place preceptor and the student. It must be understood that hours and conditions of work are subject to change. Participating students are expected to act as a regular employee of the work placement supervisor.

### **Course Units/Topics**

The practicum runs for 160 hours during which the student responds to emergency situations and works with pump operators at fires, performs rescues from structural fires, attacks structural fires, performs patient extrication, and conducts company inspections. All activities are conducted under the control and discretion of the Fire Ground or Station Commander. The evaluation is held at the end of the practicum.



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