What is the Mature Student Assessment?
Applicants who do not possess a secondary school diploma or equivalent and who are 19 years of age before the starting date of their program may be required by the Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute Admissions to demonstrate their ability to work at the postsecondary level by taking a Mature Student Assessment.

The Mature Student Assessment is a set of tests used to measure the applicant’s skills in English, Science and/or Mathematics for the purpose of admission to the Pre Service Fire Fighting Program.

What is the Assessment fee?
A fee of $50 is charged for the Mature Student Assessment. Students who are successful and enroll in our Pre-Service Program will have the amount deducted from their tuition. Fees are to be paid in advance at the Office of the Registrar.

What are the Assessment components?
Candidates taking the Fire Fighting Pre-Service program are required to take the Canadian Adult Achievement Test – Level D (CAAT D Test).

Where and when can I take the Assessment?
You can take the Assessment at the Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute 2025 Courtney Park Drive East, Mississauga, Ontario, or any other Assessment Centre.

Appointments are required for the Mature Student Assessment.

Applicants required to complete all components of the assessment should allow 3 - 4 hours. Please arrive early enough to complete your assessment before our closing time.

What to bring?
- Valid Photo ID

Do not bring calculators or other electronic devices including cell phones, or printed materials such as dictionaries or notes.

How will I know the results of my Mature Student Assessment?
The Assessment results are communicated to the Admissions Office. You will then receive communication from the Admissions Office regarding your status, usually within two weeks of your Mature Student Assessment.

Please note that, for confidentiality reasons, the Assessment Centre Specialists cannot release any assessment results.

Assessment Samples
This document contains samples of the types of questions you could expect to find in your Assessment. The sample questions reflect the format of the assessment items, but not the degree of difficulty of all the questions in the Assessment.

Helpful Hints

- Get a good night’s sleep before the test and arrive early for the assessment session.
- Don’t let the thought of writing an assessment make you too nervous, although a little nervousness is natural and even helpful.
- When the Assessment Centre Specialist is explaining the process, listen carefully and follow all the directions.
- Ask questions if anything is unclear. The Assessment Centre Specialist is there for that purpose.
- The assessment is multiple-choice, except for the essay portion. You will be required to choose the best answer to a question from several choices. You may mark an answer even if you are not perfectly sure it is right.
- If one question is too hard, leave it and go on to the next. You can always come back and try it again if there is time.
- If you come to a section in the assessment that you cannot do, don’t give up. There may be parts of the assessment further on which are easier for you. Keep working.
- Work steadily and complete as many questions as you can.
- To help you succeed, we highly recommend that you review material related to areas covered in the Mature Student Assessment (e.g. Reading Comprehension, English grammar skills and Math skills.) Inquire at your Public Library or a local bookstore about texts that provide a review of these areas.

If you have a documented disability which may require special accommodations, please contact Disability Services

English Skills Assessment
The Canadian Adult Achievement Test (CAAT) is a measure of your current functional level in Reading Comprehension, Vocabulary and English Writing Skills. This battery of assessments has been designed specifically for the Canadian adult, regardless of his or her previous school experience.

The Purpose of the CAA T
We use the CAAT assessment as an admission instrument to assess an applicant’s readiness for our programs. We do not issue a Statement of Equivalency as part of the assessment results.

Reading Comprehension Sample:
50 multiple-choice questions; time limit - 40 minutes

Tall Tales;
Light from the candles bounced off the dark windows and made strange shadows on the walls. After hearing Uncle Sal’s stories, we all sat nervously, listening for creaking footsteps and squeaking doors. Leo was the first to speak.

“You don’t really believe all those stories about the old Potter place, do you, Uncle Sal?”

"I don’t know," Uncle Sal said slowly, "no one has seen Mr. Potter in town for the last five years. Some say he hasn’t set foot out of the house,”

1. **What time of day is it in the story?**
   a) Morning  
   b) Noon  
   c) Afternoon  
   d) Evening

2. **What kind of stories did Uncle Sal tell?**
   f) Peaceful  
   g) Scary  
   h) Sad  
   j) Funny

⇒ Correct answers:  A (d)  B (g)

**Vocabulary Sample:**
34 multiple-choice questions; time limit - 25 minutes

1. **To augment your income is ---**
   a) To increase it  
   b) To gamble it away  
   c) To lend part of it to someone

2. **A person is said to be prudent when he is ---**
   a) Loyal  
   b) Cautious  
   c) Protective

3. A shoe that is flexible is ---
   a) Brittle  
   b) Easily bent  
   c) Worthless

⇒ Correct answers:  1. (a)  2. (b)  3. (b)

**Writing Sample:**
An essay, approximately 500 words, of at least five paragraphs; time limit - 60 minutes.

The essay topic will be provided at the time of the assessment. You may start with a very brief outline on scrap paper (provided) to plan and organize ideas but avoid making a rough copy (use provided whiteout if necessary).
Essay evaluators will be looking at:
- Use of a thesis statement, an introduction, a conclusion, and supporting details
- Clear and relevant points moving smoothly from one to the next
- Sentence structure, grammar and spelling

Math Skills Assessment
A battery of assessments is used as an admission instrument to assess an applicant’s readiness for our programs. The type of Math assessment used varies according to the applicant’s choice of program. We do not issue a Statement of Equivalency as part of the assessment results.

CAAT-D Math Sample:

1. Multiply 0.06 by 0.021
   (a) 0.0126 (b) 0.000126 (c) 0.00126 (d) 0.126 (e) None of these

2. Divide 4.2 by 0.07
   (a) 1.333 (b) 60 (c) 6 (d) 600 (e) None of these

3. 9 - 3(2 + 6) + 6 - 2x 5 =
   (a) -2 (b) 3 (c) 5 (d) -5 (e) None of these

4. The decimal equivalent of 9/40 is:
   (a) 4.44 2.25 (c) 0.225 (d) 0.0225 (e) None of these

5. Express 0.275 as a common fraction in lowest terms:
   (a) 11/40 (b) 11/80 (c) 22/80 (d) 11/25

6. Express 2/5 as a percent:
   (a) .4% (b) 20% (c) 4% (d) 2% (e) None of these

7. 60% of $10.60 is:
   (a) $1.63 (b) $6.36 (e) $63.60 (d) $16.31 (e) None of these

8. 24 is what percent of 40?
   (a) 60% (b) 3.75% (c) 6% (d) 37.5% (e) None of these

9. 0.85 is 25% of what sum?
   (a) 3.4 (b) 34 (e) 21.25 (d) 2.125 (e) None of these

10. 36 is what percent of 30?
    (a) 83.3% (b) 90% (e) 120% (d) 72% (e) None of these

11. 6 is 15% of what number?
    (a) 90 (b) 0.9 (c) 2.5 (d) 40 (e) None of these

12. The population of Snowtown was 4,500 in 1990. In 1994 it had decreased to 3,600. Find the percent decrease in population during those four years.
    (a) 110% (b) 90% (c) 16.2% (d) 20% (e) None of these
13. You receive a grade of 75% on a test of 60 questions. How many questions did you answer correctly?
   (a) 45  (b) 11  (c) 12  (d) 50  (e) None of these

14. Sandra's monthly salary is $3,200. If deductions for taxes from her monthly paycheck are $800, what percent of her salary goes to these deductions?
   (a) 25%  (b) 25.6%  (c) 40%  (d) 4%  (e) None of these

15. The cost of an article including 15% for taxes is $1311.00. What is the cost of the article without taxes?
   (a) $120.00  (b) $117.30  (c) $20.70  (d) $92.00  (e) None of these

16. The average of the following group of numbers 43, 29, 51, 36, 33, 42, 32 is:
   (a) 36  (b) 33  (c) 38  (d) 43  (e) None of these

17. Brian had marks of 80, 94, 70, 68 and 83 on five tests. His average score is between
   (a) 65 and 70  (b) 70 and 75  (c) 75 and 80  (d) 80 and 115  (e) None of these

18. $6.42 \times 10$ is equivalent to:
   (a) 64,200  (b) 642  (c) 0.000642  (d) 642,000  (e) None of these

19. $\frac{3}{4} + \frac{5}{8} + \frac{7}{10} =
   (a) \frac{14}{18}  (b) \frac{13}{22}  (c) \frac{1.325}{1.575}  (d) \frac{1.575}{1}  (e) None of these

20. $3 \frac{1}{2} + 4 \frac{3}{4} + 5 \frac{3}{10}$
   (a) 12 \frac{7}{16}  (b) 13 \frac{11}{20}  (c) 46 \frac{3}{3}  (d) 12 \frac{9}{80}  (e) None of these

21. $7 \frac{1}{8} - 3 \frac{1}{6}$
   (a) 4 \frac{1}{48}  (b) 4 \frac{1}{2}  (c) 3 \frac{23}{24}  (d) 3 \frac{3}{32}  (e) None of these

22. $7 - 4 \frac{2}{5}$
   (a) 3 \frac{3}{5}  (b) -2 \frac{3}{5}  (c) -3 \frac{3}{5}  (d) 2 \frac{3}{5}  (e) None of these

23. $31.7 + 6 + 2.81 + 0.254$
   (a) 35.264  (b) 858  (c) 14.52  (d) 40.764  (e) None of these

24. Subtract 5.485 from 12
   (a) -17.485  (b) 17.485  (c) -6.515  (d) 6.515  (e) None of these

25. Dividing by 10 000 is the same as multiplying by
   (a) 0.01  (b) 1/10000  (c) 1/1000  (d) 0.001  (e) None of these

26. Ginny baked a delicious apple pie. John ate $\frac{1}{4}$ of it. Then Aldo ate $\frac{1}{2}$ of what was left. How much pie was left after Aida ate his piece?
   (a) $\frac{1}{4}$  (b) 1/8  (c) 1/2  (d) 3/8  (e) None of these

27. It takes a bus 3 1/4 - hours to travel from Toronto to Parry Sound if the bus averages 88 Km/hr. How far is it from Toronto to Parry Sound?
(a) 286,000m  (b) 2.86 km  (c) 27 km  (d) 286 km  (e) None of these

28. Find the missing term: \( \frac{4}{7} = \frac{28}{?} \)
   (a) 49   (b) 16   (c) 56   (d) 42   (e) None of these

29. If \( \frac{a}{10} = 0.57 \), then \( a \) is equal to
   (a) 57   (b) .057   (c) 5    (d) 0.057   (e) None of these

30. Express the following product in lowest terms: \( 3 \frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{7}{8} \times 8 \)
   (a) \( 3 \frac{3}{7} \)   (b) \( 24/28 \)   (c) \( 13/7 \)   (d) \( 6/7 \)   (e) None of these

31. The value of \(-3(-4)^2\) is:
   (a) 48   (b) 49   (c) -48   (d) 144   (e) None of these

32. How many fifths are there in 4.8?
   (a) 24   (b) 0.96   (c) 1.04   (d) 9.6   (e) None of these

33. Find the value of \( y - 6y^2 \), when \( y = \frac{1}{3} \)
   (a) \(-\frac{2}{3}\)   (b) \(-\frac{1}{3}\)   (c) 1   (d) \(-\frac{2}{3}\)   (e) None of these

34. When \( M - 2 \) and \( P = 4 \), find the value of \( \frac{3P - M}{3MP} \)
   (a) 0   (b) \(-\frac{7}{12}\)   (c) \(-\frac{5}{12}\)   (d) \(-\frac{3}{4}\)   (e) None of these

35. A student's total budget was $15,000. How much more money was allocated to tuition than room and board?
   Tuition 64%
   Room and board 26%
   Books and supplies 4%
   Other 6%
   (a) $9,600   (b) $3,900   (c) $5,700   (d) $8,100   (e) None of these

**Answer Key**

**Science Assessment Sample:**

1. *A cell would be unable to synthesize enzymes if it lacked* -
   a) Ribosome’s
   b) Centrioles
   c) Gaiai bodies
   d) Endoplasmic reticulum

2. *Light travels* -
   a) From the eye of the observer to the object
   b) From the object to the eye of the observer
   c) None of these
3. Which of the following changes is a chemical change?
   a) The crushing of stones
   b) The formation of clouds
   c) The separation of cream from milk
   d) The lighting of a cigarette

   ⇒ Correct answers: 1. (a)  2. (b)  3. (d)