



The Greater Toronto Airports Authority Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute (FESTI) is considered a center of excellence for training all over the World. FESTI is a source of pride for those who have attended and continue to attend the high level training available for Business, Industry and the Fire services. Training courses from First aid, Fire extinguisher, defibrillator all the way to Incident Management are available from this all in one training center. If you have not tried us yet for your training needs call or stop by for what we know will be your first of many visits.

In addition to our regular programming we are proud to announce our recently signed and exciting partnership with the Canadian Fire Alarm Association. Both organizations are leaders in the field of training holding the same philosophy therefore strengthening the importance of this relationship.

In an effort to make CFAA programs more available in a centralized location FESTI will be launching courses in the upcoming months. We are excited about the opportunities this partnership will offer to our clients both now and into the future as we strive to ensure that Fire safety in our communities remains our number one concern. Please read the description of courses now available at FESTI.

We welcome any comments or questions that you may have in regards to these or the many other programs that we offer. Please visit us today at [gtaa.com/festi](http://gtaa.com/festi).

## **PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

During the early 1980's the Canadian Fire Alarm Association established the Fire Alarm Technology Program, leading to personal registration as a certified fire alarm technician. It was created to provide training in the specialized area of fire alarm systems, thereby increasing the knowledge level of persons directly or indirectly involved in the fire alarm industry.

This educational program has been approved by various Authorities Having Jurisdiction nationwide and is now widely recognized within the industry.

The old 1997 Ontario Fire Code (O.Reg. 388/97 as amended) referenced fire alarm technician qualification in Sentence 1.1.5.3.(1).

The new and currently enforced 2007 edition of the Ontario Fire Code (Code (O.Reg. 213/07) references fire alarm technician qualification in "Division C, Subsection 1.2.1.

It requires that persons performing annual tests or annual inspections of fire alarm systems, or carrying out maintenance and repairs of these systems, shall have successfully completed a program or course acceptable to the Fire Marshal.



The CFAA Program has been accepted by the OFM.

## **PROGRAM INTENT**

Although the Fire Code sets specific requirements for testing of fire alarm systems, we find there is still a problem of fire alarm systems not being tested properly. The individuals performing the testing, inspection or maintenance must be accountable for the quality of their work. It follows that there is a need for all persons, who test fire alarm systems, have a minimum level of training in this specific area. The CFAA created a theory-based, five course program covering the required components. Necessary skills and hands-on training must be obtained in the workplace through daily on-the-job training. Completion of the five courses only, will not make the individual student a competent fire alarm technician without at least one or two years of working experience with another experienced technician.

The combination of theory-based knowledge and workplace experience will together serve to increase the level of competence within the life safety industry.

## **PROGRAM STRUCTURE**

The Fire Alarm Technology Program is comprised of five courses:

- Course 1 - An Introduction to the Fire Detection and Alarm Industry
- Course 2 - Business & Technical Report Writing
- Course 3 - Basic Electricity
- Course 4 - Basic Electronics
- Course 5 - Fire Alarm Systems

The CFAA recommends that the courses be completed in the order shown. The first four courses are pre-requisite subjects to Course 5 and therefore a student may not enroll into Course 5 without having completed the first four courses.

The Greater Toronto Airports authority Fire and Emergency Services Training Institute currently offer course 1 and course 5. The other CFAA courses will be available in the very near future.