

Contestant Eligibility Requirements (Please read carefully)

The following eligibility requirements must be met in order to proceed with the application process.

You must be willing and able to participate for duration of the event, on the dates scheduled by the Producers in the locations of the Producers choice which is Niagara on the Lake.

All accommodation expenses during the tournament will be provided by the Producer, affiliated sponsors and assigns.

If selected you must be willing to travel to Niagara on the Lake and participate in the taping of the PRESSURE COOKER series up to 7 consecutive days as scheduled by the Producers. If you are selected to participate some meal & travel allowance may be provided by the Producers

You must be at least 19 years of age.

You must be a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant residing in Canada.

You must have some level of culinary training, apprenticeship or experience.

You assume full responsibility for the consequences of participating should you be accepted.

You must not now be a candidate for public office and must agree not to become one until after the first broadcast of all programs in which you appear, if selected to participate in the program.

You must have good physical and mental health and if selected you must sign a waiver in this regard and provide contact information for your Doctor or medical practitioner.

If selected to compete in the series you may have to sign various documents including an Applicant Agreement, Release Forms, Confidentiality Documents, Health and Medical statements and Releases for review and signature by you and/or your family members.

Employees, officers, directors and agents of the PRESSURE COOKER program Sponsors and investors and/or of any of their respective licensees, assigns, affiliated and subsidiary companies and their directors, officers, agents, and employees and the immediate family (spouse, mother, father, sister, brother, daughter, son, regardless of where they live) or members of their same households (whether related or not) of such employees, officers, directors and agents are not eligible to be participants in the series or to participate in this application process. Regie de Loto confirms that Quebec residents may participate as the process is being judged by qualified personnel and this is therefore, not a contest.

Applications **MUST** be legible, printed clearly or typed, signed, dated, witnessed and must be accompanied by signed, dated and witnessed release waiver.

Once submitted all application materials will become the property of the Producers and will not be returned to you.

We will arrange a phone interview with you in the next 10 – 15 days.

Applications will only be considered if they are complete, signed and witnessed. Complete applications consist of the following:

- Completed Application Form (1-4 pages) and Acknowledgment (page 5) signed, dated and witnessed.
- Signed, dated & Witnessed Waiver and Release Form (2 pages)

You can fax the documents to 905 628 1769 or PDF/JPEG file to casting@thepressurecooker.tv

Do not send them in the mail.

**PLEASE READ ALL INFORMATION CAREFULLY BEFORE
COMPLETING THE APPLICATION AND RELEASE FORM:**

MOST FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What is the PRESSURE COOKER?

It's a new TV series of nine one-hour episodes based on an exhausting black box like culinary competition staged over six consecutive days. It will feature 16 Chefs at various skill levels who will compete in a grueling elimination round culinary marathon. 15 competitors will be eliminated and 1 will survive to earn \$ 10,000. The runner-up will earn an all expense paid culinary holiday. The cooking itinerary will be hectic. Competitors will have their culinary skills challenged to the max. They will compete in various team structures and individually. There are a total of 9 culinary Matches. Each Match will be comprised of a number of cooking Rounds and various dish preparations. The dishes they prepare will be judged by a panel of three established Executive Chef Judges and a host of Kitchen Judges. All scoring decisions by the Judges will be final. The Producers will change the format from time to time and competitors will not be told anything about the format until the start of each day. Each day one or more competitors will be eliminated and sequestered in a local Hotel until the event is completed. Some eliminated competitors may be brought back into the event for the last one or two Matches.

2. Is there an age limit for applicants?

You must be 19 or older to apply. There are no upper age limits. All completed entries from anyone 19 or older will be accepted for consideration. We understand from the Regie de Loto in Quebec that residents are eligible to participate as the event is being Judged on skill and is not a contest. Residents of Quebec are advised to double check with Regie de Loto on this.

3. What cooking skills do I need?

We want aspiring, ambitious, competitive and skilled Chefs. While culinary skills are required, we are also looking for entrants who have an unwavering passion for the culinary arts. All decisions regarding entrants will be made by the Producers and those decisions will be final.

4. What happens if I'm selected?

"Loose lips sink ships!" You will be sworn to secrecy and have to sign all sorts of waivers, insurance papers, confidentiality agreements and health forms. You will NOT be allowed to speak to anyone about anything that happened during the taping of the series until after all 9 episodes have completed airing. NOT TO ANYONE! If you or someone close to you leaks any information to anyone about your experiences or any results during the filming before the series is broadcast you would be subjected to major legal action against you and your estate for the damages caused the Producers, Sponsors & Broadcasters. Considering the exceptional costs to the Producers, sponsors, advertisers, broadcasters and the fairness to fellow competitors we cannot stress the importance of confidentiality enough. Breaking confidentiality would damage the critical surprise elements of the series and thereby sabotage the project and injure the Producers, Sponsors, Broadcasters, competitors and viewers. You don't want to go there for any reason and we're confident you understand the very serious implications in a breach of confidentiality situation. Once the series has aired you are free to speak about your experiences and may very well be asked to make personal appearances at other events, functions, on radio talk shows or on other TV programs. Once the series has finalized it's international obligations you will be given a DVD copy of the series.

5. If I am chosen to compete will my expenses be paid?

We will require you at the location in Niagara on the Lake at 9 am on either the evening of Saturday, June 28th or the morning of Sunday, June 29th for an orientation meeting, rehearsal and wardrobe fitting after which you will check into your accommodations and attend a welcoming BBQ reception. Taping begins at 7:00 am on Monday, June 30th and finishes on Saturday, at approximately 5pm, July 5th. You will depart after or before the event is completed and no later than the day after the conclusion of the event. Accommodations, breakfast and lunch will be provided from your arrival through to Saturday, July 5. You will be responsible for your own dinner/evening arrangements. In addition to the above provisions and the fees you earn from the Matches you participate in, the Producers will provide Ontario based Chefs with a meal/travel allowance of \$100.00 upon completion of the event. Chefs from Quebec or Manitoba will receive a meal/travel allowance of \$150.00 upon completion of the event. Chefs from east of Quebec or west of Manitoba will receive a meal/travel allowance of \$250.00 upon completion of the event.

You will be required to present a Credit Card to the Hotel for any additional charges you make – phone, bar, room service, etc. You will be responsible for arriving at the location in Niagara-on-the-Lake – details to follow if selected. If you are eliminated during the event you will be sequestered in the host Hotel and taken on daily culinary, wine & agricultural tours throughout the Niagara region – possibly golf. Early eliminated Chefs may be called back to participate in the last one or two episodes to support the finalists. If this is the case those returning Chefs will earn \$ 200.00 for each Match they participate in. Chefs living close to the filming location cannot return home at nights as they are considered sequestered for the duration of the event.

6. How do I know if you received my complete application and support material?

If you respond via our website casting@thepressurecooker.tv you will receive an automated response confirmation. If you respond to our P.O. Box address please use a guaranteed delivery service with tracking numbers and signed confirmation of receipt. (FedEx, UPS, Purolator) If you fax your signed application & release/waiver we will respond with a confirmation fax back to you, as long as you include your return fax number. All documents signed, dated witnessed must be returned to the Producers by email or fax. DO NOT MAIL.

7. What type of individuals are you looking for?

We are looking for outgoing personalities who are passionate about cooking and not afraid of competition. We are looking for those who also feel they have the ability, confidence, stamina, sense of humor and good health to participate in what will be the toughest culinary competition ever staged. We want men and women who are good sports with a sense of humor and a willingness to be documented by our TV crews throughout the event. We are also looking for well rounded individuals and while the stress of competition may provoke anger or foul language, the Producers will have zero tolerance for any language or action that crosses the line. We will assume you have the good sense to know what that line is.

8. If I am chosen to be a participant will I be compensated for my time?

In addition to your accommodation, breakfast & lunch and meal/travel allowance, each Chef will earn a fee of \$ 200.00 (CAD) for each of the 9 Matches they participate in during the event. (i.e. The first player eliminated will have earned \$ 200.00 with the possibility of earning another \$ 400.00 if they are brought back into the final two Matches to assist the finalist Chefs. Each Chef who competes or assists in all 9 Matches will earn \$ 1,800 CAD, except for the winner and runner-up who will be compensated as

follows. The finalist will earn \$ 10,000.00 (ten thousand) CAD and the runner-up (semi-finalist) will earn an all expense paid culinary holiday, with an estimated value of \$ 2,500 - 5,000.00 (twenty five hundred – five thousand) CAD.

9. Payment of fees and awards?

This event is being filmed for TV broadcast release several months after the event took place. To comply with broadcast obligations, timing of release and insurance matters around confidentiality about the event details, including eliminations and winner(s) all Match fees and Finalist, semi-finalist earnings and awards will be paid or delivered to competing Chefs upon completion of the final broadcast of the series currently slated for December of 2008. Eliminated Chefs will not be paid for Matches they do not participate in and will remain on location until the event concludes.

10. Does it matter what Province I live in?

This project is being staged and managed in Ontario, Canada by a business incorporated in Ontario and is not registered in Quebec. Due to the linkages of internet, news agencies and other media, people may be applying from all over North America but we are only accepting applications from Canadian citizens or landed immigrants to Canada. The Producers cannot register this competition within every district, province, state, territory, region or other territorial jurisdiction where, in some cases, they may have rules about competitions for prizes or money. This event however is based on skill and being adjudicated by highly qualified Culinary Judges and we understand that Quebec residents can participate.

11. Should I be in good health to participate?

This event will be one of, if not the most challenging culinary competitions ever staged. You should be in good mental and physical health and be able to cope with the immense time pressures and resulting stress that will be imposed. If considered for selection the Producers will have the right to contact your doctor or medical practitioner to verify your state of health for production insurance purposes. You should make sure the Producers are aware of any medical conditions, medications, allergies or other health issues that might become a problem. If you are selected to participate you are guaranteeing the Producers that you are in good health and that you waive any right to hold the Producers responsible for any health related issues that may arise during the event.

12. Will I be able to contact my family or friends while I am participating in the show?

As the competition will be documented and released months after the event as a TV series, it is imperative that the results, at any stage of the tournament, experienced by you or others remain confidential. Participants can contact their families during the production but are reminded they will not be able to discuss the details or results of the competition with anyone until the series completes airing on TV. If there is any emergency at home your friends or family will be able to contact the Producers who will notify you immediately.

13. Will my application & photo be returned to me?

No. All photographs, videotapes and application materials will become the sole property of the Producers once submitted, and will not be returned to you, whether or not you are selected as a contestant. They may be kept on file for future series consideration. If not a first choice selection you may be put on hold as a backup participant in case someone has to back out at the last moment for health or personal reasons.

14. Are there any tax implications for the monies I earn or rewards?

It all depends on where you reside, your personal taxation levels and tax laws concerning such matters. Recipients of any fees, cash or otherwise, will be responsible for recording and reporting any and all

values or cash received according to the tax laws in their Province. The Producers will not be responsible for declaring the fees, rewards or cash earned on behalf of competitors to any Revenue Canada authorities. Taxes on any earnings are the winner's responsibility. Prizes will be awarded in southern Ontario and become the property of the winner who will then be responsible for any shipping or handling charges, if any, to have the rewards, if any, returned to their home.

15. Can you provide me with an itinerary or rules for the competition?

We will be filming 9 x 1 Hr. episodes over 6 days. Each episode is called a 'Match' and each Match constitutes a number of 'black box' culinary challenges. A Match will last anywhere from 5 – 10 hours. The competition will start with 16 Chefs and through a series of eliminations end with two finalists going head to head in the final Match # 9, with some assistants chose from eliminated Chefs. Eliminated Chefs are required to stay on location as they may be selected to return to the competition in support roles in episodes # 8 &/or 9 for which they will be compensated the \$ 200.00 per Match fee. Each day of the competition will have a different structure and the rules will be explained to you as required. The only thing we can tell you for sure is that if selected, you will be participating in the '*Amazing Race*' of culinary competitions and the time pressures testing your culinary skills will be noteworthy. Chefs will compete in team structures and individually with assistance.

16. If I'm selected what should I bring and what will I wear during filming?

Pack as though you are going on a casual holiday for one week. You are not allowed to bring any cameras, sound recording equipment, cell phones or other digital or electronic recreational or business equipment into the filming location – including cell phones. Anyone caught with any recording or communication devices, wireless, battery operated or otherwise, of any kind while filming will automatically be disqualified from the competition. The Producers will provide you with still photographs and video copies of the series once the programs have completed airing.

All Chef wardrobes for the series will be provided and you will be obligated to wear the official Pressure Cooker wardrobe with Sponsor logos during filming. You will receive a Chef attire catalogue from our wardrobe sponsor and select the style of hat, jacket and pants you wish to wear on the show. You will receive three sets of wardrobe which will remain yours after the series is filmed. Kitchen tools will be provided. The Producers may allow the four semi-finalists (Match #8) and two finalist Chefs (Match # 9) to use their own tools.

Special Note:

You will also be required to wear wireless sound recording equipment, a wireless heart monitoring strap system and a pedometer during the filming of the event. The data collected from these devices is necessary within the format of the series and will be used in the production of the series.

18. Should I bring money and credit cards with me?

Whatever you bring will be your responsibility to take care of. You can bring money, credit cards, driver license, health card and any other important personal identification. You will have your evenings free to dine out or visit local shops, bistros, etc..

19. When will this all take place?

Taping is scheduled for June 29 – July 5th of 2008 or - due to reasons beyond the Producers control, at a later date. Those selected will be required to participate for the full day rehearsal and technical run-thru on Sunday, June 29th and the 6 day event that commences filming on Monday, June 30th. The Producers

anticipate giving selected Chefs 1 month notice so they can make appropriate arrangements with their family, work or school. All selected Chefs will be required in Niagara-on-the-Lake at the designated location at 9 am, Sunday, June 29th. You will have an orientation meeting, familiarization with kitchens, walk through rehearsal with crews, receive your wardrobe, check into your accommodations and attend a welcoming reception and BBQ that evening.

Accommodations will be provided on the evening of Saturday, June 28th for those Chefs who are coming from a distance that is further than a two hour drive to Niagara on the Lake. The closest airports within 1 – 1.5 hour drive from Niagara on the Lake are **Hamilton, Toronto & Buffalo**. The least expensive ground shuttle service is Niagara Airbus (1 800 268 8111)

20. Who will pay for my travel to Niagara on the Lake in Ontario?

As noted in Question # 5, in addition to your accommodations, breakfasts, lunches and any competition fees you earn from the Matches, the Producers are providing some meal and travel allowance which will be paid to you upon completion of the event.

21. Can I bring my friends or family?

The short answer is NO! The event is scheduled to be staged and filmed from June 30th through July 5th. As the event is competitive, with winners and losers, and being filmed for release and broadcast at a later date, we cannot under any circumstances allow friends or family to attend. The Pressure Cooker TV series is being shot in a closed set where every crew member and production employee has signed a confidentiality agreement and are legally bound to not speak about the event or anything that happened during the event until the series has completed its broadcast. Competing Chefs will be bound by the same confidentiality agreement.

22. What is the grand prize?

The finalist will have earned a total fee of \$ 10,000.00 for the entire event. The runner up will receive an all expense paid culinary holiday estimated at \$ 4,000.00 or, a fee for the 9 Matches they participated in, equaling \$ 1,800.00. Those who are eliminated will enjoy paid accommodations, 2 meals per day, meeting new people, new travel experiences and an opportunity to enjoy some culinary related touring.

23. Will I owe the Producers anything if I am offered a TV job based on my appearance in the series?

The simple answer is NO. You will have earned any notoriety that comes your way and you will have no financial or contractual obligations to the Producers should you be discovered. That being said, the premise of the event is based on competitors who are absolutely passionate about the culinary arts and impressing everyone with their skills and abilities as a Chef in a relentless 6 day culinary marathon that is being produced as a TV series. For those who aspire to become noted Chefs in a TV context, or recognizable in a public sense, this Television opportunity will provide you with exceptional exposure and promotional value.

We hope this answers some of your questions.

Due to the volume of applications we cannot respond to any other questions.

Only those candidates selected from the Short List will be contacted by telephone for an interview.

PRESSURE COOKER

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQ)

FINALIST CHEF APPLICATION CHECK LIST

- 1. You are a finalist and asked to complete this application form (compulsory)
- 2. Signed Waiver and Release Form herewith (compulsory)

We recommend **highlighting**, underlining or **bolding** your answers.
 Hand printed applications will be accepted but must be legible.

If you cannot PDF OR JPEG format the application with page 5 signed, witnessed and dated, you can complete this application (pgs. 1 – 4) as a word document and email it to

casting@thepressurecooker.tv

You can fax the Page 5 requiring signatures & witnesses to

905 628 1769

If you complete this application as a PDF or JPEG simply email it to us with the signatures to casting@thepressurecooker.tv

APPLICATION

Medical History Note:

In submitting this application you are agreeing to allow us to confirm your health & well being with your physician as declared by you in this application. If you have any health issues, medication requirements or other health and well being conditions or situations we should know about, please attach such information herewith.

Medical Practitioner/Doctor: _____

Print Name

 Address

 Telephone #

If you do not have a medical practitioner your signature on this application nullifies any claims you may make against the Producers for any medical reasons whatsoever.

During the filming of the series you will be required to wear a wireless heart rate monitor strap which will provide us with real-time readings of your activity throughout the event and for graphic inclusion in the series.

In addition to a wireless microphone for sound recording you will be equipped with a pedometer so that we can assess the distance traveled in the kitchen during the event.

In submitting this application you agree to wear the above equipment and the chef wardrobe being provided.

Time Required:

If selected you will be required to participate for the full production of 1 day rehearsal scheduled for June 29, in Niagara on the Lake and 6 days of filming through to 6pm on July 5, whether eliminated or not and/or at a time of the Producers choosing should there be any delays beyond the Producers control. We will confirm details with you during the final selection process on or about May 23th..

In submitting this application you agree to adhere to the production schedule designed by the producers for the filming of the event.

Please underline, **highlight** or **Bold** your answers or responses

Full Name:

Age:

Date of Birth:

Home Phone Number:

Work Phone Number:

Mobile Phone Number:

Home Address:

City, State/Province, Zip Code:

E-mail Address:

I am (a) Canadian Citizen

(b) Landed Immigrant in Canada

In case of an emergency who would we contact on your behalf?

Full Name:

Home Phone Number:

Work Phone Number:

Mobile Phone Number:

Home Address:

City, Province, Zip Code:

E-mail Address:

CHEF WARDROBE

You will be required to wear Chef wardrobe designed for the series and affixed with our major sponsor logos. In submitting this application you agree to wear the wardrobe provided to you for the duration of the filming. For your wardrobe considerations we require the following: (Please bring your own shoes which will likely not be filmed.)

Male/Female

Height:

Weight:

Pant size:

Shirt Size:

Hat Size:

Do you belong to any professional performance guilds/unions?

(i.e. SAG, ACTRA, etc.) If Yes please list.

Have you ever appeared in a television show, film or commercial of any kind?

If Yes, please provide details?

The following medical questions are general in nature to help the Producers know a bit about your state of health and well being. The Producers may need to communicate with your Doctor or health practitioner for insurance purposes and by submitting this application you understand and agree to this.

When was the last time you had a check-up?

Does your Doctor consider you to be in poor, good, very good or excellent health?

Have you had or do you have any addictions, blood pressure problems, allergies, anxieties or any other physical, emotional or mental health related issues or considerations we should know about? If so, please explain.

Have you any phobias or fears (i.e. claustrophobia, vertigo (heights), water, flying, rodents, snakes, spiders, etc.) we should be made aware of? If so please describe.

Are you currently taking any medications and if so what are they?

Have you ever been arrested, charged or convicted of any crime? If so, please provide more details,

All information in your application will be kept confidential.

I hereby acknowledge that by submitting this application:

- (i) I have answered all the questions in this application truthfully and accurately;
- (ii) the Producers may contact any individual or organization whom I have listed as a reference for information about me;
- (iii) if any of the information I have provided in this application is found to be false, I understand that this will be grounds for disqualification of my application, or if I am selected to participate in the Pressure Cooker TV series, dismissal from the competition and Series;
- (iv) I have read and understand the meaning of the Release and Waiver and FAQ’S herewith and will agree to be bound by its terms and conditions if selected to participate in *Pressure Cooker*.

Print Your Name

Print Witness Name

Your Signature

Witness Signature

Your Address

Witness Address

Your Phone Number

Witness Phone Number

Your Fax Number

Witness Fax Number

E-Mail Address

Witness E-Mail Address

THIS APPLICATION & RELEASE MUST BE SIGNED & RECEIVED AS PER PRODUCERS INSTRUCTIONS DURING THE PHONE INTERVIEW PROCESS.

FAX, EMAIL ADDRESS INFORMATION ON FOLLOWING PAGE # 6.

**THIS APPLICATION CANNOT BE ACCEPTED IF PAGE # 5
HEREIN, & THE ATTACHED. WAIVER & RELEASE
ARE NOT SIGNED, WITNESSED & DATED.
PLEASE MAKE SURE THEY ARE.**

YOU CAN FAX YOUR APPLICATION TO

Fax: 905 628 1769

OR VIA EMAIL (pdf, jpeg or word doc. with signatures)

casting@thepressurecooker.tv

MAKE SURE ALL SIGNATURES ARE COMPLETED INCLUDING WITNESS.