

Associate of Applied Science Emergency Medical Services Technology



PURPOSE: The purpose of this curriculum is to produce competent entry-level Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedics who can service the community with advanced life support care via the Emergency Medical Services infrastructure. Upon successful completion of the program, students will be eligible for National Registry testing and certification in the Commonwealth of Virginia. This program is accredited by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services and is offered in conjunction with Southwest Virginia and Virginia Highland Community Colleges. The program is also nationally accredited by the Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs (CAAHEP).

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS: Physical requirements: This program requires extensive walking, stooping, bending, pushing, pulling, climbing stairs, and lifting (at least 125 lbs). Academic requirements: Any student receiving a grade of less than “C” in any of the required program courses will be placed on programmatic academic probation. That course shall be remitted once, with a written contract drafted containing the requirements of the remediation. Remediated courses must be completed with a final grade of “C” or better. Dismissal from the program shall result if the student does not meet the requirements of the contract.

First Year

First Semester (Summer)

EMS	111	EMT – Basic	7
EMS	120	EMT – Basic Clinical	1
BIO	145 ¹	Human Anatomy & Physiology	4
SDV ²	100	College Success Skills	1

Second Semester (Fall)

EMS	151	Introduction to Advanced Life Support	4
EMS	152	Advanced Medical Care	2
EMS	153	Basic ECG Recognition	2
EMS	170	ALS Internship I	1
ENG	111	College Composition	3

Third Semester (Spring)

EMS	154	ALS – Cardiac Care	2
EMS	157	ALS Trauma Care	3
EMS	159	Special Populations	
EMS	172	ALS Clinical Internship II	1
EMS	173	ALS Field Internship II	1
ITE ³			3
EMS/FIR/HLT	Electives ⁴		3

Second Year

Fourth Semester (Fall)

EMS	201	EMS Professional Dev.	3
EMS	205	Advanced Pathophysiology	4
EMS	207	Adv. Patient Assessment	3
EMS	242	ALS Clinical Internship III	1
EMS	243	ALS Field Internship III	1

Fifth Semester (Spring)				
	EMS	209	Pharmacology	4
	EMS	211	Operations	2
	EMS	244	ALS Clinical Internship IV	1
	EMS	245	ALS Field Internship IV	1
	Social Science	Elective ⁵		3
	HUM	Elective ⁶		3
	TOTAL			67

¹BIO 141-142 are recommended if the student is planning to transfer to another medically related program

²SDV 100 or 109 is recommended

³ITE 115 is recommended

⁴EMS 165, EMS 163, and EMS 168 are recommended

⁵Social Science subject areas: PSY/PLS/ECO/HIS/SOC/GEO

⁶Humanities/fine art subject areas: MUS/ART/PHI/SPA/REL/FRE/HUM/PHT/ASL/SPD and some ENG

PROGRAM GOALS

After successfully completing the program the graduate will be able to demonstrate: (1) the ability to comprehend, apply, and evaluate the clinical information relative to his role as an entry-level paramedic; (2) technical proficiency in all skills necessary to fulfill the role of an entry-level paramedic; and (3) personal behaviors consistent with professional and employer expectations for the entry-level paramedic.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYMENT

Opportunities for paramedics include employment by fire and rescue service providers, hospitals, school systems, industry, ambulance and transportation services, local, state and federal government agencies, humanitarian relief organizations, and the military.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The paramedic curriculum is an academically rigorous program, but one having the potential to provide a rewarding career for participants. Admission to the program will be governed by the requirements for general admission to the College and the Commonwealth of Virginia Emergency Medical Services. Individuals who have a felony conviction or do not pass the background checks and/or drug screenings will not be eligible to continue in the program.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:

- Be at least 18 years of age by the beginning of the program pursuant to Section 12VAC5-30-270A.1. of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Health Governing Emergency Medical Services.
- Be a high school graduate or have satisfactorily completed the GED.
- Have a current and valid certificate evidencing EMT-B, EMT-Advanced, or EMT-Intermediate certification in Virginia pursuant to Section 12VAC5-30-290 of the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Health Governing Emergency Medical Services.
- Possess and maintain current CPR certification.

Additionally, a selection process is utilized to choose applicants for each year's program. To be eligible for selection to the program, interested persons should complete the following process by May 10:

- Submit a college admission application.
- Submit an application to the program (separate document) with required attachments.
- Take the Program Entrance Exam.
- Take the VPT placement test (or submit ASSET, COMPASS, SAT or ACT scores).
- Have transcripts of previous college courses sent to MECC.

After May 10th the first round of students will be selected. Selection will be based on previous college coursework, and placement into ENF 3 or higher. Should openings still be available, persons who apply or meet requirements after May 10, or score lower than the cut score on the reading exam will be considered.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

Physical Requirements: This program requires extensive walking, stooping, bending, pushing, pulling, climbing stairs, and lifting. Lifting

and carrying requirements: at least 125 pounds; Motor coordination is necessary because over uneven terrain, the patients', EMTs' and other workers' well-being must not be jeopardized. Further, extensive use of sight, hearing, and speaking is required. An EMS provider is faced with many physical and psychological challenges. Please refer to the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services web site for a more detailed functional job description – www.vdh.virginia.gov/oems/training.

ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

Any student receiving a grade of less than "C" in any of the required program courses will be placed on programmatic academic probation. That course shall be remediated once, with a written contract drafted containing the requirements of the remediation. Remediated courses must be completed with a final grade of "C" or better. Dismissal from the program shall result if the student does not meet the requirements of the contract.

CLINICAL AND BEHAVIORAL REQUIREMENTS

Selected and supervised student clinical experience is required by the program and will be accomplished at selected, regional health care facilities. The student is responsible for transportation to these facilities, as well as to any scheduled field trips or combined program classes. Program preceptors will observe and evaluate the student's suitability for the profession. If the student does not exhibit those documented behaviors required of the EMS professional, the student may be asked to withdraw from the program.

Other Requirements: In addition to basic college costs such as tuition and fees, this program requires expenditures for uniforms, books, liability insurance, CPR certification, immunizations and physical, drug and background screens, testing fees, certification courses and some medical equipment items. Students are also responsible for their own transportation to clinical sites.

Applicants accepted to the program are required to submit a health certificate signed by a licensed physician or RNP and should include documentation of measles, mumps, Rubella (MMR) and chicken pox exposure or inoculations; documentation of Hepatitis B inoculation; Tuberculosis testing; and overall general health of the applicant.

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