Emergency Medical Services

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Associate in Applied Science Degree (4 semesters)
- EMT Short Certificate (1 semester)
- Paramedic Certificate (3 semesters)

Career Cluster: Health Science

At a Glance
People’s lives often depend on the quick reaction and competent care of emergency medical technicians (EMTs, Advanced EMTs, and Paramedics). Incidents as varied as automobile accidents, heart attacks, slips and falls, childbirth, and gunshot wounds all require immediate medical attention. EMTs and paramedics provide this vital service as they care for and transport the sick or injured to a medical facility. Following medical protocols and guidelines, EMTs, Advanced EMTs and paramedics provide appropriate emergency care (under the medical direction of physicians) and, when necessary, transport the patient. In an emergency, EMTs, Advanced EMTs and paramedics are typically dispatched by a 911 operator to the scene, where they often work with police and fire fighters. Working conditions tend to be indoors and out, in all types of weather. EMS professionals are required to do considerable kneeling, bending, and heavy lifting. The specific responsibilities of EMS professionals depend upon their level of qualification and training.

Program Description
The purpose of the Emergency Medical Services Program is to prepare students as competent entry-level pre-hospital providers. Currently Alabama recognizes three levels of providers; the EMT, Advanced EMT, and the Paramedic. The EMS program provides options for students to complete a certificate EMT or Paramedic. Students completing required general education and all EMT courses can earn the Associate in Applied Science Degree in Emergency Medical Services. To receive this degree, the student must meet all WSCC graduation requirements and either complete the paramedic level courses at WSCC or meet the current criteria for EMS degree-seeking transfer students as set forth by the WSCC-EMS Department.

The paramedic program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)– Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), 8301 Lakeview Pkwy, Suite 111-312, Rowlett, TX 75088. Students are eligible to make application to the National Registry of EMT’s examination for Alabama Licensure after completing each of the levels and meeting current examination requirements (current requirements include attaining a 75% average in all core course work; completing ENG 101, Math 100 or higher, and SPH 106 with a minimum of C, and must be 18 years of age). License requirements for other states will be addressed individually.

All courses meet or exceed standards set forth by the U.S. Department of Transportation National Standard Training Curriculum and by the Alabama Department of Public Health.

Admission Requirements
ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE DEGREE
(4 semesters)
Applicants Must:
1. Meet all WSCC admission requirements.
2. Submit an application to the Admissions Office.
3. Submit all COMPASS/ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores to the Admission’s office.
4. Submit a program application packet to the EMS unit secretary by the specified date.
5. Be eligible to enroll in ENG 101 according to COMPASS/ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores or have completed ENG 101 with a grade of 75 or better. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
6. Be eligible to enroll in MTH 100 according to COMPAS/ACCUPLACERS, SAT, or ACT scores or have completed MTH 100 with a grade of 75 or better within last 2 years. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
7. Comply with the Essential Functions listed in the EMS Student Handbook. Documentation of inability to comply must be submitted for review by the WSCC Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator.
8. Possess current certification as a Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider or enroll in EMS 100 upon program acceptance.
9. If already completed Advanced EMT course work, the student must possess a current Alabama Advanced EMT License (supply copy with program application). Active Status.
10. Schedule an appointment with the Program Director
11. **NOTE:** Completing all program entry requirements does not guarantee program admittance.
12. To receive college credit for non-credit EMT, the student must provide the following documentation:
   a. copy of current unencumbered Alabama EMS provider license
   b. documentation of up-to-date National Registry Certification at the requested level
   c. proof of six (6) months recent in-field experience as an EMT as documented by employer
      (volunteer service accepted with appropriate documentation)
   d. copy of current CPR certification at the Healthcare Provider level
**NOTE:** Because class and clinical education are inseparable in EMT and Advanced EMT, credit can be awarded only for both courses in the EMT (EMS 118 and 119) certificate curriculum. Credit will not be awarded for only one course in this combination.

**EMT Certificate (1 semester)**

**Applicants Must:**
1. Meet all WSCC admission requirements.
2. Submit an application to the Admissions Office.
3. Submit all COMPASS/ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores to the Admissions office.
4. Submit a program application packet to the EMS Unit Secretary by the specified date. COMPASS/ACCUPLACER, SAT or ACT scores reveal ENG 101 eligibility.
5. Comply with the Essential Functions as listed in the EMS Student Handbook. Documentation of inability to comply must be submitted for review by the WSCC Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator.
6. Possess current American Heart Association Basic Life Support Healthcare Provider or enroll in EMS 100 upon program acceptance.
7. Schedule an appointment with the Program Director.
**NOTE:** Completing all program entry requirements does not guarantee program admittance.

**PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE (3 semesters)**

**Applicants Must:**
1. Meet ALL Basic EMT entry requirements.
2. Submit a Paramedic program application packet to the EMS Unit Secretary by the specified date.
3. Possess a current Alabama EMT or Advanced EMT License (supply copy with program application) - Active Status.
4. Be eligible to enroll in ENG 101 according to COMPASS/ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores or have completed ENG 101 with a grade of 75 or better. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
5. Be eligible to enroll in MTH 100 according to COMPASS/ACCUPLACER, SAT, or ACT scores or have completed MTH 100 or higher with a grade of 75 or better within last 2 years. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
6. Successfully completed BIO 201 with a grade of 75 or better.
7. Schedule an appointment with EMS program director.
**NOTE:** Completing all program entry requirements does not guarantee program admittance.

**Selection and Notification**
Program applications will be reviewed for completion of program admission requirements and previous college coursework. Written notification of the outcome of each application will be mailed to the student at the address provided on the application.

**Program Expectations**
Students admitted into the Emergency Medical Services program are expected to comply with the Health Science Program Regulations and Expectations as published in the Programs of Study section of the Wallace State College catalog.

**Upon Acceptance**
1. Submit a physical exam current within 1 year, completed by a licensed medical doctor or doctor of osteopathy. Immunization history must be accurate and complete; Titer test results preferred.
2. Present evidence of current health/hospitalization accident insurance.
3. Provide a signed consent to drug testing. Policy can be found at the college’s website: (www.wallacestate.edu/drugs/index.html).
4. Emergency Service students are required to undergo Background Screening according to Health Science Division policy. A positive result from the drug screen or background check may result in immediate dismissal from the EMS program.

**Progression**
A student enrolled in the Program must:
1. Maintain a grade of 75% or better in core courses and a Satisfactory rating in cognitive psycho motor and affective domains. Failure to do so will result in dismissal from the program.
2. Carry liability and accident insurance while enrolled in the program.
3. Submit annual completed physical examination forms, including required vaccinations or titers, certifying that the student is in good health, is able to meet the requirements for clinical performance, and is in compliance with the Essential Functions for an EMT as defined in the student handbook.
5. Possess a current State of Alabama EMS license for previous level under which enrolled. The student will not be allowed to register for any Advanced EMT or Paramedic related courses without the appropriate state license. Without this license a student will not be allowed to participate in any clinical function and will therefore be dismissed from the program.
6. EMT and Advanced EMT must be completed within 1 year form beginning of coursework and Paramedic must be completed within a two (2) year period of beginning coursework. Students not completing within this time frame will be required to re-apply to the program.
7. To obtain the A.A.S. in EMS degree, the student must meet graduation requirements within five (5) years of the date of their first admission. Those who do not meet these requirements must meet the requirements in effect at the time of their graduation. Students readmitted to WSSC and the EMS program must meet the graduation requirements at the time of their readmission.
8. Enrolled students are expected to be competent in all knowledge and skills learned in previous EMS courses. Written and practical evaluation instruments utilized may assess knowledge and skills from previous EMS courses.

Re-Admission Policy
1. A student failing to complete a course may repeat that course once with the submission of Re-Enrollment Statement Form.
2. A student wishing to re-enroll in the program after withdrawing for one semester or more must demonstrate proficiency in knowledge and skills from previously completed coursework. If unable to prove proficiency the student will be admitted to the beginning of the failed certificate level. The student must submit Re-Enrollment Form, update background check, and updated physical.
3. A student failing to pass a course on the second attempt will be required to re-enter the program at the beginning of the failed certificate level.

Career Path
Graduates qualify for employment with air and ground ambulance services, fire and rescue departments, industrial safety departments, and emergency departments within medical facilities. Earnings of EMTs and paramedics depend on the employment setting and geographic location of their jobs, as well as their training and experience. Median annual earnings of EMTs and paramedics were $31,020 in May 2012. The middle 50 percent earned between $24,560 and $40,680 the highest 10 percent earned more than $53,550. (Source: U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Completion Requirements
A.A.S. DEGREE (4 Semesters)

1st Semester (EMT-One semester)
EMS 118 Emergency Medical Technician 9
EMS 119 Emergency Medical Technician Clinic 1
*ORI 110 Freshman Seminar 1
*BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I 4
Total 15

*BIO 201 is only required for students desiring to progress into the Paramedic Program.

2nd Semester (Paramedic)
EMS 240 Paramedic Operations 2
EMS 241 Paramedic Cardiology 3
EMS 242 Paramedic Patient Assessment 2
EMS 244 Paramedic Clinical I 1
EMS 257 Paramedic Applied Pharmacology 2
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra 3
Total 13

3rd semester (Paramedic)
EMS 245 Paramedic Medical Emergencies 3
EMS 246 Paramedic Trauma Management 3
EMS 247 Paramedic Special populations 2
EMS 248 Paramedic Clinical II 3
ENG 101 English Composition 3
Total 14

4th semester (Paramedic)
EMS 253 Paramedic Transition to the Workforce 2
EMS 254 Advanced Competencies for the Paramedic 2
EMS 255 Paramedic Field Preceptorship 5
EMS 256 Paramedic Team Leadership 1
SPH 106 Fundamentals of Oral Communication 3
Total 13

TOTAL CREDITS-PARAMEDIC (CERTIFICATE) 55

Additional required courses for AAS degree
PSY200 General Psychology 3
HUM/FA Humanities/Fine Arts Elective 3
BIO 202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II 4

TOTAL CREDITS-AAS 65

NOTE: All clinical hours for all clinical courses are minimum clock hours. Students are still required to achieve minimum competencies in each class. Additional time may be required to achieve minimum competency.

For more information about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed the program, and other important information, please visit our website at http://www.wallacestate.edu/Programs and click on the appropriate program.