

Emergency Medical Services

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Associate in Applied Science Degree (5 semesters)

EMT Certificate (1 semester)

Advanced EMT (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 (Basic and 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 for the EMT, Advanced EMT, and the 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 the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), 401 West Green Oaks Blvd. Suite 305-599, Arlington, Texas, 76016. Students are eligible to make application to the National Registry of EMT's examination for Alabama licensure after completing the each of the three 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 course 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 (5 Semesters)

Applicants Must:

1. Meet ALL WSCC admission requirements.
2. Submit an application to the Admissions Office.
3. Submit all COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores to the Admission's office Scores must be current within three years of application deadline.
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, SAT, or ACT scores. Or have completed ENG 101 with a grade of "C" or better. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
6. Be eligible to enroll in MTH 100 according to COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores. Or have completed MTH 100 or higher with a grade of "C" or better. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
7. Comply with the Essential Functions of the EMT as listed by the Alabama Department of Public Health (available by accessing the Alabama Department of Health Office of EMS and Trauma's web site at www.adph.org/ems in the rules and regulations portion **420-2-1.20 EMT Qualifications, Examinations, and Licensure**). 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. **NOTE: Completing all program entry requirements does not guarantee program admittance.**
11. To receive college credit for non-credit EMT or Advanced EMT course work, 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 or Advanced 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) and the Advanced EMT (EMS 155 and 156) 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, SAT, or ACT scores to the Admission's office Exam scores must be current within three years of application deadline.
4. Submit a program application packet to the EMS Unit Secretary by the specified date.

COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores reveal ENG 101 eligible.

5. Comply with the Essential Functions of the EMT as listed by the Alabama Department of Public Health available by accessing the Alabama Department of Health Office of EMS and Trauma's web site at www.adph.org/ems in the rules and regulations portion **420-2-1.20 EMT Qualifications, Examinations, and Licensure**). Documentation of inability to comply must be submitted for review by the WSCC Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator.
6. Possess current certification as a 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.**

ADVANCED EMT CERTIFICATE (1 Semester)

Applicants Must:

1. Meet all WSCC admission requirements.
2. Submit an application to the Admissions Office.
3. Meet with EMS faculty member prior to application admission.
4. Submit all COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores to the Admission's office. Exam scores must be current within three years of application deadline.
5. Submit a Advanced EMT program application packet to the EMS Unit Secretary by the specified date.
6. COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores reveal no remedial course work required. Eligible for ENG 101 and MTH 100.
7. Comply with the Essential Functions of the EMT as listed by the Alabama Department of Public Health available by accessing the Alabama Department of Health Office of EMS and Trauma's web site at www.adph.org/ems in the rules and regulations portion **420-2-1.20 EMT Qualifications, Examinations, and Licensure**). Documentation of inability to comply must be submitted for review by the WSCC Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator.
8. Possess current Alabama EMT license – Active Status.
9. Schedule an appointment with the Program Director. **NOTE: Completing all program entry requirements does not guarantee program admittance.**

PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE (4 Semesters)

Applicants Must:

1. Meet ALL Basic EMT entry requirements.
 2. Submit a Paramedic program application packet the EMS Unit Secretary by the specified date.
 3. Possess a current Alabama Advanced EMT License (supply copy with program application) – Active Status.
 4. Be eligible to enroll in ENG 101 according to COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores. Or have completed ENG 101 with a grade of "C" or better. Students placing into remedial coursework are not eligible for program entry.
 5. Be eligible to enroll in MTH 100 according to COMPASS, SAT, or ACT scores or have completed MTH 100 or higher with a grade of "C" 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 "C" or better.
 7. Schedule an appoint with an EMS faculty member prior to application admission.
- 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 course work per the EMS Ranking Form. 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.
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 psychomotor 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, 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 by the ADPH-EMS Division.
4. Maintain current certification in Basic Life Support for the Health Care Provider.
5. Possess a current State of Alabama EMS license for 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. Any certificate (EMT, Advanced EMT, or Paramedic) must be completed within a two (2) year period of beginning course work. Students not completing within this time frame will be required to re-apply to the program.
7. 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, Submit Re-Enrollment Statement Form, and update background check.
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 \$27,070 in May 2006. The middle 50 percent earned between \$21,290 and \$35,210 the highest 10 percent earned more than \$45,280. (Source: U.S. Department of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics)

Completion Requirements

A.A.S. DEGREE (5 Semesters)

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

ORI 101* Orientation to College	1
ENG 101 English Composition I	3
SPH 106 Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3
Humanities/Fine Arts Elective	3
BIO 103 Introduction to Biology	4
BIO 201 Anatomy and Physiology I	4
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra	3
History, Social and Behavioral Sciences Elective	<u>3</u>
General Total	24

MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES

EMS 118 Emergency Medical Technician	9
EMS 119 Emergency Medical Technician Clinical Competencies	<u>1</u>
EMT Total	10

EMS 155 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician	8
EMS 156 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Clinical Competencies	<u>2</u>
Advanced EMT Total	10

EMS 240 Paramedic Operations	2
EMS 241 Paramedic Cardiology	3
EMS 242 Paramedic Patient Assessment	2
EMS 243 Paramedic Pharmacology	1
EMS 244 Paramedic Clinical I	1
EMS 245 Paramedic Medical Emergencies	3
EMS 246 Paramedic Trauma Emergencies	3
EMS 247 Paramedic Special Populations	2
EMS 248 Paramedic Clinical II	3
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	<u>1</u>
Paramedic Total	30

TOTAL HOURS	74
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*Orientation to College is a college requirement, not a requirement of the program. You are exempt from orientation if you are a transfer student with a minimum of 12 semester hours of college work or if you were enrolled at Wallace State Community College before Fall 2004. Orientation 103 is required for any student who places in a remedial level course.

EMT Certificate (1 semester)

MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES

EMS 118 Emergency Medical Technician	9
EMS 119 Emergency Medical Technician Clinical Competencies	<u>1</u>
EMT Total	10

Advanced EMT Certificate (1 semester)

MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES

EMS 155 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician	8
EMS 156 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Clinical Competencies	<u>2</u>
Advanced EMT Total	10

Paramedic Certificate (4 semesters)

GENERAL EDUCATION COURSES

ENG 101 English Composition I	3
SPH 106 Fundamentals of Oral Communication	3
BIO 201 Anatomy and Physiology I	4
MTH 100 Intermediate College Algebra	<u>3</u>
General Total	13

MAJOR REQUIRED COURSES

EMS 240 Paramedic Operations	2
EMS 241 Paramedic Cardiology	3
EMS 242 Paramedic Patient Assessment	2
EMS 243 Paramedic Pharmacology	1
EMS 244 Paramedic Clinical I	1
EMS 245 Paramedic Medical Emergencies	3
EMS 246 Paramedic Trauma Emergencies	3
EMS 247 Paramedic Special Populations	2
EMS 248 Paramedic Clinical II	3
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	<u>1</u>
Paramedic Total	30

TOTAL HOURS **54**