

Emergency Medical Services 510904 EMP Associate in Applied Science Degree

Available: Shoals Campus

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NOTICE: The EMS admission criteria, the progression guidelines, and the curriculum are currently being revised. Please see an EMS advisor.

The Emergency Medical Services degree is designed to prepare qualified applicants in basic and advanced emergency care in clinical and in field environments. Graduates qualify for employment with fire and rescue departments, ambulances services, industries and emergency departments within medical facilities. EMS education spans three levels of competency: First Responder, EMT-Basic, and Paramedic. Each level of competency meets or exceeds standards set forth by the Department of Transportation (DOT) National Standard Training Curriculum, and by the State of Alabama Department of Public Health. Students may enroll in the EMS program with the intention of completing only the courses required for each level of EMS education: EMT-Basic or Paramedic. Upon successful completion of either level, the student will be eligible to apply for registration with the National Registry of EMTs. Graduation from the program, however, does not guarantee Alabama Department of Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma or National Registry of EMTs approval to take the NREMT licensing examination.

Emergency Medical Services supports the Philosophy and Purpose of the College and serves its community by preparing entry level Emergency Medical Services personnel in varied health settings. The EMS Program Director and the EMS faculty have the responsibility for administering and evaluating the Emergency Medical Services Program according to policies and guidelines established by the College, the Alabama Department of Public Health, and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in association with the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP).

To receive an Associate of Applied Science Degree in Emergency Medical Services, the student must complete the EMT certificate levels and all academic core curriculum course requirements. All EMS students must take all parts of the ASSET or COMPASS placement test. Students completing the test should see the Program Director for placement into the English and math classes. Because EMS programs contain a clinical component, students are required to meet additional health requirements as well as the "Essential Functions of the EMT." Questions regarding the EMS program should be directed to the Program Director at (256) 331-5435.

The Purpose of the Emergency Medical Services Program is to:

1. Prepare entry level Emergency Services Personnel who utilize appropriate knowledge and skills to deliver safe, competent care to clients of all ages.
2. Foster learning as a life-long process to remain competent.

3. Prepare entry level Emergency Services Personnel who contribute to society as citizens and members within the discipline of EMS.
4. Provide education at the certificate and the Associate Degree level, which forms a basis for entry into baccalaureate EMS education.

APPROVALS AND ACCREDITATION

The Emergency Medical Services is state approved by the Alabama Department of Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma and nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs in association with the Committee on Accreditation of Education Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP).

Alabama Department of Public Health, EMS Division

201 Monroe Street, Montgomery, Alabama 36104

Telephone: 1-800-962-9234 Fax: (334)-206-5260

www.adph.org/EMS

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Program

35 East Wacker Drive, Suite 1970, Chicago, IL 60601

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www.coaemsp.org

ADMISSION PROCEDURES AND REQUIREMENTS

Admission to EMS is competitive, and the number of students is limited by the number of faculty and clinical facilities available. **Meeting minimal requirements does not guarantee acceptance.** Preference will be given to graduates of Northwest-Shoals Community College. Applicants will be notified in writing by the EMS office of acceptance into the EMS program. The College reserves the right to adjust requirements or use additional criteria to determine admission.

General Admission Requirements

To be eligible to enroll in the EMS Program, a student must complete the following:

1. Meet all admission requirements of the College and Alabama Department of Public Health;
2. Be a high school graduate or hold a GED;
3. Attain the prescribed scores on the ASSET or COMPASS placement test;
4. Be at least 18 years old (younger students who meet certain conditions may be able to enroll with the permission of the Program Director);
5. Possess a valid driver's license;
6. Hold current BCLS - CPR course completion at the provider level. American Red Cross course equivalent is Professional Rescuer. "Community CPR is not acceptable." Students will be allowed to enter the EMT-Basic program without CPR completion provided they enroll in a CPR class prior to beginning clinical rotations. The CPR course is provided by the EMS Department;
7. Present evidence of health insurance or sign a waiver;

8. EMS 107 Emergency Vehicle Operator Course is required to qualify for licensure as an ambulance driver in the State of Alabama. Students must successfully complete this course and meet additional requirements by the Alabama Department of Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma. The EVOC course is provided by the EMS Department;
9. Enrollment into the Paramedic Program requires documentation of completion of an approved EMT-Basic course. Students without college credit for the EMT-Basic Program must meet with the Program Director to successfully complete an assessment test prior to acceptance into the Paramedic Program.

Upon admission, an individual who discloses a disability can request reasonable accommodations. Individuals will be asked to provide documentation of the disability in order to assist with the provision of appropriate reasonable accommodations. The respective College will provide reasonable accommodations but is not required to substantially alter the requirements or nature of the program or provide accommodations that inflict an undue burden on the respective College. In order to be admitted one must be able to perform all of the essential functions with or without reasonable accommodations. If an individual's health changes during the program of learning, so that the essential functions cannot be met with or without reasonable accommodations, the student will be withdrawn from the EMS program. The EMS faculty reserves the right at any time to require an additional medical examination at the student's expense in order to assist with the evaluation of the student's ability to perform the essential functions. Requests for reasonable accommodations should be directed to the ADA Coordinator, Linda Waide, at 331-5321 or lwaide@nwsc.edu

Upon successful completion of either level, the student will be eligible to apply for registration with the National Registry of EMTs. Completion of the courses, however, does not guarantee Alabama Department Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma or National Registry of EMTs approval to take the NREMT licensing examination.

Paramedic Program students also can complete additional requirements for a Certificate or AAS Degree.

CERTIFICATE OPTION: In addition to the general admission requirements, students admitted to the Paramedic certificate program must:

1. Complete ENG 101 and MTH 100 or MTH 116 with a grade of "C" or higher prior to completion of the Paramedic Program;
2. Complete EMP 189 or BIO 201 & BIO 202 prior to starting the 3rd semester of the Paramedic Program.

AAS DEGREE OPTION: In addition to the general admission requirements, students admitted to the degree tract must:

1. Complete ENG 101 and MTH 100 or MTH 116 with a grade of "C" or higher prior to completion of the Paramedic Program;
2. Complete BIO 201 & BIO 202 prior to completion of the Paramedic Program;
3. Complete additional General Education Requirements: ENG 102, PSY 200, Humanities Elective.

PROGRAM CONTINUATION

In order to continue in the Basic or Paramedic courses, the student must complete the following:

1. Complete and submit physical examination form and required data PRIOR to attendance at clinical. The student must present written documentation on College forms of a physical examination within the last 12 months by a licensed practicing physician. In addition, the student must:
 - a. Be free from any communicable disease;
 - b. Possess eyesight in a minimum of one eye correctable to 20/20 vision, approximately one hundred and eighty (180) degrees peripheral vision capability and have adequate color perception;
 - c. Complete a health history, verifying such information as immunization and disease history and special medical needs;
 - d. Receive (at student expense) necessary immunizations/ tests including hepatitis vaccine;
 - e. Demonstrate the ability to send and receive messages.
2. Meet "Essential Functions of the EMT" with or without accommodations by assigned date. A copy of these functions is available upon request.
3. Purchase professional liability insurance through the College.
4. Complete drug testing and/or background checks as directed by the Health Studies Division or clinical agency.
5. The EMS Program grading scale is:
 - 100 – 90 = A
 - 89 – 80 = B
 - 79 – 75 = C
 - 74 – 60 = D
 - 59 and below = F
6. Receive a grade of "C" in each EMS or EMP course in order to continue.
7. Earn a satisfactory clinical evaluation on the clinical component of any course with a clinical component.

TRANSFER STUDENTS

Students who wish to transfer into any EMS program from another college must meet the same requirements as resident students. Additional requirements may need to be met if courses were taken out-of-state. Transfer students should contact the Program Director to discuss these matters.

PROGRAM PROGRESSION POLICY

In order to continue in EMS, the student must:

1. Complete all required general education courses according to The Alabama College System EMS Education curriculum.
2. Maintain a grade of "C" or better in all required EMS courses and maintain a 2.0 GPA at NW-SCC.
3. Be accepted by clinical agencies for clinical experiences.

4. Earn a satisfactory clinical evaluation in all EMS courses with a clinical component.
5. Maintain ability to meet essential functions for EMS with or without reasonable accommodations.
6. Maintain current CPR at the health care provider level.
7. Maintain an adequate level of health including but not limited to annual PPD, and freedom from chemical dependency and/or mental disorder.
8. Successfully complete the EMS education program:
 - a. Within one year of initial entry for the EMT-Basic (otherwise all EMT-Basic courses must be repeated).
 - b. Within two years of initial entry for the Paramedic program (otherwise all Paramedic courses must be repeated).

A student that has an unsuccessful attempt in an EMS course (W, D, or F) cannot progress until the course is completed successfully. Course repetition will be based on instructor availability and program resources. Withdrawal and/or a D or F in one or more EMS courses in a term is considered one unsuccessful attempt.

REINSTATEMENT (READMISSION) POLICY

1. Students whose progression through EMS is interrupted and who desire to be reinstated in the program must schedule an appointment with an EMS faculty advisor to discuss reinstatement. In order to be eligible for reinstatement, the following criteria must be met:
 - a. Apply for readmission to the college if not currently enrolled.
 - b. Submit application requesting reinstatement to the EMS program.
 - c. Request reinstatement within one year from the term of withdrawal or failure.
 - d. Demonstrate competency in previous EMS courses. This may be evaluated by testing and/or skills validation.
 - e. Adhere to EMS curriculum and/or program policies and procedures effective at the point of reinstatement.
2. Reinstatement to the EMS program is not guaranteed.
3. Reinstatement will be denied due to, but not limited to any of the following circumstances;
 - a. Grade point average is less than 2.0 from courses completed at the current institution.
 - b. Refusal by clinical agencies to accept the student for clinical experiences.
 - c. Twelve months have elapsed since the student was enrolled in an EMS course.
 - d. Student has been dismissed from the program. Students dismissed from the program for disciplinary reasons and/or unsafe/unsatisfactory client care.
4. Students who are unsuccessful on the third (3rd) admission will be dismissed from the EMS program.

5. Students who have three unsuccessful attempts in any EMS program course may apply for admission as a new student provided:
 - a. the student meets current entry requirements
 - b. at least two years have elapsed since the student's dismissal from the last program and
 - c. the student was not dismissed from the previous program for disciplinary reasons or for unsafe/unsatisfactory client care in the clinical area.

STANDARDS OF CONDUCT

The EMS student shall comply with the standards that determine acceptable behavior of a healthcare professional in accordance with the Alabama Department of Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma, National Registry of EMTs, and EMS Program. **FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THESE STANDARDS WHILE IN THE EMS PROGRAM CONSTITUTES GROUNDS FOR DISMISSAL FROM THE PROGRAM.**

The following examples of behavior may be grounds for dismissal from the EMS program or for licensure application review by the Alabama Department of Public Health Office of EMS and Trauma. Any individual who:

1. Is guilty of fraud or deceit in procuring or attempting to procure a license.
2. Is guilty of a crime involving moral turpitude or of gross immorality that would tend to bring reproach upon the EMS profession.
3. Is unfit or incompetent due to the use of alcohol, or is addicted to the use of habit-forming drugs to such an extent as to render the licensee unsafe or unreliable.
4. Is mentally incompetent.
5. Is guilty of unprofessional conduct of a character likely to deceive, defraud, or injure the public in matters pertaining to health.
6. Has willfully or repeatedly violated any of the provisions of this act.
7. Has been convicted of a felony.
8. Has been convicted of any violation of a Federal or State law relating to controlled substances.
9. Has any other reasons authorized by law.
10. Has been placed on a State and/or Federal abuse registry.
11. Has been court martialled or disciplined or administratively discharged by the military.

Entering students are required to complete ORI 101.
Transfer students are exempt from this requirement.

General Education Requirements	Semester Hours
BIO 201 Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4
BIO 202 Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
ENG 101 English Composition I	3
ENG 102 English Composition II	3
MTH 100 or MTH 116	3
PSY 200 General Psychology	3
Humanities Elective	3
Total General Education Requirements	23

Major Requirements	Semester Hours
EMS 116 EMS Basic Theory and Lab	9
EMS 117 EMS Basic Clinical Competencies I	1
EMP 189 Applied Anatomy & Physiology for the Paramedic	4
EMP 191 Paramedic Preparatory	2
EMP 192 Paramedic Operations	3
EMP 193 Patient Assessment Management	3
EMP 194 Paramedic General Pharmacology	2
EMP 195 Advanced Trauma Management	6
EMP 198 Medical Patient Management I	3
EMP 199 Cardiovascular Electrophysiology	3
EMP 200 Medical Patient Management IIA	6
EMP 203 Cardiovascular Patient Management	3
EMP 204 Transition to Paramedic Practice	3
EMP 205 Paramedic Terminal Competencies	2
EMP 206 Paramedic Field Preceptorship	6
EMP 207 Paramedic Team Leader Preceptorship	1
Total Major Requirements	48

Total Semester Credit Hours 71

**Computer competency skills are embedded within one or more courses required in this curriculum.

EMT-Paramedic Career Certificate 510904 EMS

All entering students are required to complete ORI 100 unless transferred from another university or college.

	Semester		
	Theory	Lab	Hours
ENG 101 English Composition I	3	0	3
MTH 100 or MTH 116	3	0	3
EMP 189 Applied Anatomy and Physiology for the Paramedic	4	0	4
EMP 191 Paramedic Preparatory	2	0	2
EMP 192 Paramedic Operations	2	2E	3
EMP 193 Patient Assessment and Management	2	2E	3
EMP 194 Paramedic General Pharmacology	1	2E	2
EMP 195 Advanced Trauma Management	2	9P3	6
EMP 198 Medical Patient Management I	2	2E	3
EMP 199 Cardiovascular Electrophysiology	2	2E	3
EMP 200 Medical Patient Management II	2	9P3	6
EMP 203 Cardiovascular Patient Management	2	2E	3
EMP 204 Transition to Paramedic Practice	2	2E	3
EMP 205 Paramedic Terminal Competencies	1	2E	2
EMP 206 Paramedic Field Preceptorship	1	15P3	6
EMP 207 Paramedic Team Leader Preceptorship	0	3P3	1
Total Semester Credit Hours	53		

EMT-Basic Short-Term Certificate 510904 EMT

	Semester		
	Theory	Lab	Hours
EMS 116 EMS Basic Theory and Lab	6	3 (1E)	9
EMS 117 EMS Basic Clinical Competencies I	0	3 (P3)	1
Total Semester Credit Hours	10		

EMS 100 and EMS 107 are not required for graduation but, are required by the State of Alabama to obtain licensures as an EMT Basic Driver.

EMS 106 Medical Terminology not required but highly recommended.