

# Emergency Medical Technician

## Career Studies Certificate

**Program Director:** Bill Akers, Jr., MS, NRP, Program Director • [bill.akers@sw.edu](mailto:bill.akers@sw.edu) • 276-964-7729

**Length:** One Semester

*Offered in cooperation with Southwest Virginia Community College. Career Studies Certificate awarded by Virginia Highlands Community College.*

**Purpose:** The purpose of this curriculum is to produce competent, entry-level Emergency Medical Technicians who can provide basic life support and care to the sick and injured via the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) infrastructure. Upon successful completion of the program, students will be eligible for National Registry testing and certification in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Employment opportunities for EMTs are available with ambulance services, fire and rescue departments, hospitals, local, state and federal government agencies, and humanitarian relief organizations.

**Program Goals:** At the completion of the program:

1. The student will demonstrate technical proficiency in all skills necessary to fulfill the role of an entry-level EMT.
2. The graduate of the program will demonstrate the ability to comprehend, apply, and evaluate the clinical information relative to his/her role as an entry-level EMT,
3. The student will demonstrate personal behaviors consistent with professional and employer expectations for the entry-level EMT.

**Approval:** This program is approved by the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services

**Admission Requirements:** Admission to the program will be governed by the requirements for general admission to the College and the Commonwealth of Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services. Individuals who have a felony conviction may not be eligible to take the certification exam.

### 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-<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov>.

**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. Remediated courses must be completed with a final grade of "C" or better.

**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 and licensed EMS agencies. 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, immunizations and physical, testing fees, certification courses and some medical equipment items. Students are also responsible for their own transportation to clinical sites.

Course Number	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
EMS 111	Emergency Medical Technician	5	4	7
EMS 120	EMT-Basic Clinical	0	2	1
HLT 105	Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation	1	0	1
<b>Total</b>		<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Total Credits for Career Studies Certificate</b>				<b>9</b>