

Emergency Medical Services Technology

Associate of Applied Science Degree

Program Coordinator: Bill Akers, Jr., MS, NRP, Program Director
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Length: Five semesters

Offered in cooperation with Southwest Virginia Community College. Degree awarded by Virginia Highlands Community College.

Purpose: The purpose of this curriculum is to produce competent entry-level Paramedics who can provide the highest level of out-of-hospital care. Upon completion of the program, students will be eligible for National Registry testing and certification. This credential leads to Paramedic licensure or certification in Virginia and most other states. Employment opportunities for Paramedics are available with ambulance; fire and rescue services; hospitals; local, state and federal government agencies.

Program Goals: At the completion of 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.

Accreditation: This program is accredited nationally by the Committee on Accreditation of Allied Health Educational Programs (CAAHEP), 25400 U.S. Highway 19 North, Suite 158, Clearwater FL, 33763, phone 727-210-2350.

Admission Requirements: Prior to the starting program courses, the applicant must:

1. Meet eligibility requirements as stipulated by the Virginia Office of EMS; and
2. Meet the college's general admission requirements.

Selection Process: To be eligible for selection to the program, interested person should complete the following process by May 10:

1. Submit a college admission application.
2. Submit an application to the program (separate document) with required attachments.
3. Complete the VPT English and Math assessment. To enroll in EMS courses the student must test above ENF 1 and MTE 1 on the college placement test or have equivalent scores on the ACT, SAT, etc. (or submit satisfactory SAT or ACT scores).
4. Have transcripts of previous college courses sent to the college.

At that time the first round of students will be selected. Selection will be based on previous college coursework, entrance exam, skill assessment, and college placement reading scores. Students should place into ENF 3 or higher to be eligible for consideration in the first round of selection. Should openings still be available, persons who apply or meet requirements after May 10, or score lower than cut score on the reading exam will be considered.

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Physical Requirements: An EMS provider is faced with many physical and psychological challenges. Please refer to the Office of Emergency Medical Services web site for a more detailed functional job description <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2017/04/BLS-Student-Handouts-for-Initial-Certification-Programs.pdf> pp. 17-25.

Academic Requirements: Students must make a "C" or better in all program cores courses. Any student receiving a grade less than "C" will be placed on programmatic academic probation. That course shall be remediated. Remediated course must be completed with a final grade of "C" or better.

Clinical and Behavioral Requirements: Selected and supervised student 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. 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 might be asked to withdraw from the program.

Other Requirements: Applicants accepted to the program are required to submit a health certificate signed by a licensed physician, physician's assistant 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. A criminal background check and drug screening is also done to confirm compliance with state regulations. See <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2017/04/BLS-Student-Handouts-for-Initial-Certification-Programs.pdf> pp. 6-7. The purchase of items such as uniforms, liability insurance and other accessories is the financial responsibility of the individual student. Students who elect to take support courses recommended by the Program Director prior to formal acceptance into the program will find this activity to be advantageous in subsequent course scheduling.

Course Number	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
First Semester (Summer)				
EMS 100	¹ CPR for Healthcare Providers	1	0	1
EMS 111	Emergency Medical Technician	5	4	7
EMS 120	EMT – Basic Clinical	0	2	1
BIO 145	² Human Anatomy & Physiology for Health Sciences	3	3	4
Total		9	9	13
Second Semester (Fall)				
SDV 101	³ College Success Skills	1	0	1
EMS 121	Preparatory Foundations	2	0	2
EMS 123	EMS Clinical Preparation	0	2	1
EMS 125	Basic Pharmacology	1	0	1
EMS 126	Basic Pharmacology Lab	0	2	1
EMS 127	Airway, Shock and Resuscitation	1	0	1
EMS 128	Airway, Shock and Resusc. Lab	0	2	1
EMS 135	Emergency Medical Care	2	0	2
EMS 136	Emergency Medical Care Lab	0	2	1
EMS 137	Trauma Care	1	0	1
EMS 138	Trauma Care Lab	0	2	1
Total		8	10	13
Third Semester (Spring)				
EMS 139	Special Populations	1	0	1
EMS 140	Special Populations Lab	0	2	1
EMS 141	Cardiovascular Care	1	0	2
EMS 142	Cardiovascular Care Lab	0	2	1
EMS 175	Paramedic Clinical Experience I	0	6	2
ENG 111	College Composition I	3	0	3
PSY 230	⁴ Developmental Psychology	3	0	3
Total		8	10	13

Course Number	Course Title	Lecture Hours	Lab Hours	Credits
Fourth Semester (Fall)				
EMS 202	Paramedic Pharmacology	2	0	2
EMS 203	Advanced Patient Care	2		2
EMS 204	Advanced Patient Care Lab	0	2	2
EMS 206	Pathophysiology for Health Professions	3	0	3
EMS 247	Paramedic Clinical Experience II	0	3	1
EMS 248	Paramedic Comprehensive Field Experience	0	6	2
Total		7	11	12
Fifth Semester (Spring)				
EMS 210	EMS Operations	0	2	1
EMS 212	Leadership and Professional Development	1	0	1
EMS 165	Advanced Cardiac Life Support	1	0	1
EMS 163	Prehospital Trauma Life Support	1	0	1
EMS 167	Emergency Pediatric Care	1	0	1
EMS 164	Advanced Medical Life Support	1	0	1
EMS 216	Paramedic Review	0	2	1
EMS 249	Paramedic Capstone Internship	0	6	2
HUM	⁵ Humanities Elective	3	0	3
EEE	⁶ General Education Elective	3	0	3
Total		11	10	15
Total Minimum Credits for AAS Degree				66

Footnotes:

¹HLT 105 is an approved substitute.

²Taking both BIO 141 and BIO 142 are an approved substitute to BIO 145. Please note that students who complete BIO 141 and BIO 142 are exempt from completing the General Education Elective (3 credits) in the 5th semester (see footnote 6 below).

³SDV 101 is an approved substitute.

⁴PSY 200, SOC 247, and SOC 268 are approved substitutes for PSY 230.

⁵Approved Humanities Electives: ART 101, ENG 241, 243, 251, MUS 221, REL 230.

⁶The general education elective must be a course in one of the general education categories – communication, humanities/fine arts, social/behavioral sciences, or natural sciences/mathematics. Students who complete BIO 141 and BIO 142 in lieu of BIO 145 are exempt from the general education elective.

Please refer to Course Listings in back of catalog for all prerequisites and corequisites.