

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT-Basic)

For better understanding of how to successfully enter this program, applicants are urged to read this information thoroughly.

1. Q: What are the requirements to enroll in the EMT Program?

A: You must be a current NWACC student. For more information, please contact New Student Admissions at (479) 619-4386 or visit the college website at www.nwacc.edu. There are several documents that need to be turned into the EMS office before you can enroll in the EMT course: a completed EMT application, documentation of current Healthcare Provider level CPR certification, documentation of current (1 year or less) TB skin test results, and completion of an approved First Responder Course.

2. Q: What kind of job opportunity is there once I get through this course?

A: There are far more EMTs in our area than the job market will support. Most people going through the EMT course either intend to go on to paramedic school or will use their training volunteering for a rural fire department and act as a first responder for that department.

3. Q: How much does the program cost?

A: The cost of the program is dependent on your residency. The estimated cost of the program for tuition, fees and textbooks for in-district students (within Rogers/Bentonville Public School District) is \$845.00 and \$1125.00 for out-of-district students. Once in the program, there will be various additional charges, such as purchasing a lab coat and stethoscope, as well as fees for state board testing. All costs are approximate and subject to change without notice.

4. Q: Will I get to work on the ambulance during this course?

A: Yes, you must make a minimum of six patient transports. You will be assigned to an ambulance service in Northwest Arkansas.

5. Q: Who teaches this course?

A: The instructors are Arkansas state licensed EMT instructors that are carefully selected by the Program Director for their expertise in teaching. They are also Arkansas State Paramedics and work for a local EMS agency on a regular basis.

6. Q: Where are the classes held?

A: The classes are held on our Main Campus located in Bentonville, AR

7. Q: How often do classes meet and what time of day?

A: The class meets twice a week and is typically offered from 6:00-10:00 in the evening. Sometimes a day section will be offered as well but not every semester. Check the current class schedule for specific times and dates.

8. Q: Will I get licensed at the end of this course?

A: The Arkansas Department of Health will administer a National Board Examination at the conclusion of the course (usually about one month or so after the course ends) and when you pass this exam you will be licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician.

General Tasks Required for EMT – Basic

Students will be required to perform the following tasks:

Visual

- Able to see in varied light conditions (night shift)
- Have good color perception to assess patient color and typed of equipment
- Be able to read labels and gauges. (Blood pressure & oxygen, etc)

Hearing

- Able to hear varied pitches (breath sound), listen to a blood pressure (within 4 mm/Hg), and accurately record it onto a piece of paper.

Speech

- Able to communicate clearly with patients, physicians, and other health care professionals

Fine Motor Skills -

- Able to assemble equipment containing small parts
- Able to hold syringe and draw blood
- Able to operate computer keyboard
- Feel and record pulses

Back

- Able to bend at the hip to draw blood, perform chest physiotherapy, or CPR

Physical Capabilities -

- With one assistant, bend over and lift an ambulance cot with a 175 pound patient on it and safely load into an ambulance about 4 feet off of the ground.
(Total weight is about 250 pounds)
- Able to remain on feet six to eight hours at a time.
- Able to move wrists freely and apply pressure for chest physiotherapy or CPR
- Able to spinal immobilize a patient onto the long backboard by functioning as the person at the head of the patient holding cervical in-line immobilization.
- Able to wear safety glasses, gloves, and mask as needed for infection control.

Other -

- Be able to write run reports and summaries.
- Read and understand instructions and medications, patient charts, living wills, and Do Not Resuscitate codes.