

# PARAMEDIC, A.A.S.

## Entry Time

Spring

## Award

Associate of Applied Science degree

2 years (5 terms)

Paramedics provide the highest level of pre-hospital emergency care. The paramedic is an allied health professional whose primary focus is to provide advanced emergency medical care for critical and emergent patients who access the emergency medical system. This individual possesses the complex knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and transportation. Paramedics function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, under physician oversight. They perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance. The paramedic is a link between the scene and the health care system.

Paramedics provide advanced care in a variety of settings. Utilizing critical thinking skills, paramedics rapidly assess, treat and stabilize injured or ill patients and provide transport to or between hospitals. Settings may include ground and air ambulances, emergency departments, critical care units or cardiac cath labs. Along with advanced assessment techniques, paramedics utilize medications, cardiac monitoring and interpreting, defibrillation and advanced invasive skills as guided by state and local protocols, as well as the medical direction of each service.

The Paramedic program follows the current National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. The standards prepare the EMT and AEMT for the more advanced scope of practice of the paramedic. This allied health program has a mandatory background check for clinical purposes.

## Career Opportunities

- ambulance services
- fire departments
- hospitals
- law enforcement agencies
- other health care facilities

## Degree Requirements

Course	Title	Credit Hours
<b>Term 1</b>		
<b>Prerequisites *</b>		
Select one of the following: <sup>1, 2</sup>		8.5
EMS-255 & EMS-350 & EMS-365	Emergency Medical Technician I and Emergency Medical Technician II and Emergency Medical Technician II Clinical	
EMS-300	Advanced Emergency Medical Technician	
BIO-168	Human Anatomy and Physiology I	4

HSC-117 or HSC-115	Basic Medical Terminology or Medical Terminology	2.5
Select one of the following:		3
MAT-772	Applied Math	
MAT-707	Algebra Mastery 1	
MAT-115	Mathematics and Society	
MAT-136	Trigonometry and Analytic Geometry	
MAT-157	Statistics	
<b>Term Totals:</b>		<b>18</b>
<b>Term 2</b>		
EMS-641	Introduction to Paramedicine <sup>1</sup>	3
EMS-642	Pharmacology for Paramedicine <sup>1</sup>	3
EMS-656	Clinical Introduction <sup>1</sup>	1
BIO-173	Human Anatomy and Physiology II	4
Select one of the following:		3
SPC-101	Fundamentals of Oral Communication <sup>3</sup>	
SPC-112	Public Speaking <sup>3</sup>	
SPC-122	Interpersonal Communication <sup>3</sup>	
COM-222	Communication for Health Care Professionals <sup>3</sup>	
PSY-111	Introduction to Psychology <sup>3</sup>	3
<b>Term Totals:</b>		<b>17</b>
<b>Term 3</b>		
EMS-643	Cardiorespiratory Paramedicine <sup>1</sup>	3
EMS-644	Paramedic Clinical I <sup>1</sup>	3
EMS-645	Paramedic I <sup>1</sup>	2.5
Select one of the following:		3
ENG-105	Composition I <sup>3</sup>	
ENG-108	Composition II: Technical Writing <sup>3</sup>	
ENG-120	College Writing <sup>3</sup>	
<b>Term Totals:</b>		<b>11.5</b>
<b>Term 4</b>		
EMS-646	Paramedic Clinical II <sup>1</sup>	4
EMS-647	Paramedic II <sup>1</sup>	3.5
EMS-648	Special Patient Populations in Emergency Medical Services <sup>1</sup>	4
EMS-649	Trauma and Environmental Emergencies <sup>1</sup>	4
BCA-189	Microcomputer Literacy <sup>3</sup>	1
<b>Term Totals:</b>		<b>16.5</b>
<b>Term 5</b>		
EMS-650	Medical and Psychological Emergencies <sup>1</sup>	4
EMS-651	Paramedic Fieldwork <sup>1</sup>	4

2 Paramedic, A.A.S.

EMS-653	Paramedic III <sup>1</sup>	1
Humanities or History/Culture Course ( <a href="https://creditcatalog.kirkwood.edu/aas-degree-humanities-requirement/">https://creditcatalog.kirkwood.edu/aas-degree-humanities-requirement/</a> ) <sup>3</sup>		3
EMS-657	Paramedic Clinical III <sup>1</sup>	3
<b>Term Totals:</b>		<b>15</b>
<b>Program Totals:</b>		<b>78</b>

\* Prerequisite courses must be taken before acceptance into the program.

<sup>1</sup> Minimum C- required to graduate

<sup>2</sup> Students are recommended to take EMS-255 Emergency Medical Technician I, EMS-350 Emergency Medical Technician II and EMS-365 Emergency Medical Technician II Clinical. EMS-300 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician may be taken instead.

<sup>3</sup> Courses may be taken before beginning the paramedic core curriculum portion of the program, with program directors permission.

Current paramedics may also complete the degree requirements, with credit awarded for previous EMS course work, if successfully completed prior to Summer 2016.