

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Program Description

The Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) – Basic represents the first component of the emergency medical technician system. An EMT – Basic is trained to care for patients in their home or at the scene of an accident and while transporting patients by ambulance to the hospital under medical direction. The EMT – Basic has the emergency skills to assess a patient's condition and manage respiratory, cardiac, and trauma emergencies. EMT coursework typically emphasizes emergency skills, such as patient assessment, managing respiratory, trauma, and cardiac emergencies. Formal courses are combined with skills practice and time in an emergency room and on an ambulance for a total of 195 contact hours. The program also provides instruction and practice in dealing with bleeding, fractures, airway obstruction, cardiac arrest, and emergency childbirth. Students learn how to use and maintain common emergency equipment, such as backboards, suction devices, splints, oxygen delivery systems, and stretchers. The program prepares the graduate to take the NREMT examination and become certified as an EMT. Career options include opportunities in hospital emergency rooms, fire departments, doctor offices, private ambulance services, and search and rescue.

The EMT-Paramedic represents the most advanced level of training of the emergency medical technician system. At this level, the caregiver receives advanced training in the use of procedures, medications and equipment to manage medical emergencies and traumatic injuries in patients of all ages. EMT-Paramedics (EMT-4) provide the most extensive pre-hospital care. Through performance of assessments and providing medical care, their goal is to prevent and reduce mortality and morbidity due to illness and injury. Paramedics primarily provide care to emergency patients in an out-of-hospital setting. The program prepares the graduate to take the NREMT examination and become certified as an EMT-Paramedic. Extensive related coursework and clinical and field experience is required. Students admitted to the program must have and maintain EMT certification throughout the EMT-Paramedic program. Admission to the Paramedic program is competitive. Admission into Colorado Mesa University does not guarantee acceptance into the Paramedic program, which requires a separate application process. Paramedics should be emotionally stable, have good dexterity, agility, and physical coordination, and be able to lift and carry heavy loads. EMT-Paramedics are employed by fire, police and rescue agencies, hospitals, private ambulance companies, flight for life, and in a variety of businesses and industries with a high potential for accidental injury or illness. Graduates from this course, whether the certificate program or the AAS degree program will graduate as street-ready paramedics.

Special Requirements

Students must earn a "C" or higher for all courses required for completion of the EMS programs. This policy applies regardless of when the course was taken.

Students must possess a current AHA-CPR card while in all EMS courses.

Contact Information

Office of Student Services
WCCC, Bishop B102
2508 Blichmann Avenue

970.255.2670

Associates

- EMT - Paramedic (AAS) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/emergency-medical-services/emt-paramedic-aas>)

Certificates

- EMT - Basic (Technical Certificate) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/emergency-medical-services/emt-basic-technical-certificate>)
- EMT - Paramedic (Technical Certificate) (<http://catalog.coloradomesa.edu/areas-study/emergency-medical-services/emt-paramedic-technical-certificate>)