



HEALTH CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, MATH & SCIENCE
Non-Specialized Admissions Program Information Guide
For
EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC
ENHANCED SKILLS CERTIFICATE OF COMPLETION (C3-EMCP)
2021-2022 Catalog

PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION

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PROGRAM MAP

Program Map provides additional information regarding salary projections, employment opportunities, licensure requirements and Educational milestones. WEB LINKS: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Catalog/program-map?programID=327>

This one semester classroom and clinical education program provides education and training for those paramedics who respond to specific emergency-based health needs in the community. The community paramedics program will prepare students for roles in outreach, wellness, health screening assessments, health teaching, providing immunizations, wound care, recognition of mental health issues, disease management, etc. Community paramedics function as physician extenders in providing care to patients, immigrants, impoverished families and patients with overall poor health.

Community paramedics assist with minor and chronic health problems in the patient's home, rather than routinely driving patients to a hospital emergency room, therefore, reducing readmissions and preventing unnecessary ambulance transports.

GENERAL CRITERIA

The following is required of all students enrolling in this Program:

- Student **must submit** all previous college/university official transcripts (transliteration of all foreign coursework required).
- Student must have a **High School Diploma or GED. Submit official transcripts to:**
 - El Paso Community College Admissions Office
 - P.O. Box 20500, El Paso, Texas 79998
- Student must:
 1. **Be approved to take credit academic courses by EPCC**
 2. If applicable must complete **TSIA 2 Assessment Tests**.
 3. **A grade of a "C" or better is required** for all academic and specialized courses listed under the degree plan.

- “Effective Fall 2011, and based on new federal regulations, students are not allowed to repeat previously passed courses more than once.” Students should meet with a counselor to determine how a repeat course (s) would impact his/her academic, prerequisite, specialized admissions or transferability of courses. It is the student’s responsibility to check with the Office of Student Financial Services to inquire how a repeat course (s) would impact their financial aid or veteran’s assistance.

PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

- Student may enroll in selected courses in **their last semester or prior to completion of an Associate of Applied Science Degree (AAS) in Emergency Medical Services-Paramedic or Nursing.**
- Non-Traditional Credit may be available. Students applying for entry under Non-Traditional Credit for any health program must meet Specialized Admissions and ranking.
- Upon completion of the requirements for graduation, the graduates are eligible for exam. Exam by: International Board for Specialty Certification (IBSC). Certified Flight Paramedic (FP-C) and Certified Critical Care Paramedic (CCP-C).

PROCESSING OF PRE-PROGRAM SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

Applicants for Non-Specialized Programs must meet Pre-Program Specific Requirements prior to enrollment in C3-EMCP (Community Paramedic Certificate). The following is required of all applicants:

- **Background Check-** Each student must complete a background check prior to enrolling in clinical courses. Background checks are required prior to acceptance into most health programs or courses. Students are responsible for the costs. Currently, the approved vendor for El Paso Community College is American Databank: <http://www.elpasoex.com/>. Only background checks from American Databank are accepted. **You will receive a letter from the Dean of Health Career and Technical Education, Math & Science division to inform you of the status of your background check. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas/health care facilities until cleared.**

***NOTE: If a student has not enrolled in a health-related program for one or more semesters, the student must redo the background check at his/her own expense, for further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator.

There are two Levels of background checks: **Level I** apply to all students, and includes: (1) Social Security Number Verification. (2) Criminal Search 7 years minimum or up to five criminal searches. (3) Violent Sexual Offender and Predator Registry Search. (4) Office of the Inspector General (OIG) list of Excluded Individuals/Entities. (5) GSA List of Parties Excluded from Federal Programs. (6) U.S. Treasury, Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC), List of Specially Designated Nationals (SDN), and (7) State Exclusion List.

Level II is for students already licensed or certified in any area. **Level II requires all of the Level 1 elements plus (1) License Verification, (2) Certification Verification, and (3) Employment Verification, including reason for separation and eligibility for re-hire.**

A positive criminal history will require proof of the official case disposition for clearance. Generally: Disqualifying criminal offenses include, but are not limited to any felony conviction within the last 10 years or two; or more misdemeanors in crimes against persons, or families, such as homicide, kidnapping, rape, sexual assault, assault, battery, aggravated robbery, theft. Any misdemeanor or felony conviction involving abuse, neglect, or exploitation against a child, vulnerable adult or disabled individual. Felonies or two misdemeanors involving manufacture, importation, delivery, or possession of controlled substances, including felony conviction of DWI or two misdemeanor DWI convictions. Deferred adjudication for any felony is also a disqualifying event for enrolling into any of the Health Programs.

Please note that many professional licensure or certification agencies may have additional requirements. You should reference the requirements for each agency.

***Highly recommended to have the Background Clearance, CPR, Required Immunizations and Titers, and Physical Examination completed before starting program.**

- **Substance Abuse Screening** will be required for each student enrolling in health career programs with clinical components. **Website:** <http://www.elpasoex.com/>. The student will be required to pay for any additional drug abuse screen test if it must be repeated for any reason
- ***NOTE: Students must re-take and pay for substance abuse test if test was taken **three months** prior to the first clinical education course, for further information, please ask a Health Counselor or call the Program Coordinator.

- **Immunizations and Titers –The following must be completed:**

• **POSITIVE TITER required for Hepatitis B vaccination series of three and Titer** (can take 4-6 months to complete) or Twinrix (Hepatitis A & B) series of four (4) shots: Days: #0, #7, #21, plus booster after 365 days or disease prior to **TITER**. The series have to be completed prior to starting clinical courses. Documentation of starting the series must be on file.

- Tuberculosis (TB) screening required annually. ****NOTE: It is highly recommended to complete any and all TB skin testing prior to receiving the MMR and/or Varicella vaccines. MMR or Varicella vaccines could cause a false negative TB skin test result.**
 1. **Individuals who previously tested negative, have never tested, or are not sure if previously tested.**
 - a. Initial 2 Step TB Skin Test (effective January 1, 2018, for all students/faculty new to health programs).
 - i. Initial TB skin test (TST) administered and read 48-72 hours later.
 - ii. If initial TB skin test is negative, the second TST must be administered no sooner than 7 days and no later than 21 days after administration of the initial TST.
 - iii. If initial TST is positive, DO NOT ADMINISTER the second TST. Individual needs Chest X-ray and annual TB Assessment/Clearance (or equivalent document) from Health Care Provider.
 2. **Individuals who previously tested negative, have never tested, or are not sure if previously tested.**
 - b. Initial 2 Step TB Skin Test (effective January 1, 2018, for all students/faculty new to health programs).
 - iv. Initial TB skin test (TST) administered and read 48-72 hours later.
 - v. If initial TB skin test is negative, the second TST must be administered no sooner than 7 days and no later than 21 days after administration of the initial TST.
 - vi. If initial TST is positive, DO NOT ADMINISTER the second TST. Individual needs Chest X-ray and annual TB Assessment/Clearance (or equivalent document) from Health Care Provider.
 3. **TB Skin Test Positive** (previously). Requires completed Annual TB Assessment/Clearance form.
 - **POSITIVE TITER required for each two doses - Measles, Mumps and Rubella Vaccinations (MMR) (completed) and Titer.**
 - **POSITIVE TITER required for each two doses - Varicella Vaccination and Titer (completed).**
 - **Tetanus/Diphtheria and Pertussis (TDAP) vaccine (completed, expires after 10 years).**
 - **Influenza vaccine is required (done annually).**
 - **Meningitis or Booster** – (Effective January 1, 2012, a Bacterial Meningitis Vaccination is required for all entering students under the age of 22. The term “entering students” includes new students to EPCC, transfer students, and returning students. Students must provide proof of an initial meningitis immunization or booster to the Admissions and Registration Department at any campus. The meningitis immunization must be administered at least 10 days before the start of the semester and must have been administered within the last five years).
- NOTE: If you have had the vaccination at an earlier date, you may start with a Titer, as the result will indicate if you need the vaccine. If you have not had the vaccination and after vaccination is applied, you must wait 4-6 weeks for immunity to show up on the TITER.** Visit Admission and Registration EPCC web page for additional information. **Website:** <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/immunization-law>

A tracking system, COMPLIO, will assist students and coordinators alike to be compliant with immunizations, CPR, First Aid, physical, etc. All students participating in health programs must be part of the American Databank in order to keep their clinical data in compliance and updated.

POST-ACCEPTANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students enrolling in Health Career Programs with clinical components must also meet Post-Program Specific Requirements prior to enrolling in Specified Clinical Courses. The following is required of all applicants:

- Must file a degree plan with the designated Health Counselor.
- **CPR** - American Heart Association (AHA) CPR/BLS (only Health Provider training accepted) card from AHA. Military Training Network (AHA recognized) cards will be accepted. Hybrid AHA courses with live skills demonstration will be accepted. CPR card must remain current throughout the course of the program (Certification may not be older than one (1) year).
- **Community Wide Orientation** - Conducted online: <https://www.epcc.edu/Admissions/Orientation/community-wide-orientation> (must be renewed every year).
- **Health Care Insurance** (evidence). Mandatory Healthcare insurance is required for students doing clinicals at healthcare facilities. (A list of approved contracted health insurance companies will be provided for distribution and purchase once available).
- **HIPAA Training** - Conducted online: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa> (must be renewed every year).
- <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/hipaa>
- **Professional Practice Insurance** is required for all clinical and selected laboratory courses. This fee is paid during the time of enrollment. Instructor may ask for proof of payment (your registration receipt) on the first day of class.
- **Current Physical Examination** completed by a Physician, Nurse Practitioner or Physician’s Assistant licensed in the United States (No older than one year). **Website:** <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/7.01.03.10.pdf#page=7>
- **Physical Technical Standards Form** (completed). <https://www.epcc.edu/Administration/InstitutionalEffectiveness/PoliciesandProcedures/FB-8.pdf>
- **Program Orientation.** “Admitted students will receive notification of Program Orientation following verified acceptance into the program.”
- **Specialized Equipment** in accordance with course syllabi students must purchase their own supplies. The program coordinator will provide

students with detailed information.

- **Uniforms:** In accordance with course syllabi, students must purchase their own uniforms. The program coordinator will provide students with detailed information.
- **Transportation:** Students are responsible for their own transportation to off-campus clinical/learning sites.

In order to complete the requirements for progression and graduation, students enrolled in this program must have a grade of "C" or better in all specialized courses. The term "specialized courses" refers to all courses carrying the prefix of the program in which the student is majoring or the prefix of another health-related discipline.

The Emergency Medical Services Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, (CAAHEP), 9355-113th St N, # 7709 Seminole, FL 33775, phone: (727) 210-2350, fax: (727) 210-2354, email: mail@caahep.org. Web: www.caahep.org. Upon recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of EMS Professions (CoAEMSP).

Emergency Medical Services program is approved by the Texas Department of State Health Services, Division of Emergency Management; 1100 West 49th. Street, Austin, TX 78756-3199, phone: (512) 776-7111, fax: (512) 834-6736, web: www.dsds.texas.gov Email: customer.service@dshs.texas.org.

COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC C3-EMCP CERTIFICATE PROGRAM COURSES

Check 2021-2022 El Paso Community College Catalog for Prerequisites

EMSP 1163 Clinical – Emergency Medical Technology/Technician (EMT Paramedic).
EMSP 1471 Community Paramedic
HPRS 1202 Wellness and Health Promotion
HPRS 2301 Pathophysiology Prerequisite: BIOL 2401 and BIOL 2402.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Program Begins-Every Semester.
- Maximum Students Admitted: **16 Students per scheduled section.**
- Online additional program-specific and career information: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health>
- Students who completed articulated or dual credit courses in health in high school should bring this to the attention of the counselor. College credit may still be available.
- EMS website: <https://www.epcc.edu/Academics/Health/ems>

OTHER INFORMATION

- CPR and First Aid Courses are available through the **EPCC Continuing Education Division**. Please see the current Continuing Education Course Schedule or call 915-831-4116 for more information.
- Our EPCC Rio Grande Border Health Clinic is located at the Rio Grande. Students can obtain their Immunizations, physical examinations, and other health care services if they so desire. Call Border Health Clinic at: 915- 831-4016 for nursing clinic appointments (immunizations and physical examinations). Call 915-831-4017 for appointments for the dental, medical sonography, or physical therapy clinics.

This document is to be used with EPCC College Catalog, which provides complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures. This is for informational purposes only and is not a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised September 2020 and is subject to change without prior notice.

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