

EMT/Pre-Paramedic

Certificate of Technical Studies

Program Director: Joel Henderson

Program Website (<http://www.gfcmsu.edu/webs/ems>)

Gainful Employment Programs Information (<http://www.gfcmsu.edu/webs/gepi/emtparamedics.html>)

Many of these courses are available online.

Becoming EMT Certified

Once students successfully complete ECP 131 and turn 18 years of age, they will be eligible and prepared to take the National Registry EMT examination. Upon successful completion of the NREMT exam, they will be certified as an EMT. Being certified as an EMT is one of the requirements for becoming a paramedic.

Eligibility to apply to the Paramedic AAS Program

Upon successful completion of the EMT/Pre-Paramedic Professional Certificate, students will meet the minimum requirements and be able to apply to the GFC MSU Paramedic Program (<http://catalog.gfcmsu.edu/academic-programs/paramedic>).

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor and Statistics (<http://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/emts-and-paramedics.htm#tab-4>), Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and paramedics care for the sick or injured in emergency medical settings. People's lives often depend on their quick reaction and competent care. EMTs and paramedics respond to emergency calls, performing medical services and transporting patients to medical facilities. Employment of EMTs and paramedics is projected to grow 23 percent from 2012 to 2022, much faster than the average for all occupations. Emergencies, such as car crashes, natural disasters, or acts of violence, will continue to create demand for EMTs and paramedics. Demand for part-time, volunteer EMTs and paramedics in rural areas and smaller metropolitan areas will also continue. Growth in the middle-aged and elderly population will lead to an increase in the number of age-related health emergencies, such as heart attacks or strokes. This, in turn, will create greater demand for EMTs and paramedic services. An increase in the number of specialized medical facilities will require more EMTs and paramedics to transfer patients with specific conditions to these facilities for treatment.

The median annual wage for EMTs and paramedics was \$31,020 in May 2012. The median wage is the wage at which half the workers in an occupation earned more than that amount and half earned less. The lowest 10 percent earned less than \$20,180, and the top 10 percent earned more than \$53,550. This entry-level wage stated above for EMT/paramedic combines both levels, but when separated out a paramedic annual entry-level wage is much higher. An EMT is an entry-level position, requires much less training (one semester), and many EMTs are volunteers. The paramedic position is the highest level of certification/licensure for a pre-hospital provider, requires much more training (AAS degree), and thus is paid higher than an EMT.

Most paid EMTs and paramedics work full time. About 1 in 3 worked more than 40 hours per week in 2012. Because EMTs and paramedics must be

available to work in emergencies, they may work overnight and on weekends. Some EMTs and paramedics work shifts in 12- or 24-hour increments. Volunteer EMTs and paramedics have variable work schedules.

Outcomes

Graduates are prepared to:

- Provide emotional support to patients in an emergency, especially patients who are in life-threatening situations or extreme mental distress.
- Work on teams and be able to coordinate their activities closely with others in stressful situations.
- Listen to patients to determine the extent of their injuries or illnesses.
- Be physically fit. Their job requires a lot of bending, lifting, and kneeling.
- Demonstrate strong problem-solving skills. They must be able to evaluate patients' symptoms and administer the appropriate treatments.
- Explain procedures to patients, give orders, and relay information to others, skills necessary to enter the medical workforce in clinics, hospitals, and other health care facilities. Students gain skills in basic computer, medical terminology, professional and career responsibilities, interpersonal communication, records management, written communications, financial administration, managing the office and employment.

Estimated Cost

Estimated Resident Program Cost*

Tuition and Fees	\$1,627
Application Fee	\$30
Lab/Course Fees	\$225
Ambulance Third Rider Fee	\$480
Books/Supplies	\$938
Total	\$3,301

* **Fall 2017 MUS Student Health Insurance Premiums will be changing. Please check the Health Insurance website (<http://students.gfcmsu.edu/insurance.html>) and/or Student Central for confirmed premium rates. Students will be charged an additional fee of \$21 per credit for online/hybrid courses.**

Program Requirements

Many students need preliminary math, science, and writing courses before enrolling in the program requirements. These courses may increase the total number of program credits.

Students should review their math and writing placement before planning out their full program schedules.

Course	Title	Credits	Grade/Sem
First Year			
Fall			
ECP 131	EMT with Clinical +	7	_____
M 121	College Algebra (or any math course in the MUS core) **,+	3	_____
WRIT 101	College Writing I **,+	3	_____
Select one of the following:			
AHMS 142	Intro to Medical Terminology +	1	_____
AHMS 144	Medical Terminology +	3	_____
Select one of the following:			
BIOH 104	Basic Human Biology & Lab **, +	4	_____
OR BOTH			
BIOH 201	Human Anat Phys I/Lab (= 301) **,+	4	_____
BIOH 211	Human Anat Phys II & Lab(=311) **,+	4	_____
Credits		18-24	
Total Credits		18-24	

* Indicates prerequisites needed.

** Placement in course(s) is determined by placement assessment.

+ A grade of C- or above is required for graduation.