

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Associate of Applied Science Degree: Emergency Medical Services

Certificates of Achievement:

- First Responder Prehospital
- EMT Basic
- EMT Intermediate

Certificate of Completion

- EMT Paramedic

Prehospital emergency medical care is a challenging and exciting profession. People's lives often depend on the quick reaction and competent care of emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics.

Emergency medical services (EMS) professionals may work at any of four different levels: First responder, EMT - basic, EMT - intermediate, and paramedic. Upon successful completion of training, students are eligible for employment in many types of emergency medical systems nationwide in fire departments, municipal services, private ambulance services, federal services, industry, hospital emergency departments, and hospital-based ambulance systems. The demand for EMS professionals is increasing.

DACC offers all levels of EMS education, as well as an opportunity to earn an associate of applied science degree at the paramedic level. Successful completion of an EMS program will allow for certification/licensure testing at the state and national level.

At each EMS program level, students gain additional knowledge and skills to enable them to function in the clinical and field settings with nurses, physicians, and other healthcare professionals. In classes, students learn about anatomy and physiology, the pathophysiology of diseases, traumatic injuries, pharmacology, and cardiac care. Students acquire skills through laboratory practice, clinical experience in hospitals, and field experience with ambulance services throughout the state. Students may be scheduled at a variety of clinical and field sites which include areas outside Las Cruces.

Program Accreditation

The Emergency Medical Services Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Profession (CoAEMSP).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

1361 Park Street
Clearwater, FL 33756
727-210-2350
www.caahep.org

Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Profession (CoAEMSP)

8301 Lakeview Parkway Suite 111-312
Rowlett, TX 75088

214-703-8445
FAX: 214-703-8992
www.coaemsp.org

In addition, the program is approved by the New Mexico Office of Health Emergency Management.

Required Skills and Abilities

All EMS programs require that the student be able to:

- lift, carry and balance up to 125 pounds (250 pounds with assistance)
- carry out emergency and non-emergency patient care, including, light extrication (i.e., be able to assume a variety of postural positions and be capable of physical maneuvers ranging from crawling, kneeling, squatting, twisting, turning, and bending, to climbing stairs and ladders)
- withstand varied environmental conditions such as extreme heat, cold, and moisture

Program Prerequisites and Entrance Requirements

Specific entrance requirements and prerequisites vary depending on the qualifications of the applicant and the level of training/licensure sought:

Time Limit on Courses for Certification

Although the DACC EMS program does not place a time limit on whether course credits will count for a recognized certificate, some state and/or other regulatory/certification agencies do require that courses be completed within a certain time frame. Students should consult with the licensing agency and/or EMS faculty to determine whether courses need to be repeated. Repeating courses may have an impact on financial aid.

EMT- Basic

- Passed approved background check and drug screening. **NOTE:** Students with a disqualifying conviction or positive result on their drug screen will not be permitted to continue in the clinical course and/or program based on the results of the criminal background or drug panel screening and may not be readmitted to the program.
- Documentation of vaccinations (may differ based on clinical sites):
 - MMR twice since 1980 or Rubella and Rubeola titers;
 - TB screening with expiration past end of semester;
 - Varicella immunity (titer or proof of vaccination accepted)
 - TDAP within 10 years
 - Hepatitis B series or titers or declination waiver
 - Flu shot if in season (October-March)
 - COVID vaccination
- Successful completion of EMSS 1153 Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology for the EMS Provider either as a Pre or Corequisite to be eligible to receive an EMT-Basic Certificate.
- EMSS 1153 Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology for the EMS Provider or approved Anatomy & Physiology Course
- Eligible for ENGL 1110G Composition I
- Eligible for CCDM 114 N Algebra Skills
- Student must be 18 years of age by the time the clinical course begins.

EMT– Intermediate

- Copy of current New Mexico State Emergency Technician–Basic license OR successful completion of EMT–Basic coursework and EMT–Basic license in hand by first day of class of EMT– Intermediate program
- Score of no less than 80 percent on departmental entrance exam
- Passed approved background check and drug screening. **NOTE:** Students with a disqualifying conviction or positive result on their drug screen will not be permitted to continue in the course and/or program based on the results of the criminal background or drug panel screening and may not be readmitted to the program.
- Documentation of vaccinations (may differ based on clinical sites):
 - MMR twice since 1980 or Rubella and Rubeola titers;
 - TB screening with expiration past end of semester;
 - Varicella immunity (titer or proof of vaccination accepted)
 - TDAP within 10 years
 - Hepatitis B series or titers or declination waiver
 - Flu shot if in season (October-March)
 - COVID vaccination

- COVID vaccination

To graduate with a certificate or an associate degree, students must earn a C or better in all EMSS courses, and achieve a cumulative grade-point average of at least 2.0.

EMT– Paramedic

Applicants will be judged according to the following criteria and submissions:

- Copy of current New Mexico EMT–Basic or EMT–Intermediate license
- Written and oral assessments at the EMT–Basic or EMT–Intermediate level, depending on current licensure
- Completion of the following courses:

Prefix	Title	Credits
EMSS 1153	Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology for the EMS Provider	3
EMSS 2245	Human Systems, Pathophysiology and Development	3
EMSS 2240	Introduction to Paramedic Practice	2
EMSS 2255	Emergency Pharmacology	2
EMSS 2255L	Emergency Pharmacology Laboratory	1

- Copy of current healthcare provider CPR card
- High school and/or college transcript(s) and GPA
- Accuplacer/ACT scores in English and math
- Completed departmental application, including résumé, and letter of intent
- Letters of recommendation
- Passed approved background check and drug screening. **NOTE:** Students with a disqualifying conviction or positive result on their drug screen will not be permitted to continue in the course and/or program based on the results of the criminal background or drug panel screening and may not be readmitted to the program.
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