

To New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program prospective Paramedic students:

Please read the following carefully. The below is a description of the Paramedic Profession and requirements to be successful in the profession. There is also information about the New Haven Sponsor Program, the requirements for successful completion and costs of the program. If you have questions please do not hesitate to communicate with us. By email we can be reached through www.sponsorhospital.org. You are welcome to view the student and program handbook and our facilities during business hours at 77-D Willow Street in New Haven, 06511. We look forward to meeting you.

History of the Paramedic Profession

In 1966, the National Academy of Science and the American Medical Association described an appalling picture of emergency care in the United States and gave critical attention to the topic of ambulances and ambulance attendants in their report entitled “Accidental Death and Disability: The Neglected Disease of Modern Society:”. There were not generally accepted standards for training or competence of ambulance personnel and specifications for ambulance transport vehicles. Further, the then popular Cadillac station wagon type ambulances were unsuitable for treating patients in transit. Indeed 50% of the country’s ambulance services were provided by 12,000 morticians. The hearse/funeral director also doubled as the ambulance/ambulance attendant.

The Emergency Medical Service (EMS) System Act, passed into law in 1973, required that EMS systems create training programs for both hospital and prehospital personnel in emergency care techniques and standards for emergency ambulance vehicles. The goal was to provide patients with the most appropriate care in the prehospital and hospital settings. With the implementation of the EMS System Act, a major national effort was put forth to improve emergency medical care.

In 1975, the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare defined the EMT-Paramedic as “persons trained for advanced life support services to include sophisticated trauma, cardiac and other critical care elements for intervention treatment, shock therapy and drug administration and cardiac rhythm detection control”. In 1977, the National Training Course for the EMT-Paramedic was established and its current edition is the national standard.

Yale-New Haven Hospital and the Hospital of Saint Raphael began educating paramedics in 1976 and have been responsible for the clinical training of over 1500 paramedics since that time.

Paramedics Today

Paramedics are licensed professionals who work with physicians who provide direct and indirect medical oversight for the care of patients in the pre-hospital environment. Paramedics work with indirect medical oversight (standing orders) in the form of Paramedic Protocols from their Medical Director and with direct medical oversight in the form of direct communications with emergency medicine physicians.

Paramedics function as the eyes, ears and hands of the physician by extending the physician’s practice to the prehospital arena. They need a good grasp of anatomy, physiology, pathophysiology and pharmacology as well as emergency medicine to ensure the safe delivery of patient care and transportation to the hospital for definitive care. To this end, the New Haven Sponsor Hospital Paramedic Program works to ensure the highest quality of education for these important members of the health care team.

The New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) system is a vital component of the care of many patients requiring hospital services. State of Connecticut legislation mandates that advanced level EMS providers work under the auspices of a “Sponsor Hospital”. In light of the legislation and to assure a high level of prehospital care to the Greater New Haven area, the Hospital of Saint Raphael and Yale-New Haven Hospital jointly operate a sponsor hospital program which combines the financial, clinical and managerial resources of both hospitals. The major goals of the hospitals in establishing the New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program are as follows: (1) to ensure standardization of prehospital care, (2) to offer the highest quality of training and continuing medical education for all professionals involved, and (3) to maintain a comprehensive system which will aid prehospital personnel in providing high quality professional patient care services.

The New Haven Sponsor Hospital Paramedic Program

The New Haven Sponsor Hospital Paramedic Program is a State of Connecticut approved educational program and is based on the 1999 National Standard Curriculum for Paramedic Training and the 2009 National Educational Standards Document. The course hours consist of a minimum of 740 hours of didactic and lab, 500 hours for hospital clinical rotations and 200 hours field internship. Clinical and field rotations are based on objectives accomplished not only contact hours. In addition there are written assignments and homework. NSHP offers the Paramedic program with two start dates and meeting times per year. The classroom and laboratory portion for the program meets for one year. The student is then allowed a second full year to complete clinical and field internship experiences.

- The **evening** program meets Mondays and Wednesday evenings from 1800 hrs to 2200 hrs and Saturdays from 0800 hrs to 1700 hrs; starting in January. The evening program also meets Thursday evenings for the first 8 weeks.
- The **day** program begins in September. The classroom and laboratory sections for the day program meet Tuesday and Thursdays 0800 hrs to 1700 hrs. The day program also has meetings on Wednesdays until noon for the first 8 weeks.

Both programs are taught by various instructors chosen for their knowledge, experience and teaching abilities. Faculty for the Paramedic Program is made up of physicians, physician assistants, nurses, paramedics and other allied health professionals based on their subject matter expertise. These instructors are from Yale-New Haven Hospital, The Hospital of Saint Raphael, Yale University School of Medicine and EMS providers from throughout the region, the state and the country. Upon completion of the Paramedic Program, the students are well prepared for the National Registry Paramedic examination, which must be passed in order to receive a State of Connecticut License.

New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program promotes the realization of equal opportunity through the adoption of specific practices designed to ensure that opportunity is equally available without discrimination on the basis of race/ethnicity, gender, age, sexual orientation or personal beliefs.

The entire student handbook with program policies and procedures are available for review; along with the opportunity to view our facilities, at our offices located at 77-D Willow Street New Haven CT by appointment.

FUNCTIONAL JOB ANALYSIS

Paramedic Characteristics

The Paramedic must be a confident leader who can accept the challenge and high degree of responsibility entailed in the position. The Paramedic must have excellent judgment and be able to prioritize decisions and act quickly in the best interest of the patient, must be self-disciplined, able to develop patient rapport, interview hostile patients, maintain safe distance, and recognize and utilize communications unique to diverse multicultural groups and ages within those groups. Must be able to function independently at an optimum level in a non-structured environment that is constantly changing.

It is the Paramedic who is held responsible for safe and therapeutic administration of drugs including narcotics. Therefore, the Paramedic must not only be knowledgeable about medications but must be able to apply this knowledge in a practical sense. Knowledge and practical application of medications include thoroughly knowing and understanding the general properties of all types of drugs including analgesics, anesthetics, anti-anxiety drugs, sedatives and hypnotics, anti-convulsants, central nervous stimulants, psychotherapeutics which include antidepressants, and other anti-psychotics, anticholinergics, cholinergics, muscle relaxants, anti-dysrhythmics, anti-hypertensives, anticoagulants, diuretics, bronchodilators, ophthalmics, pituitary drugs, gastrointestinal drugs, hormones, antibiotics, antifungals, anti-inflammatory, serums, vaccines, anti-parasitics, and others.

The Paramedic is personally responsible, legally, ethically, and morally for each drug administered, for using correct precautions and techniques, observing and documenting the effects of the drugs administered, keeping one's own pharmacological knowledge-base current as to the changes and trends in administration and use, keeping abreast of all contraindications to administration of specific drugs to patients based on their constitutional make-up, and using drug reference literature.

The responsibility of the Paramedic includes obtaining a comprehensive drug history from the patient that includes names of drugs, strength, daily usage and dosage. The Paramedic must take into consideration that many factors, in relation to the history given, can affect the type medication to be given. For example, some patients may be taking several medications prescribed by several different doctors and some may lose track of what they have or have not taken. Some may be using non-prescription/over the counter drugs. Awareness of drug reactions and the synergistic effects of drugs combined with other medicines and in some instances, food is imperative. The Paramedic must also take into consideration the possible risks of medication administered to a pregnant mother and the fetus, keeping in mind that drugs may cross the placenta.

The Paramedic must be cognizant of the impact of medications on pediatric patients based on size and weight, special concerns related to newborns, geriatric patients and the physiological effects of aging such as the way skin can tear in the geriatric population with relatively little or no pressure. There must be an awareness of the high abuse potential of controlled substances and the potential for addiction; therefore, the Paramedic must be thorough in report writing and able to justify why a particular narcotic was used and why a particular amount was given. The ability to measure and remeasure drip rates for controlled substances/medications is essential. Once medication is stopped or not used, the Paramedic must send back unused portions to the proper inventory area.

The Paramedic must be able to apply basic principles of mathematics to the calculation of problems associated with medication dosages, perform conversion problems, differentiate temperature reading between centigrade and Fahrenheit scales, be able to use proper advanced life support equipment and supplies (i.e. proper size of intravenous needles) based upon a patient's age and condition of veins, and be able to locate sites for obtaining blood samples and perform these tasks, administer medication intravenously, administer medications by gastric tube, administer oral medications, administer rectal medications, and comply with universal precautions and body substance isolation, disposing of contaminated items and equipment properly.

The Paramedic must be able to apply knowledge and skills to assist overdosed patients through the use of antidotes, and have knowledge of poisons and be able to administer treatment. The Paramedic must be knowledgeable as to the stages drugs and medications go through once they have entered the patient's system and be cognizant that route of administration is critical in relation to patient's needs and the effect that occurs.

The Paramedic must also be capable of providing advanced life support emergency medical services to patients including conducting of and interpreting electrocardiograms (EKGs), electrical interventions to support the cardiac functions, performing advanced endotracheal intubations in airway management and relief of pneumothorax and administering of appropriate intravenous fluids and drugs under direction of off-site designated physician.

The Paramedic is a person who must not only remain calm while working in difficult and stressful circumstances, but must be capable of staying focused while assuming the leadership role inherent in carrying out the functions of the position. Good judgment along with advanced knowledge and technical skills are essential in directing other team members to assist as needed. The Paramedic must be able to provide top quality care, concurrently handle high levels of stress, and be willing to take on the personal responsibility required of the position. This includes not only all legal ramifications for precise documentation, but also the responsibility for using the knowledge and skills acquired in real life threatening emergency situations.

The Paramedic must be able to deal with adverse and often dangerous situations which include responding to calls in districts known to have high crime and mortality rates. Self-confidence is critical, as is a desire to work with people, solid emotional stability, a tolerance for high stress, and the ability to meet the physical, intellectual, and cognitive requirements demanded by this position.

Physical Demands

Aptitudes required for work of this nature are good physical stamina, endurance, and body condition that would not be adversely affected by frequently having to walk, stand, lift, carry, and balance at times, in excess of 125 pounds. Motor coordination is necessary over uneven terrain. The patient's, the Paramedic's and other workers' well being must not be jeopardized.

Comments

The Paramedic provides the most extensive pre-hospital care and may work in a variety of settings, including fire departments, private ambulance services, police departments or hospitals. Response times for nature of work are dependent upon nature of call. For example, a Paramedic working for a private ambulance service that transports the elderly from nursing homes to routine medical appointments and checkups may endure somewhat less stressful circumstances than the Paramedic who works primarily with 911 calls in districts known to have high crime rates. Thus, the particular stresses inherent in the role of the Paramedic can vary, depending on place and type of employment.

However, in general, in the analyst's opinion, the Paramedic must be flexible to meet the demands of the ever-changing emergency scene. When emergencies exist, the situation can be complex and care of the patient must be started immediately. In essence, the Paramedic in the EMS system uses advanced training and equipment to extend emergency physician services to the ambulance.

The Paramedic must be able to make accurate independent judgments while following oral directives. The ability to perform duties in a timely manner is essential, as it could mean the difference between life and death for the patient.

Use of the telephone or radio dispatch for coordination of prompt emergency services is required, as is a pager, depending on place of employment. Accurately discerning street names through map reading, and correctly distinguishing house numbers or business addresses are essential to task completion in the most expedient

manner. Concisely and accurately describing orally to dispatcher and other concerned staff, one's impression of patient's condition, is critical as the Paramedic works in emergency conditions where there may not be time for deliberation. The Paramedic must also be able to accurately report orally and in writing, all relevant patient data. At times, reporting may require a detailed narrative on extenuating circumstances or conditions that go beyond what is required on a prescribed form. In some instances, the Paramedic must enter data on a computer from a laptop in the ambulance. Verbal skills and reasoning skills are used extensively.

-Adapted from "1999 DOT Paramedic Curriculum, Appendix C"

DESCRIPTION OF TASKS

(Encompasses the range of all tasks performed by lower level EMT's)

1. Answers verbally to telephone or radio emergency calls from dispatcher to provide advanced efficient and immediate emergency medical care to critically ill and injured persons using a full range of equipment.
2. Drives ambulance to scene of emergency, reads map, responds safely and quickly to the address or location as directed by radio dispatcher, observes traffic ordinances and regulations. Visually inspects and assesses or "sizes up" the scene upon arrival to determine if scene is safe, determines the mechanism of illness or injury, the total number of patients involved, and remains calm and confident while demonstrating leadership and responsibility.
3. Radios dispatcher for additional help or special rescue and / or utility services. Reports verbally to the responding EMS unit or communications center as to the nature and extent of injuries and the number of patients. Recognizes hazards. Conducts triage, sorting out and classifying priorities for most immediate need for treatment. Uses excellent judgment to identify priorities based on the most critical needs for patient survival.
4. Searches for medical identification as a clue in providing emergency care, i.e. identification bracelet for patient who is diabetic. Reassures patient and bystanders while working in a confident and efficient manner, avoids misunderstandings and undue haste while working expeditiously to accomplish the task. Extricates patient from entrapment, works with other EMS providers in rendering emergency care and protection to the entrapped patient. Performs emergency moves, assists other EMS providers in the use of prescribed techniques and appliances for safe removal of the patient.
5. Determines nature and extent of illness or injury in patient, takes pulse, blood pressure, and temperature, visually observes patient, recognizes the mechanism of injury, takes, comprehensive medical history of patient, including patient's current usage of prescribed and non-prescribed medications/drugs. Communicates with and provides verbal direction to Basic EMT to assist with tasks within the Basic's scope of practice. Obtains consent and/or refusal. Uses good judgment to draw conclusions with often limited information; verbally communicates effectively to provide quality treatment to diverse age and cultural groups. Provides family support, manages the difficult patient, conducts fundamental mental status assessment, restrains patient, and intervenes pharmacologically.
6. Positions unresponsive patient, protects the seizing patient, identifies and treats the hypoglycemic patient, provides heating/cooling intervention, manages burns and exposures, overdoses, conducts ingestion management. Manually stabilizes neck and body of child and adult, immobilizes extremities, straightens selected fractures and reduces selected dislocations. Delivers newborn. Provides pre-hospital emergency care of simple and multiple system trauma such as controlling hemorrhage,

bandaging wounds, manually stabilizing painful, swollen joints and injured extremities, and immobilizing spine.

7. Uses basic and advanced life support equipment to open airway and upper airway adjuncts, removes foreign bodies, uses upper airway suction devices, performs orotracheal intubation, nasotracheal intubation, oral intubation with pharmacological assistance and surgery on airway. Uses dual or single lumen airway devices. Provides mouth to mouth barrier device ventilation, oxygen administration, chest injury management, bag-valve mask resuscitation. Uses powered ventilation devices, hand held aerosol nebulizer. Performs cardio-pulmonary resuscitation, uses automatic defibrillator apparatus in application of electric shock to heart, manages amputation, uses anti-shock garment, conducts peripheral venous access, intraosseous infusion, manual defibrillation, interprets EKGs, uses external pacemaker.
8. Administers medication (narcotics), determines the patient's most appropriate body route based on patient diagnosis. Calculates amount of medication to be given in relation to patient's weight, age and other factors that warrant adjustment of volume. Uses oral, auto-injection, sublingual, inhalation, subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraosseous, transcutaneous, rectal, endotracheal, and intravenous routes including central and peripheral lines and venesection as well as infusion pumps to administer medications.
9. Assists other EMS providers in lifting patient onto stretcher, places patient in ambulance, secures stretcher. Continues to monitor patient enroute to the hospital.
10. Checks, maintains vehicles, and provides mechanical report. Restocks and replaces used supplies, uses appropriate disinfecting procedures to clean equipment, checks all equipment to insure adequate working condition for next response. Takes inventory of and accounts for all medications (narcotics) given. Keeps log of all transactions. Prepares accurate and legible medical reports. Provides medical reports to staff.
11. Transports non-emergency patients to regularly scheduled appointments, for example, transport geriatric patients in nursing homes. Uses computer to enter data for EMS reports.
12. Supervises the activities and educational experiences of assigned observers and students. Complies with regulations in handling the deceased.
13. Functions as the primary direct care provider of emergency health care services to sick and injured patients in pre-hospital settings. Works primarily in advanced life support units affiliated with fire departments, police departments, rescue squads, hospitals, or private ambulance services under the off-site supervision of a physician, usually through radio communication, is usually the senior level member of a two person team, working in conjunction with a Basic EMT.
14. Accepts primary responsibility for all aspects of advanced life support given to the patient, including use of advanced life support equipment and administration of medication that includes narcotics; responsible for thorough written documentation of all activity related to patient care and medication dispensation. Successfully completes continuing education and refresher courses required by employers, medical direction, and licensing or certifying agencies. Meets qualifications within the functional job analysis.

PROGRAM TECHNICAL STANDARDS

As a student in the New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program Paramedic Program, you should be aware that certain physical and mental abilities will be needed to successfully complete portions of your classroom and clinical requirements. The following technical standards describe the physical and mental abilities necessary to complete the Paramedic program and to practice as a paramedic in the field. **These are NOT standards for admission.**

A Paramedic must possess the physical capability, mental capacity and sufficient strength and motor coordination required to perform the following:

1. Lift and carry a minimum of 125 lbs (250 with assistance) for the purpose of frequently lifting patients and stretchers.
2. Demonstrate manual dexterity, good motor skills, eye-hand coordination skills, and sensory functions using both upper and lower extremities. You must be able to perform these skills in confined spaces as well.
3. See and hear in a manner sufficient to respond to emergencies and assess patients while working alone.
4. Drive an ambulance or rescue unit under emergency conditions, as well as at night and in adverse weather conditions.
5. Stand and walk for sustained periods of time.
6. Write and orally communicate skills promptly and effectively.
7. Express or exchange ideas and interact with patients, peers, and other medical staff in person, or via portable radio.
8. Work with frequent interruptions and respond appropriately to unexpected situations. Work with wide variations in work load and stress levels.
9. Cope with personal stresses (e.g. mood changes, loss of concentration) in a way that does not interfere with performance.
10. Demonstrate appropriate judgment and decision-making skills under stressful situations.

In summary, the general environmental conditions in which the Paramedic works cannot be adequately assessed in an indoor evaluative environment. Because of the variance in climate, environmental conditions and locations in the United States and the infinite possibilities in which a Paramedic is expected to provide advanced life support, working conditions, at best, may be less than optimal. The Paramedic must be able to focus on providing the best care possible in often adverse and dangerous situations. This can include servicing neighborhoods known to have high crime rates and performing optimally in situations where multiple incidents and trauma exist, i.e. a major highway accident that involves numerous persons and vehicles. The Paramedic may be required frequently to walk, climb, crawl, bend, push, or lift and balance over less than ideal terrain, such as an icy highway, muddy ground, dilapidated stairs/flooring, and any other scenario or combination of

scenarios. There may be exposure to a variety of noise levels, which at times can be quite high, particularly when multiple sirens are sounding, and crowds/bystander/s families are upset and may be screaming, crying hysterically, and making demands that may or may not be reasonable.

-1996 Draft DOT Paramedic Curriculum

Applicants who feel they may be deficient in one or more of the areas mentioned above should speak with the Director. We will seriously consider applicants who are deficient in any of these areas providing the deficiency can be remedied or reasonably accommodated.

When the New Haven Sponsor Hospital Program faculty and the Medical Director of the Paramedic Program recommend a student for licensing or certification examinations, the faculty is verifying that the student has met all of the requirements of the school and can safely perform at the level of EMT-Paramedic.

Most states and the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians have regulations prohibiting certification, Registration or Licensure of those convicted of certain legal infractions. Please check with those agencies if this may apply to you.

The New Haven Sponsor Hospital Paramedic Education Program

Program Description

Preparatory Skill Labs: A series of skill laboratories are conducted by the faculty to prepare the students to enter clinical rotations and the field internship with a solid foundation. Skills must be demonstrated individually by the student to an instructor. Labs include: Advanced Airway Management, IV Access, Medication Administration, Medical & Trauma Patient Assessment, Static, and Dynamic Cardiology.

Anatomy and Physiology: An in-depth study of the structure and function of the human body is taught by faculty of the Yale University School of Medicines' Anatomy Department and NHSHP. This section includes lecture presentations and supervised cadaver labs.

Didactic Presentations: Topic areas follow the 1999 National Standard Curriculum for Paramedic Training and 2009 National Educational Guidelines and include: Patient Assessment, Pharmacology, Shock and Fluid Therapy, Respiratory Emergencies, Cardiovascular Emergencies, Central Nervous system Emergencies, Medical Emergencies, Behavioral Crisis management, Stress Recognition and Management, Pediatrics, Neonatal care, Geriatrics, Endocrine Disturbances, Trauma, Burns, Triage and Mass Casualty Scene management, Incident Command, EMS/Public Safety Communications, and Professional Issues.

- Classes for the **Day** Program will be held on Tuesday, Wednesday (0800 to 1200 hrs for first 8 weeks) and Thursdays from 0800 hrs to 1700 hrs. Day class didactic section begins September.
- Classes for the **Evening** Program will be held on Monday, Wednesday and Thursdays (for first 8 weeks) from 1800 hrs to 2200 hrs and Saturdays from 0800 hrs to 1700 hrs. Evening class didactic section begins in January.

Standard Certification: The program includes provider level certification in:

Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)

Pediatric Education Prehospital Professional (PEPP)
Pre-hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS)
Basic Life Support (HCP CPR)
Advanced Medical Life Support (AMLS)
NIMS ICS 100, 200, 700, 800

Clinical Rotations:

The Hospital of Saint Raphael, Yale-New Haven Hospital, Yale- Shoreline Medical Center, West Haven Veterans Hospital, MidState Medical Center, and Griffin Hospital provide the clinical rotations, which are designed to meet National Standard Curriculum guidelines.

All clinical hours are in addition to the scheduled classroom hours and are individually scheduled. Day, evening, and night hours will be available for clinical rotations. Students are expected to attend a minimum of eight hours of clinical per week in addition to the scheduled class time after the first ten weeks of the program. Clinical completion is based on objectives accomplished not simply contact hours.

To broaden the student's knowledge of the overall EMS system operations, rotations of the South Central Connecticut Regional Communications Center and CT state poison control center will be required.

Field Internships:

After completion of all other requirements the Field Internship will serve as a capstone, students will rotate through various NHSHP sponsored paramedic level provider services. The Paramedic Field Instructors (PFI), which are chosen from the ranks of the NHSHP sponsored EMS providers through a competitive selection process that recognizes the most competent and motivated paramedic professionals, provides all field education. Since the Field Internship is part of the education process, it is important that the Program provide proper supervision for the students. Students are assigned one-on-one to ride with a PFI. The PFI's are all highly knowledgeable and motivated EMS providers and educators that take a personal interest in the quality of education that the student receives.

The Field Preceptorship will be a 200 hour minimum experience with an assigned PFI as an introduction to Paramedicine and your evolving role. During the 200 hour Field Internship, you will be guided to the Team Leader Role assuming responsibility for all aspects and patient care and scene management on a minimum of 65 Advanced Life Support responses.

FISDAP:

Students are required to have internet access to access the FISDAP system, which is used for tracking clinical and field rotations as well as scheduling. While a lap top is strongly recommended, it is not required. Computer and WiFi access is available at our campus.

Course Tuition and Costs:

\$5,500.00, plus textbooks. Textbooks include Paramedic Text, Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pediatric Advanced Life Support, Pediatric Education for Pre-Hospital Providers, Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support, Pharmacology, ECG's, Maternal Care, and Anatomy of Physiology. It is recommended that student do not acquire any texts until [Estimated cost of textbooks \$966] Most texts are available in electronic format.

Students are responsible for any other associated fees, including travel to clinical experiences and parking.

Uniforms for clinical and field internship experience cost approximately \$150.00 and are not included in tuition.

National Registry testing fees are not included.

A deposit of \$1,000.00 is required at time of acceptance.

Students are responsible for all costs associated with National Registry testing and State of Connecticut Licensing.

Program Completion: Students are allowed a maximum of two year to complete all program requirements. The didactic and laboratory portion take one full year to complete. Many students finish the entire program in eighteen months or less.

Student Handbook: The student handbook is available at our offices at 77-D Willow Street New Haven, CT. during business hours for examination.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact us directly.

Requirements for Entrance to the Paramedic Education Program

It is the applicant's responsibility to be sure all items are completed.

1. Currently certified EMT. *A minimum of 100 patient care experiences as an EMT is preferred.* If the applicant does not have experience with active EMS service or has less than 100 patient care experiences, the applicant may still be accepted but an EMT level field experience will be arranged by the program. Active service is defined as fifteen (15) or more emergency calls a month. Related health care experience may be considered.
2. Eighteen (18) years of age or older by the first day of class.
3. High School diploma, with copies of transcripts or college transcripts or equivalent.
4. Valid driver's license
5. A complete physical examination within one year of this application. A report of the examination verifying good physical health and addressing the capacity to perform EMS functions must be provided. This needs to be submitted before you are eligible to do required clinical and field internship experiences.
6. Applicant must not have a substance abuse problem or use illegal or illicit substances.
7. Complete application form and submit with attachments as noted.
8. Submit written reference in a sealed envelope from the following individuals who may be contacted as references
 - a. Your EMS Service Chief who will attest to your BLS experience
 - b. An Emergency Department Physician or P.A. or Nurse to whom you have brought patients and can attest to your patient care
 - c. A peer EMS provider you have worked with in the field

Selection for the Paramedic Program is based on the following:

1. The written screening exam.
2. EMS experience
3. Review of school transcripts/GED scores (these should be provided when returning the completed application)
4. Review of references.
5. Results of an oral interview and review of the essay.