

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) clinicians are unique health care professionals in that they provide medical care in many environments, locations, and situations. Much of this care occurs in out-of-hospital settings with little onsite supervision. Physician medical directors provide medical oversight to ensure and maintain safe EMS practices. This is occasionally performed in-person by medical directors in the field or through electronic communications, but more commonly is accomplished through protocol development and quality improvement based on evidence-based treatment standards and resources such as this Practice Model. EMS personnel are not independent clinicians but are expected to execute many treatment modalities based on their assessments and protocols in challenging situations. They must be able to exercise considerable judgment, problem-solving, and decision-making skills.

In the vast majority of communities, residents call for EMS by dialing 9-1-1 when they need emergency medical care, and the appropriate resources are dispatched. EMS personnel respond and provide care to the patient in the setting in which the patient became ill or injured, including the home, field, recreational, work, and industrial settings. Many of these are in high-risk situations, such as on highways and freeways, violent scenarios, and other unique settings.

Many EMS personnel provide medical transportation services for patients requiring medical care while en route to or between medical facilities, in both ground and air ambulance entities. These transport situations may originate from emergency scenes or may be scheduled transports moving patients from one licensed facility to another. The complexity of care delivered by EMS personnel can range from very basic skills to exceptionally complex monitoring and interventions for very high acuity patients.

Medical care at mass gatherings (e.g., concerts or sporting events) and high-risk activities (e.g., fireground operations, or law enforcement tactical operations) are a growing expectation of EMS personnel. EMS personnel sometimes serve in an emergency response or primary care role combined with an occupational setting in remote areas (e.g., offshore oil rigs and wildland fires). EMS personnel also work in more traditional health care settings in hospitals, urgent care centers, doctor's offices and long-term care facilities. Finally, EMS personnel are involved in numerous community and public health initiatives, such as working with health care systems to provide non-emergent care and follow-up to certain patient populations as well as providing immunizations, illness and injury prevention programs, and other health initiatives.

EMS is a local function and organized in a variety of ways. These include agencies that are volunteer, career, or a combination; agencies that are operated by government, health care systems, or private entities; and agencies that are stand-alone EMS, fire-based or law enforcement-based. Common models are municipal government (fire-based or third service) or a contracted service with a private (profit or nonprofit) entity. Multiple levels of licensure exist for EMS personnel, each offering different levels of scopes of practice. EMS personnel provide medical care to those with emergent, urgent, and in some cases chronic medical needs. EMS is a component of the overall health care system and delivers care as part of a system intended to reduce the morbidity and mortality associated with illness and injury. EMS care is enhanced through the linking with other community health resources and integration within the health care system.

Transfer Information

Students planning to transfer need to consult with a counselor, prepare a Student Education Plan, and take advantage of the support services available in the University Transfer Center located in Fountain Hall, (805) 378-1536.

EMT M01 Emergency Medical Technician 6 Units

Formerly: HS M24

In-Class Hours: 105 lecture

Corequisites: EMT M01L

Advisories/Rec Prep: NS M19

Enrollment Limitations: Current CPR certification for health care provider (American Heart Association) or professional rescuer (American Red Cross).

Prepares students to render pre-hospital basic life support at the scene of an emergency, during transport of the sick and injured, or during inter-facility transfer. Introduces topics in the field of emergency care including anatomy, physiology, patient assessment, medical and traumatic emergencies and injuries.

Catalog Notes: Successful completion of this course and EMT M01L will prepare the student to take the National Registry of EMT (NREMT) Basic Exam (providing all other requirements are met); students are required to bring a current CPR card to the first day of class to remain enrolled in the class; due to clinical facility requirements, students must be 18 years old by the first day of class; evidence of current health insurance and clearance of health appraisal, background check, and drug screening is required prior to clinical rotations and for continued enrollment in the course.

Grade Modes: Letter Graded, Student Option- Letter/Credit, Pass/No Pass Grading

Degree Applicability: Applies to Associate Degree

AA/AS GE: 7

Transfer Credit: CSU

UC Credit Limitations: None

EMT M01L Emergency Medical Technician Lab 2 Units

Formerly: HS M24L

In-Class Hours: 105 laboratory

Corequisites: EMT M01

Advisories/Rec Prep: NS M19

Enrollment Limitations: Current CPR certification for health care provider (American Heart Association) or professional rescuer (American Red Cross).

Materials Fee: \$93.72

Prepares the student to render pre-hospital basic life support at the scene of an emergency, during transport of the sick, injured or during inter-facility transfer. Applies the theory of patient assessment and emergency care presented in skills lab setting in a mock casualty emergency situation. Provides skills training and clinical experience in an emergency room and/or on an emergency vehicle. Materials Fee: There is a materials fee for this course. The fee varies based on market value.

Catalog Notes: Successful completion of this course and EMT M01 will prepare the student to take the National Registry of EMT (NREMT) Basic Exam (providing all other state requirements are met); students are required to bring a current American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS Provider) CPR card to the first day of class to remain enrolled in the class; due to clinical facility requirements, students must be 18 years old by the first day of class; evidence of current health insurance and clearance of health appraisal, background check, and drug screening are required prior to clinical rotations and for continued enrollment in the course.

Grade Modes: Letter Graded, Student Option- Letter/Credit, Pass/No Pass Grading

Degree Applicability: Applies to Associate Degree

AA/AS GE: None

Transfer Credit: CSU

UC Credit Limitations: None

EMT M04 Emergency Medical Technician-Refresher 0.5 Units

Formerly: EMT M02

In-Class Hours: 24-26.25 laboratory

Enrollment Limitations: Must hold a current EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) certification and a current BLS (Basic Life Support) course completion card for the duration of the course. Healthcare provider = BLS course completion.

Updates the skills and knowledge of the emergency medical technician to meet State/National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) requirements for recertification. Reviews life support assessment, emergency interventions and the use of emergency equipment and supplies. Course Credit Limitation: Can be used only once toward AA/AS Degree.

Catalog Notes: Students may repeat this course if legally mandated.

Grade Modes: Pass/No Pass Grading

Degree Applicability: Applies to Associate Degree

AA/AS GE: None

Transfer Credit: CSU

UC Credit Limitations: None

EMT M05 Emergency Medical Responder 3 Units

In-Class Hours: 35 lecture, 52.5 laboratory

Covers immediate lifesaving care to critical patients. Provides basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide lifesaving interventions while awaiting additional Emergency Medical Services (EMS) response and to assist higher level personnel at the scene and during transport. Instills knowledge for Emergency Medical Responders (EMR) to function as part of a comprehensive EMS team under medical oversight, and utilizing basic interventions with minimal equipment. Prepares students in the fields of Professional and Volunteer Firefighters and Peace Officers.

Catalog Notes: Prepares students to take the National EMR Exam.

Grade Modes: Letter Graded, Credit by exam, license etc., Student Option- Letter/Credit

Degree Applicability: Applies to Associate Degree

AA/AS GE: None

Transfer Credit: CSU

UC Credit Limitations: None

- Emergency Medical Services, Associate in Science (<https://catalog.vcccd.edu/moorpark/programs-courses/emergency-medical-services/ems-as/>)
- Emergency Medical Technician, Certificate of Achievement (<https://catalog.vcccd.edu/moorpark/programs-courses/emergency-medical-services/emergency-medical-technician-coa/>)

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