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General Information & Instructions Emergency Medical Technician-Basic Program Applicants

EMT Characteristics

The EMT 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.. In many cases, they try to help stabilize a patient as the patient is being transported in a hospital. 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.

EMTs work alongside other professionals including paramedics, firefighters and police officers. In order to become an emergency medical technician, students must become certified. They are also required to renew their license regularly. EMTs are required to attend continuing education and refresher training programs as required by employers, medical direction, licensing or certifying agencies.

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.

Comments

An EMT 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 EMT in the EMS system uses advanced training and equipment to extend emergency physician services to the ambulance. The EMT 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.

In addition to successfully completing an emergency medical technician program and passing a series of exams before being able to practice, EMTs may also be required to take the following courses before practicing in the field:

- Driving Emergency Vehicles (EVOC)
- Basic EKG Recognition
- Clinical/Hospital Internship
- I.V. Starting Skills

Prerequisites Documentation & Information

1. All students in the EMS program are required to possess a current valid Healthcare Provider CPR card AND a current valid Florida Driver's License. This documentation must be carried by the student (on his/her person) throughout the course of the program. EMS faculty and clinical affiliates will routinely check for compliance of this rule. Any student who cannot produce the requested documents will be counseled and subject to program dismissal.
2. Any student enrolled in the EMS Program must meet health standards as determined by a current physical examination by a licensed physician. The physical examination must be current, which means within six months before the first day of starting the program. The physical examination must include proof of current immunizations. These immunizations must include completion of a two step tuberculin skin test (within the last six months) or evidence that applicant is free of pulmonary disease symptoms if the skin test is positive, a chest x-ray following a positive TB test, evidence of immunity from rubella, measles and chicken pox, and evidence of completion of the series of three Hepatitis B vaccinations. If a student declines a Hepatitis B vaccine, a declination must be signed for the student record.
3. Applicants for Florida certification must sign an affidavit indicating no dependency on drugs and/or alcohol. In addition, all EMS Program applicants must complete a drug test from a Florida certified diagnostic laboratory or licensed physician, one week prior to class start date.
4. All students enrolled in EMS Programs are expected to carry their own health and accident insurance. It is the intention of PMCC, Inc. and its clinical affiliates to provide a safe environment, however accidents do happen. In case of an accident, illness, or accidental exposure, it is the responsibility of each student to have personal insurance to cover the incident. PMCC, Inc. and/or its affiliates, take no responsibility for covering medical costs incurred by the student as a result of accident or illness during enrollment in PMCC, Inc. EMS Programs. Students must submit copies of proof of health insurance to the Student Services Coordinator.
5. Florida Law requires all health care workers, including students, to have completed criminal history background checks. All PMCC, Inc. students who participate in patient care activities will be required to successfully complete a criminal history background check prior to beginning clinical activities. In addition, all PMCC, Inc. applicants are required to complete the felony disclosure on the application. Be advised that a felony conviction may affect a graduate's eligibility to sit for certification, registration, or licensure examinations.