

The Paramedicine program is a two-year course of study leading to an **Associate of Applied Science (AAS)** degree.

Paramedicine

Pre-Health Certificate (EMT Track)

The Pre-Health Certificate program is designed to provide students with a broad set of knowledge and skills, allowing them to explore different health career opportunities and prepare them for immediate entry into Emergency Medical Technician field. The program is further designed to provide students with the background of courses required for entry into various health-oriented academic program career tracks, including Paramedicine. The program is flexible, allowing students to select between several course options in a way that allows each student to advance their career and/or academic goals.

Course #	Title	Credits
AHMS 144	Medical Terminology	3
BIOB 101NL	Discover Biology	
or		
BIOB 160NL	Principles of Living Systems	4
CHMY 105NL*	Exploration in Chemistry	
or		
CHMY 121NL*	Introduction to General Chemistry	4
ECP 130*	Emergency Medical Technician	5
HTH 101	Opportunities in the Health Professions	2
M 095*	Intermediate Algebra	4
	Total Credits	22

For more info:

Contact:
Karrie Bolivar
LRC 132
(406) 756-3880



at Flathead Valley Community College

What is Paramedicine?

Paramedicine is a career focusing on pre-hospital emergency medical care. A degree in this area will improve knowledge as well as marketability in a highly competitive field.

Upon completion, graduates will:

- ◆ Be eligible to sit for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT) written and practical examinations at the paramedic level.

Paramedicine Program Requirements First Year

Fall Semester

Course #	Title	Credits
AHMS 100*	Math Applications for Allied Health Professionals	3
AHMS 144	Medical Terminology	3
BIOH 104N	Basic Human Biology	3
BIOH 105L*	Basic Human Biology Laboratory	1
COMX 115C	Introduction to Interpersonal Communication	
or		
COMX 215	Negotiations/Conflict Resolution	3
ECP 200*	Transition to Paramedic Care	2
WRIT 101W*	College Writing I	3
	First Semester Total	18

Interim Session

Course#	Title	Credits
ECP 201*	Paramedic Fundamentals	3
ECP 202*	Paramedic Fundamentals Lab	1
	Interim Semester Total	4

Spring Semester

Course#	Title	Credits
ECP 204*	Medical Emergencies I	3
ECP 205*	Medical Emergencies I Lab	1
ECP 206*	EMS Case Studies	3
ECP 216*	Hospital Clinical I	5
	Second Semester Total	16

Second Year

Fall Semester

Course#	Title	Credits
ECP 230*	Trauma	3
ECP 231*	Trauma Lab	1
ECP 234*	Medical Emergencies II	2
ECP 235*	EMS Operations	3
ECP 236*	Medical II / EMS Operations Lab	1
ECP 246*	Hospital Clinical II	6
	First Semester Total	16

Spring Semester

Course#	Title	Credits
CAPP 131*	Basic MS Office	2
ECP 250*	NREMT Exam Preparation	2
ECP 251*	NREMT Exam Preparation Lab	2
ECP 295*	Clinical III: Field Experience	8
	Second Semester Total	14
	Total Credits	64

*Indicates prerequisite and/or corequisite needed. Check course description.

General Academic Requirements

- ◆ Paramedicine is a demanding program whose graduates maintain high academic and professional standards.
- ◆ Students in the paramedicine program must achieve a minimum of a C- or better grade in all non-core courses. Any grade of less than C- will require retaking the course.
- ◆ Any course in the ECP series will require a grade of B- or higher. Students must maintain an 80 percent grade average throughout the course of the core study to continue in the program.
- ◆ Students wishing to enroll in any ECP course, with the exception of ECP 130, must have submitted an application and received a letter of acceptance from the program director.

Additional Program Information

- ◆ Students enrolled in this program may participate in a Service Learning opportunity, which could qualify them to be eligible to receive an education award. For more information, contact the FVCC Service Learning/AmeriCorps Office at 756-3908.
- ◆ A field experience is required for this program.
- ◆ Internships are optional for this program. Internships are open to students who successfully complete this program and who are not on probation.

Admission Guidelines

Acceptance into the Paramedic core training courses are subject to the following conditions:

- ◆ Candidates must have a valid NREMT certification and be able to obtain Montana state EMT licensure prior to beginning ECP core courses in the paramedic program.¹
- ◆ Applications are available beginning April 1 and must be completed and returned no later than May 15 to be considered for fall admission. The priority application deadline is April 15.
- ◆ Placement in the paramedic core training is not guaranteed within two years.
- ◆ Each student enrolled in ECP courses must have a current personal health insurance policy.
- ◆ Each candidate must pass an entrance examination and screening process including an interview by members of the paramedic advisory committee.
- ◆ Candidates are subject to extensive background checks by the college, clinical sites, field internship sites, the National Registry of EMTs and the Montana Board of Medical Examiners.
- ◆ Compliance with all clinical and field internship site policies regarding Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) is mandatory.
- ◆ Due to a class size limitation of 12 students, acceptance into the paramedic core courses is based on an application process and is competitive. This may result in a student needing more than two years to complete their degree requirements. One year of related experience is encouraged prior to applying to this program.

¹ ECP 130* is offered all semesters.

Additional Costs

- ◆ There are lab fees associated with the classes in this program. They are listed for each course in the semester schedule.
- ◆ ECP 200* and ECP 206* are online courses, and additional fees apply.
- ◆ ECP 201*, ECP 204*, ECP 230*, ECP 234* and ECP 250* are hybrid courses and additional fees apply.
- ◆ Each student is responsible for the purchase of his/her apparel for the clinical/field portion of the program.
- ◆ Students in the paramedicine program must comply with Northwest Healthcare clinical policy agreement standards (which includes immunizations or appropriate lab work to ensure adequate protection from communicable diseases).

Opportunities After Graduation

- ◆ EMTs and Paramedics held about 210,700 jobs across the nation in 2008. Most career EMTs and paramedics work in metropolitan areas; however there also are job opportunities in smaller cities, towns and rural areas. EMTs and paramedics are employed in a number of industries, including emergency medical services agencies (EMS), local governments and hospitals. According to the U.S. Department of Labor, employment for EMTs and paramedics is expected to increase between 2008 and 2018, particularly in cities and private ambulance services.
- ◆ Starting salaries in large metropolitan areas begin at \$50,000-\$60,000 annually. National wages average between \$18 and \$20 per hour, and local wages start at \$15 per hour.

Program Accreditation

- ◆ The Paramedicine AAS 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 Professions.

**For
more
info:**

Kris Long, BAS, NREMT-P
406.756.3901
klong@fvcc.edu



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777 Grandview Drive • Kalispell, MT 59901
406.756.3822

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