

BRUNSWICK

COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Emergency Medical Science Program Information Sheet

Requirements for the Emergency Medical Science Program

1. EMS Program Approval

Students must first contact the EMS Program Director to discuss the EMS Program and ensure they meet the requirements before entering the EMS Program.

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2. Age Requirement

Students must be 18 or older before starting clinical/field rotations (this date is after the start of the semester; you do not need to be 18 to start the EMS Program), per contractual agreement with our clinical and field sites. The first day of EMS-110 (EMT) clinical rotations is typically around the 30% mark of class and will be noted on your class schedule.

3. First fall semester prerequisites for EMS-110:

- Students must have a reading comprehension at a minimum of the eleventh-grade level prior to starting the course. Students can meet this requirement by one of the following:
 - High School diploma or general education certificate, **AND** CASAS placement test taken within 12 months prior to the start of the fall semester with scores showing 11th-grade reading levels or,
 - Successful completion of ENG-111 or higher.
- EMS-110 requires four 12.25-hour shifts in the clinical setting. These shifts are primarily in the prehospital setting, on an EMS ambulance, but you may also be assigned one emergency department rotation. These shifts are in addition to the classroom and lab dates.

- Valid driver's license prior to the ambulance driving portion, which typically occurs after late November of the first fall semester. Ambulance driving occurs on a closed course and is required by NCOEMS.
- After completion of EMS-110 you will need to take the NCOEMS written exam and obtain your EMT credential before February 1 of the first spring semester. The NCOEMS state EMT exam is a computer-based multiple-choice question format and is offered through a local testing center. Once you have completed EMS-110 you will be able to sign up for the state exam through a third-party vendor.

4. First spring semester prerequisites for the Advanced Life Support level courses:

Students must meet college-level reading comprehension and math skills, which can be met by one of these two options, or a combination of these options:

OPTION 1 (completed within 12 months of the start of the first spring semester):

- RISE Tier 1 and 2 English placement test scores of 70 or higher **AND**
- RISE Tier 1 and 2 Math placement test score of 70 or higher

OR

OPTION 2:

- Successful completion of ENG-111 (or higher) within the past 5 years, **or** successful completion of ENG-002/BSP4002 Tier 2 or developmental English DRE-098 within the past 5 years **AND**
- Successful completion of *MAT-110 (or higher) within the past 5 years, **or** successful completion of MAT-003/BSP4003 Tier 1 or developmental Math DMA 10-30 within the past 5 years

**Note: MAT-110 is not offered at BCC but will be accepted if successfully completed at another institution and listed on an official college transcript.*

Study tools are available through **The Learning Center** webpage:

www.brunswickcc.edu/resources/coaching-tutoring/placement-assessment-testing/

5. Required Clinical Prerequisites and Health Requirements

- *Complio immunization tracker package with drug screening and background check: \$142.00. This is repeated after 12 months.
- *My Clinical Exchange (mCE): \$39.50
 - *Vendor prices are subject to change.

6. Criminal Background Check

This will be completed early on during EMS-110, with the student paying the third-party vendor directly for this service. This background check will need to be repeated within 12 months of the first one. If you have any felony charges or convictions, or any pending charges other than certain minor traffic violations, please contact the EMS Program Director to discuss and determine eligibility for clinical/field sites. If you are ineligible for clinical/field rotations, you will not be able to progress through the Program.

7. Urine Drug Screen

The first drug screen will be completed early on during EMS-110, with the student paying the third-party vendor directly for this service. If you fail the drug screen, you will not be able to progress through the Program because of clinical and field sites requirements. Please note that marijuana and its derivatives can stay in your system and show up on a drug screen for more than 45 days. This screening will need to be repeated within 12 months of the first one.

8. **Immunization records:** Our contracted clinical and field sites require proof of certain immunizations. Several of these are childhood immunizations, so begin gathering the paperwork. Some of your previous vaccination records may be found at your physician's office, through the county health department, or stored away at the home of your parent(s) or guardian(s). Please begin gathering these records now. If you cannot locate these records, you can have a simple blood test that checks for antibodies for many of these required items. Here is a current list of requirements, which are subject to change:

- Physical Health Clearance Form: https://brunswickcc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/Health-Requirements-June_2023.pdf
- Current Influenza (flu) Vaccination (required October - March).

- Two (2) Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccinations or positive antibody titer.
- History of Chicken Pox (documentation required) or Two (2) Varicella immunizations.
- Two-step TB skin test (PPD within the past year), chest x-ray, or TB Screening form. This is a two-step process, requiring two separate TB skin tests to be performed and read within 7-21 days of each other. TB screening is due every 12 months. Contact your physician or county health department to have this accomplished.
- Tetanus vaccination within the last 10 years (must remain current during the Program).
- Three (3) Hepatitis B vaccinations or a signed declination statement.
- As of June 2023, Novant Health suspended the Covid-19 vaccination requirement; therefore, you do not need that vaccine at this time.

9. Uniform

The required clinical and EMS field rotation attire includes black EMS-style pants, black boots and belt, a BCC EMS student polo shirt, and a student ID.

10. N95 Respirator Mask Fit-Testing

N95 respirators are masks that produce a seal while covering your nose and mouth. These are different from a general surgical mask. Facial hair cannot disrupt the seal of this mask. We also must follow our contracted agency's facial hair policies. Fit-testing will occur during class.

11. BLS/CPR Certification

AHA BLS/CPR is taught during EMS-110. Certification is valid for two years.

12. Mental Health and Wellness

Prehospital healthcare is a customer service industry profession. Pride and ownership for your profession while helping others in their time of need is very rewarding yet also stressful. With this in mind, maintaining a healthy balance related to your mental and physical health is extremely important. Find constructive and healthy hobbies that you enjoy, eat reasonably well, stay active, and always make some healthy time for you

EMS Courses

All EMS courses in North Carolina fall under the authority of the state agency NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NCOEMS). NCOEMS sets the educational requirements for all EMS programs in our state. Essentially, there are three separate NCOEMS courses embedded within our EMS Program; EMT (EMS-110) which is in the first fall semester, Advanced EMT (AEMT) which includes the first spring semester EMS classes, and Paramedic (all of the other EMS courses). Students must earn their state EMT credential prior to the start of the first spring semester.

Clinical and Field Rotations and other requirements for all semesters:

Each of the five semesters require a set minimum number of 12.25-hour shifts in emergency departments and on EMS ambulances. These requirements are the clinical and field rotation component, which occur outside of scheduled class dates. We contract with area hospitals and EMS agencies to meet these requirements and must follow their current standards and regulations, which can change without advance notice.

Functional Job Analysis/Characteristics and Expectations

The U.S Bureau of Labor and Statistics has occupational information on all levels of EMS providers. These list the common work environments and other job information, which can be found here: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/emts-and-paramedics.htm>