

## **Emergency Medical Science (EMS)**

### **Application and Requirements Deadline - September 15, 2020**

CVCC reserves the right to change curriculum and admission requirements without prior notice. It is a student's responsibility, whether enrolled at CVCC or elsewhere, to monitor program information for changes in curriculum/requirements on a semester by semester basis.

**Application to any healthcare program is complex and complicated. Applicants who begin the CVCC admission process weeks or months before the deadline give themselves time to resolve unexpected issues. Please do not wait until the deadline to start the process.**

This packet provides information to assist you with the admission and selection process for the Emergency Medical Science (EMS) program. Please carefully review all information provided in this packet. Additional information can be found on the CVCC EMS webpage. If you have questions regarding the program, please contact the EMS Program Director at 828-327-7000, ext. 4347 or at [ems@cvcc.edu](mailto:ems@cvcc.edu).

Catawba Valley Community College Emergency Medical Science Curriculum is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs ([www.caahep.org](http://www.caahep.org)) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions ([www.coaemsp.org](http://www.coaemsp.org)).

**What is a paramedic?** Paramedics are a valuable member of the healthcare team. Using their knowledge and skills, paramedics provide basic and advanced life support to seriously ill or injured patients. Paramedics are educated in the areas of advanced ECG interpretation, cardiac rhythm recognition, pharmacology, advanced airway management, pediatric emergencies, advanced trauma care and patient assessment.

**What employment opportunities are available?** Paramedics can work for emergency medical services (EMS) agencies, aeromedical services, specialty areas of the hospital, educational institutions and governmental agencies. Beginning salaries start around \$40,000 per year. The demand for paramedics continues to be strong.

**What is the class schedule/length for the EMS program?** Once students have completed Anatomy & Physiology I (BIO 168), Orientation to Health Careers (HSC 110) and EMT (EMS 110 (curriculum) or EMS 4200 (Continuing Education), students can complete the program in four (4) consecutive semesters **beginning in the Spring**. EMS classes are currently held primarily during the day. Ambulance and hospital clinicals have a varying schedule of daytime, evening, and weekend hours. Occasionally, there will be special classes which require weekend and evening hours. Students become eligible to apply for state and/or national certification at different times during their period of study. Eligibility for certification is dependent upon successful completion of class work and clinical objectives.

**How do I apply for the program?** Complete the [CVCC Online Application](#) for Admission under the "Apply Now" tab on the CVCC homepage with "EMS" as the intended major and visit with an admissions staff member in Student Services by the specified deadline. Applications are not activated until the student has visited with an Admissions Staff member. Admission to the program is based upon completion of all minimum requirements as listed on the attached Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) Checklist by the specified deadline date, the number of vacancies in the program and the competitive selection process. **Completion of the MAR is not a guarantee of acceptance.** CVCC does not use waiting lists for any health program.

**How much does the program cost?** College tuition is set by the North Carolina State Legislature and is subject to change. The current tuition, activity fees, insurance, and books for the EMS program will be approximately \$5,500 - \$6,500\*. EMS students will also have additional expenses for the program, which are shown on the enclosed cost sheet. \*This figure is an approximate cost only.

**How do I apply for Financial Aid?** All applicants are encouraged to apply for financial aid by completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid ([FAFSA.ed.gov](https://fafsa.ed.gov)). For information about financial aid, contact the [Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid](#) online, by email at [financial\\_aid@cvcc.edu](mailto:financial_aid@cvcc.edu) or by calling at 828-327-7000, ext. 4860.

**Do I need a computer?** Coursework requires ready access to a reliable computer with Word, PowerPoint, Excel and internet access. Upon application to CVCC, students are assigned a CVCC email address. It is the responsibility of the student to open his/her email account and read it frequently as the College provides crucial program information through this email account. **Check your CVCC email regularly, whether you are enrolled at CVCC or elsewhere. You will be notified of your accepted or non-accepted status via CVCC email.**

**Will I be required to complete a Criminal Background Check/Drug Screening?** Yes. Carefully read the information below regarding background checks, drug testing, and the result of a negative background check. Applicants may only use CastleBranch, a background screening and compliance management company, for background checks/drug screenings.

- Clinical facilities will require students to undergo criminal background checks and drug testing.
- The student will be required to pay fees associated with these screenings.
- Clinical facilities may refuse access to clinical experiences based on the criminal background checks and/or drug testing.
- If any clinical facility refuses to allow a student access to a clinical experience, the student will be **unable to continue in the program.**

**What if I have taken a EMT continuing education course somewhere other than CVCC?** Students who completed a continuing education EMT course at another institution may be required to prove competency. Contact the EMS Program Director for more information.

**I previously completed an EMT continuing education course at CVCC.**

Students who have successfully completed the EMT continuing education course at CVCC within one year of the EMS program application deadline are awarded credit for EMS 110 provided they have a copy of their credential for verification. Course completion of an EMT continuing education course is defined as the last day of the EMT course falling within 12 months of the EMS program application deadline.

**What if I have previous EMS coursework from another institution?** Currently, the CVCC EMS program does not accept transfer credit for any EMS prefix course except EMT.

**If I am an undocumented immigrant, how does that impact my application to this program?** Students who are not citizens of the United States pay out of state tuition in accordance with the State Board of Community Colleges (1D SBCCC 400.2(b)). In addition, federal law prohibits states from granting professional licenses to undocumented immigrants.

**What if I move my residence while applying for this program?** It is a student's responsibility to inform the college of changes in personal information regarding name, phone number and mailing address. To make changes to personal information, follow the instructions found in the FAQ section of Student Records on the MyCVCC Portal. Students may also visit Student Services to request the change.

**When and how will I be notified of acceptance to the program?** Applicants will be notified of acceptance to the program within 2 - 4 weeks of the deadline via an email to their CVCC email account. Applicants chosen as alternates or not accepted for the program will also be notified at that time. Students may apply to only one (1) healthcare program at a time. Should acceptance to that program be denied, the student may apply to another healthcare program whose application deadline has not yet occurred at CVCC. (CVCC Procedures 3.4)

**Who can I contact if I have additional questions?** For questions regarding the program contact the Director at (828) 327-7000 extension 4347 or [ems@cvcc.edu](mailto:ems@cvcc.edu). For questions regarding admission, contact Admissions at (828) 327-7000 extension 4216 or [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).

# Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) Explained

**Application to any healthcare program is complex and complicated. Applicants who begin the CVCC admission process weeks or months before the deadline give themselves time to resolve unexpected issues. Please do not wait until the deadline to start the process.**

To be considered for acceptance, all applicants must complete Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) by **September 15, 2020**. The following information explains each Minimum Admission Requirement in detail and provides hyperlinks to navigate to resources that may be helpful in fulfilling each requirement. Applicants are responsible for making sure all materials have been submitted to the College. Applicants should not wait for the deadline to submit items and are encouraged to submit items early.

**1. DO THIS STEP FIRST: Activate\* the [CVCC Application](#) with “EMS” as the intended major or visit Student Services with a photo ID to confirm your records have active status if you have been a previous student.**

\*Submitted applications are **activated** when a student brings a valid photo ID to the Student Services building and meets with an admissions staff member. No appointment is necessary to activate an Application or confirm an active enrollment status. Students **MUST** have an active EMS program status to be considered for the program.

To avoid disappointment, do not wait until the deadline date to start the Application process. Visit the [CVCC Admissions](#) webpage for hours of operation. [Directions and Campus Maps](#) are available on the CVCC webpage.

**2. Official, Sealed High School/High School Equivalency Transcript submitted and received before the deadline.**

Submit an *official* High School/High School Equivalency transcript in a sealed envelope issued from the school, electronically through a **3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor** to [transcripts@cvcc.edu](mailto:transcripts@cvcc.edu) or by postal mail. Plan accordingly to ensure transcripts arrive by the deadline. Information on how to request transcripts may be found at the [How to Request Official Transcripts](#) webpage.

**3. All Official, Sealed College Transcripts from all originating institutions, submitted and received before the deadline.**

Submit **ALL** *official* college transcripts from every college attended in a sealed envelope issued from the school, electronically through a 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor to [transcripts@cvcc.edu](mailto:transcripts@cvcc.edu) or by postal mail. Plan accordingly to ensure transcripts arrive by the deadline. Information on how to request transcripts may be found at the [How to Request Official Transcripts](#) webpage.

Applicants are encouraged, but not required at time of application, to bring official, sealed transcripts or unofficial transcripts. Plan accordingly as ALL official transcripts must be received by the deadline in order to be considered for the program.

**4. Demonstrate college readiness by appropriate developmental courses, college courses, SAT or ACT scores, college placement testing, Multiple Measures or RISE placement assignment.**

- College level English and math courses completed with a grade of “C” or higher; or
- SAT, ACT, Multiple Measures or NCDAP scores within 10 years.

**5. Attend required EMS Information Session.**

All applicants must attend an [EMS Information Session](#). Sign in sheets are provided at the Information Session and applicants do not need to make an appointment to attend any session.

**6. Completed, or currently completing, HSC 110 – Orientation to Health Careers.**

This course must have been completed with a grade of “C” or higher. Official transcript must be provided if HSC 110 was completed at another accredited college.

If applicant is currently taking HSC 110 at CVCC, he or she must be in good standing with a grade of “C” or higher and acceptance into the EMS program is conditional upon the successful completion of this course with a “C” or higher.

Students who are **not** enrolled in HSC 110 **at CVCC during the fall term** must provide evidence of enrollment in the course by submitting an unofficial transcript showing the course IN PROGRESS (IP) or a copy of the fall registration statement or fall schedule by the published MAR deadline date. An official transcript must be submitted showing a grade of “C” or better in the course. Documentation should be submitted to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).

**7. Completed, or currently completing, EMS 110 (curriculum) or EMT (continuing education) requirement.**

Applicants must complete **EMS 110** (curriculum) with a minimum grade of “B” and have current EMT Certification. If applicant is currently completing the **EMT** certification, acceptance into the CVCC EMS program is conditional upon the successful completion of the EMT course with a “B” or higher and a valid EMT credential.

Students who are **not** enrolled in EMS 110 (or EMT Certification) **at CVCC during the fall term** must provide evidence of enrollment in the course by submitting an unofficial transcript showing the course IN PROGRESS (IP) or a copy of the fall registration statement or fall schedule by the published MAR deadline date. Documentation should be submitted to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).

Applicants who completed **EMT** (continuing education) at another institution may be required to prove competency. Please contact the EMS Program Director for more information.

## **8. Completed, or currently completing, BIO 168 – Anatomy & Physiology I.**

This course must be completed with a grade of “C” or better.

Students who are **not** enrolled in BIO 168 **at CVCC during the fall term** must provide evidence of enrollment in the course by submitting an unofficial transcript showing the course IN PROGRESS (IP) or a copy of the fall registration statement or fall schedule by the published MAR deadline date. An official transcript must be submitted showing a grade of “C” or better in the course. Documentation should be submitted to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu).

## **9. Meet Required College Grade Point Average (GPA).**

Students previously enrolled, or currently enrolled at CVCC, must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.50 on all CVCC coursework.

Applicants who have not attended CVCC, but have completed at least 6 curriculum course credit hours at another regionally accredited college or university and earned at least a 2.50 or better may use that GPA.

## **10. Submit the completed MAR Checklist before the deadline.**

From the applicant's CVCC email account (activated **after** the visit to Student Services), email a scanned copy or cell phone photo of the completed MAR Checklist to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu). The MAR Checklist must be entirely readable with the student's name and CVCC ID#. MAR Checklists are not accepted after the published deadline; applicants should make note of the deadline date published in the packet and on the MAR Checklist.

All documents must be emailed by the published deadline to [healthcare@cvcc.edu](mailto:healthcare@cvcc.edu). Documents emailed to any other CVCC email address **are not** considered.

## EMERGENCY MEDICAL SCIENCE - Technical Standards

Emergency Medical Science is a career field with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. The following activities are examples of the kind of activities which a student in the EMS Program will be required to perform in order to successfully complete the program.

**Critical Thinking:** Paramedic students should possess critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment. For example: the paramedic student must be able to prioritize the care of the critically injured or ill patient.

**Interpersonal Skills:** Paramedic students shall possess interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, groups, etc. from a variety of social, emotional, cultural and intellectual backgrounds. For example: student shall establish rapport with clients/patients and health care team members.

**Communication Skills:** Paramedic students shall possess communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form. For example: providing verbal encode to medical control from the field and documentation of patient care.

**Mobility:** Paramedic students shall possess physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, maneuver in small spaces, stand and walk for extensive periods of time and lift average size adults with help. For example: transferring patients on to stretchers, loading and unloading stretchers into the ambulance and moving about the scene to search and discover patients.

**Motor Skills:** Paramedic students shall possess gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective care. For example: calibrate and use designated equipment, insertion of tubes, initiation of intravenous and intraosseous infusions, and administration of medications.

**Hearing:** Paramedic students shall possess auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs. For example: hear monitor alarms, emergency signals, cries for help and auscultate breath and bowel sounds.

**Visual:** Paramedic students shall possess visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary for care. For example: observe patient/client responses to treatment, use of designated equipment, and assessment of patient.

**Tactile:** Paramedic students shall possess tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment. For example: perform palpation and percussion, assessment of skin vital signs.

**Weight Bearing:** Paramedic students shall possess ability to lift and manipulate/move 45-50 pounds on a daily basis. For example: position patients/clients, carry designated equipment.

**Cognitive Abilities:** Paramedic students shall possess ability to be oriented to time, place and person, organize responsibilities, make decisions, and function effectively in critical situations. For example: student shall assess client/patient complaints and implement appropriate plans for care.

**Occupational Exposures:** Paramedic students may be exposed to communicable diseases and/or body fluids, toxic substances, medical preparations, and latex. Students shall use appropriate precautions at all times. For example: student may be assigned a client/patient with a communicable disease and shall provide total care using universal precautions.

**Driving Skills/Abilities:** Paramedic students must have a valid NC Driver's License in order to complete their coursework at CVCC.

**Please note: Examples are not all inclusive.**

If you have a disability and need accommodations, please contact the Counselor/Students with Disabilities Program at least 72 hours in advance at (828) 327-7000, ext. 4222 or [accommodations@cvcc.edu](mailto:accommodations@cvcc.edu).

# Emergency Medical Science - Additional Program Costs

*(Costs are estimates and are subject to change without notice.)*

## General Fees

Malpractice Insurance

## Estimated Cost

\$27.50 per year

## Required Uniform\*

Black Flight Jacket

Black Belt

Polo Shirt

Black Safety Boots

Black EMS Pant

## Estimated Cost

\$400.00 for 2 complete uniforms

**\* Due to OSHA regulations, each student will need to purchase two (2) complete uniforms at the beginning of the program. Students will be measured and uniforms ordered during the first week of class.**

## Accessories

Name Pin

Stethoscope

Penlight

Bandage Scissors

Respirator

## Estimated Cost

\$60.00 up – depending on vendor

## Other Costs

Safety Glasses

Hepatitis Vaccine

Physical Exam

Travel to Clinical Sites\*

EMS Testing

EMS Planner

## Estimated Cost

\$20.00

\$136.00

\$165.00

Will Vary

\$90.00

\$80.00

\* EMS students currently complete field hours through Catawba, Burke, McDowell, and Iredell Emergency Medical Services. Hospital clinicals in anesthesia, emergency department, birthing center, nursery, cardiac catheterization lab and psychiatry are completed at Catawba Valley Medical Center, Catawba Pediatrics, Urgent Care and Frye Regional. **Students must provide their own transportation to assigned clinical sites.**

**Students will be required to complete a criminal background check through CastleBranch and a drug screen is required. There are fees associated with these items. CastleBranch is a background screening and compliance management company.**

These cost **estimates** are **in addition to** the costs that any student attending CVCC will incur each semester, such as tuition, activity fees, accident insurance, books and class supplies such as pens, paper, etc. Students applying for graduation will also pay graduation fees.



The information provided below is for planning purposes only. Admission and curriculum requirements are subject to change without notice, particularly course substitutions.

It is the applicant's responsibility, whether enrolled at CVCC or elsewhere, to monitor completion of the Minimum Admission Requirements (MAR) on a semester by semester basis. Students must ensure all materials have been submitted **before** the deadline.

The following courses **must be completed, or currently be in progress**, by September 15th:

<b>HSC 110</b> – Orientation to Health Careers (1 credit hour) (“C” or better)	
<b>EMT Certification</b> - EMS 110 (8 credit hours) (“B” or better) or successful completion of EMS 4200 (Continuing Education)	
<b>BIO 168</b> – Anatomy & Physiology I (4 credit hours) (“C” or better)	

Applicants are **not required** to complete the following courses before submitting a MAR Checklist, **but these courses are awarded points** in the competitive selection process. These courses, which require a grade of “C” or better, meet program degree requirements:

<b>ENG 111</b> – Writing and Inquiry (3 credit hours)	
<b>ENG 114</b> – Prof Research & Reporting (3 credit hours) or <b>ENG 112</b> – Writing/Research in the Disciplines (3 credit hours) or <b>ENG 113</b> – Literature-Based Research (3 credit hours)	
<b>Humanities/Fine Arts Elective</b> (3 credit hours)	
<b>PSY 150</b> – General Psychology (3 credit hours)	
<b>BIO 169</b> – Anatomy & Physiology II (4 credit hours)	
<b>MED 121</b> – Medical Terminology I (3 credit hours)	
<b>MED 122</b> – Medical Terminology II (3 credit hours)	

Only courses completed at the time of the published deadline are awarded points in the competitive admission process. Courses in progress at time of deadline are not awarded points.