Department of Emergency Services
Emergency Medical Services (EMS)
Frequently asked questions

If after reading this information, I still have questions, who should I contact?
Bonnie Stich, EMS Coordinator 330-305-6633 #3 or email BStich@starkstate.edu.

Where can I find information about this program on the website?
http://www.starkstate.edu/academic-programs/ems-degree

I am not a student at Stark State. How do I begin?
Log on to the website www.starkstate.edu/admissions. To begin the admissions process.

What are the levels of emergency medical service responders?
Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced EMT (AEMT), and Paramedic.

What are the physical requirements of being an EMT or paramedic?

EMTs and Paramedics work both indoors and outdoors and in all types of weather. This occupation, including the clinical and field training, is physically strenuous, requiring considerable kneeling, bending, stairclimbing, and lifting while caring for patients. There may also be exposure to contagious diseases, mentally unstable or combative patients, and potentially dangerous environments. Classroom and lab activities may include prolonged sitting or standing, squatting, lifting, and manipulating small objects, requiring manual dexterity. Students have close physical contact with other students and patients during their training. The ability to verbally communicate and hear is necessary for assessment skills and communication with patients and healthcare workers.

Does Stark State offer all levels of training?
Stark State EMS is accredited to offer all levels of training. EMT and paramedic courses are routinely scheduled.

Is the EMS program accredited?
The Stark State EMS program #088 is accredited by the State of Ohio, Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS, 1970 West Broad, PO Box 182073, Street, Columbus, OH , 43218-2073, 800-233-0875 Fax: 614-466-9461.

Is there a waiting list for the paramedic program?
No.

Is there an accelerated paramedic program?
No.

How do I become a certified EMT?
Complete an EMT course with a grade of “B” or higher, then take and pass the National Registry exam.
How do I become a paramedic?
A state of Ohio EMT certification is required prior to enrolling in a paramedic program according to Ohio state rules.

Are there other prerequisites for the paramedic program?
Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology must also be completed with a minimum grade of “B” prior to the beginning of the first paramedic course.

How do I enroll in the paramedic program?
To enroll in the paramedic program, a Paramedic Program Enrollment form must be completed and submitted to the EMS Coordinator. A state of Ohio EMT or AEMT certification is required to enroll in the paramedic program. Anatomy and Physiology (BIO101) does NOT need to be completed in order to submit this form for enrollment into the paramedic program.

Do I have to declare a specific major to take EMS courses?
A student must declare a major to be eligible for financial aid. No specific major is required in order to take EMT courses. A major of either EMS (Emergency Medical Services) or EFS (Emergency Fire Services) must be declared in order to enroll in the paramedic courses.

Is there an EMS entrance exam to get into the paramedic program?
No.

When do the classes begin?
EMT Classes are offered every semester and follow the college academic calendar. Paramedic Program courses begin each fall semester.

Do I have to take courses in the EMS degree in a certain order?
Only the EMS-specific courses must be in order. EMS121 and BIO101 are required to be completed with a grade of “B” or higher, prior to the paramedic courses.

What is the National Registry exam?
It is a national credentialing exam that the state of Ohio uses as a certification exam for EMS providers. In order to function as a certified EMT at any level, a candidate must pass a National Registry Exam.

I am an Advanced EMT. Will I get credit towards the paramedic courses?
Clinical credit will be awarded based on the clinical experience competed during the intermediate training. The EMS Coordinator will arrange this individually with the student.

Where will I do clinical experience?
Our clinical coordinator will provide information about this during your class. Clinical sites are available in 5 counties surrounding the College.

Can I do my clinical experience with my own department?
Yes, if the department has an existing clinical affiliation agreement with Stark Sate College. The clinical coordinator will provide more information.

Can I complete the degree if I am already a certified paramedic/FF?
Yes. We encourage it! Once all other courses are completed of the degree requirements, previously obtained certifications, such as EMT, paramedic, or Level II firefighter, will be evaluated by the Department Chair.

4/1/2014
Do I need the associate degree to work as a paramedic?

No. State of OH certification is required for employment. However, having the college degree may assist with more favorable employment.

Is there help with job placement?

The Stark State office of Career Services is located in the Student Center.

What types of jobs are available for EMT’s?

EMTs may be employed by a private ambulance service and occasionally in an Emergency Department. Some industries employ EMTs as their clinic health care professional.

What is the cost of EMT and paramedic courses?

Tuition is based on the cost per credit hour posted on the college website. There are additional costs for EMS courses. Specific information may be obtained from Bonnie Stich at BStich@starkstate.edu.

Is financial aid available?

Contact the department of financial aid for more information or go to http://www.starkstate.edu/finaid

My department is going to pay for my schooling. Who do I contact and what will they need?

Contact the Business office of Stark State College. The business office will need the name of the department or agency, a contact person, business address and contact information as well as the name of the student and the classes for which they will pay.

I need to be a full time student for financial aid, veterans benefits, or insurance. What classes would be beneficial to take at the same time as paramedic I or paramedic II?

Meeting with an advisor or instructor is the best way to discuss this.

Is there a GPA requirement?

2.0 is the minimum preferred GPA for admission to the paramedic program. A student with a GPA below 2.0 should contact the Department Chair for advising.

I have a history of a misdemeanor. Will that keep me from taking the EMT course or getting my certification?

A background check (BCI and FBI) are required prior to completing the clinical component of the EMS courses. Certain types of criminal history prevent employment in the healthcare industry.


A “Declaration of Criminal History” Form must be completed and submitted with the State Application for EMT Certification.

I have a history of a felony. Will that keep me from being an EMT?

The department of Emergency Services cannot accept a student with a history of a felony, according to the Ohio Administrative Code 4765-8-01.

Where can I find information about the “paramedic to RN program”?

http://www.starkstate.edu/paramedicrn

4/1/2014