Health Career Observer

The Official Newsletter of the WNY R-AHEC

March 2024

EMT & Paramedic

An **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** plays an important role in the medical and health care industry by providing life-saving care to patients in challenging situations. EMTs and paramedics assess a patient's injuries and illness and administer emergency medical care. They may transport patients to a medical facility.



"This position offers me a great opportunity to not only learn and grow as a person, it also allows me the opportunity to be able to help others in need and also the communities that I server in." -Dan Corby

Average Annual Pay: \$51,745

How Do I Become an EMT or Paramedic

PROJECTED JOB MARKET GROWTH: 3% By 2032

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Most EMT programs lead to a nondegree award. They vary in length but typically take less than 1 year for EMT-Basic certification and up to 2 years for EMT-Intermediate certification. Programs are offered by technical institutes, community colleges, universities, and facilities that specialize in emergency care training. Some instruction may take place in a hospital or ambulance setting. Paramedic postsecondary programs require applicants to have EMT-Intermediate certification. Most programs at community colleges typically lead to a nondegree award or an associate's degree. Some programs are offered by 4-year universities and lead to a bachelor's degree.All states require EMTs and paramedics to be licensed in the state in which they work; requirements vary by state.

What Does an EMT & Paramedic Do?

Respond to calls for medical assistance.

- Assess people's condition.
- Provide treatment such as first aid or life support care.
- Transport patients to the ER, hospital, or other healthcare facility.

Document and report observations and provide treatment.

Paramedics do the same tasks as an EMT but may complete more complex tasks such as administer drugs, intubate patients, insert IV lines, and perform chest decompressions.

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A Professional Account

Dan Corby, Paramedic, shares his insight on the EMS (Emergency Medical Services) field.

What is the most rewarding part of your job?

"I have always been one wanting to help others. This position offers me a great opportunity to not only learn and grow as a person, it also allows me the opportunity to be able to help others in need and also the communities that I serve in." Mr. Corby works in a paid position, but also volunteers as a Firefighter/Paramedic as well.

What is the most challenging?

"The thing that I find the most challenging is keeping up with modern practices. I have been involved in EMS for over 40 years, and at times it can be difficult to keep up with all of the changes. In addition, there is the constant need to refresh classes like CPR, PALS, PHTLS, ACLS, etc."

What do you wish you knew back in school that you know now?

I would say that I wish I knew how rewarding a career in EMS can be. Hopefully moving forward EMS personnel will be designated as an essential service in New York. Once that happens (a bill is currently in process), I believe that EMS will be understood as just how important it truly is.

Anything else you want to share?

"In EMS we have the ability to make an impact in many ways, everything from being seen as a role model to younger people, to saving lives. In addition, at times we actually get to be a part of bringing a new life into the world (delivering a baby), and that is when you truly realize just how important we can be. To most patients that we interact with, that moment in time is probably one of the most stressful and potentially impactful times of their life. How we treat them and our attitude has the ability to turn that around into a positive interaction, and that is where we can make a tremendous difference. We can truly make that day much better, and that is something I feel great about when I can do it."



<u>Click on the image for</u> <u>A day in the life of an</u> EMT



https://www.youtube. com/watch? v=y9THQTEqMaU

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<u>Click on the image</u> for A day in the life of Paramedic <u>Services</u>



https://www.youtu be.com/watch? v=7i6v2305mUg& t=47s





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