VALENCIACOLLEGE

2023-2024 Program Guide for the Technical Certificate in
Emergency Medical Technology (EMT)
Please check for any program updates.

The EMT program consists of 3 courses of 12 college credits, which must be completed in the same term. EMT is offered on the West and Osceola Campuses each term. Check the **Academic Calendar** for registration dates and deadlines for each semester.

Fall Term	August to December	16 weeks
Spring Term	January to May	16 weeks
Summer Term	May to August	12 weeks

NOTICE: Be aware of the following Compliance Requirements that must be met by specific deadlines **prior to the start of classes:**

- Completion of AHA BLS-Healthcare Provider CPR certification
- Criminal background check and fingerprinting
- Record with up-to-date immunizations data
- Drug testing
- Completed Student Health Status Report
- Attendance at mandatory EMT Orientation

Information about these requirements will be sent to you via your Atlas e-mail once you successfully register in all three EMT courses—be sure you obtain this information.

ENROLLMENT:

1. *Read about EMT program requirements, and the Valencia Catalog; read this program guide in its entirety to confirm you are capable of meeting the Core Performance Standards listed in this guide.*

2. *Must be a U.S. Citizen a U.S. permanent resident or an International Student.*
   International Students: *In addition to a background check required for clinical compliance (after program acceptance), a second background check from your home country is required. If you have a concern about how this may impact your program acceptance, please contact the Health Sciences Compliance Office:* **HSCompliance@valenciacollege.edu***.*
   - *(See Page 3 of this Program Guide for clinical compliance information)*
   - ***NOTE: All individuals who have DACA, Temporary Protection Status, Refugee, Asylee status, etc. must complete the Employment Authorization Document (EAD) prior to submitting application.***
   (Social Security document is required from state to sit for Board Exam).

3. *Must be a high school graduate with a standard high school diploma (or GED) and **must be at least 18 years of age at the start of the program**.*

4. *Attend a Health Sciences Information Session (**strongly recommended**). Information Session dates are posted on the Health Sciences website:* valenciacollege.edu/health.

5. *Submit a completed Valencia Application for Admission, click on **Future Students, Admissions,** and pay the $35 application fee; satisfy the requirements for Degree-Seeking Status and be in Active Student Status, **such as submission of all official transcripts.** Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to a health sciences program.*

6. *For your official Valencia record (either via your Valencia application or a Change of Program/Major form in Atlas), declare the Emergency Medical Technician Technical Certificate (TC) as a program of study.*

7. *After satisfying steps 1-6, register online via your Atlas account for the three EMT Program courses (EMS 1119, EMS 1119L and EMS 1431L) in the same time block (day or evening) on the same campus. You must register in time to attend the last EMT Program Orientation for the form. After successfully registering for the three courses you will receive an atlas email with Orientation and Compliance information. NOTE: Registration for EMT classes closes at least five weeks before the start of the term.*

8. ***Complete all of the Compliance requirements by the deadline (found on via Atlas email instructions upon successful course enrollment) and attend the mandatory EMT Program Orientation.***
   NOTE: *It is highly recommended that you begin the Compliance requirements as soon as possible following all instructions for completion through the designated program vendor. Non-attendance of the mandatory EMT program orientation and incomplete Compliance requirements by the deadline are cause for removal from the program.*

COST: *The **estimated** total cost (subject to change) for the EMT Program, including tuition, special course fees, and associated expenses such as background check, drug testing, immunizations, uniforms, and licensing is $2,500 (before textbook costs).*

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT EMT, PARAMEDIC AND EMS

EMT	Technical Certificate in Emergency Medical Technology
Paramedic	Technical Certificate in Paramedic Technology
EMS	Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology

EMT CERTIFICATE:

The Certificate in Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) is a complete program and also can be the first part of the Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology (EMS), which has three parts. The second part of the degree is the Technical Certificate in Paramedic Technology, and the third part consists of the General Education and Elective courses required for the degree. To earn this degree, all three parts must be completed. The EMT Technical Certificate must be completed successfully as a major requirement for continuing to the limited access Paramedic Certificate; however, the General Education and Elective courses for the A.S. Degree can be completed at any time.

> **CERTIFICATION**: After you complete all three EMT courses with minimum grades of "C" your name will be sent to the Department of Health, Bureau of EMS in Tallahassee, so you will be eligible for state certification. After successful completion of the National Registry exam, the EMT receives National EMT Certification, and then must follow the guidelines for obtaining State of Florida EMT Certification. Students have one year from date of the program completion to pass the examination for certification.

PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE:

The Paramedic Certificate is **42 credits** beyond the EMT Certificate is a complete program and also can be the second part of the Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology (EMS), which has three parts. The Paramedic Program begins on West Campus each Fall Term (August) and on the Osceola Campus each Spring Term (January). The Paramedic Program is limited access which means more students want to be in the program than there are seats, and students are selected for the program by the Health Sciences Admission Committee. **To apply to the Paramedic Program, you will need to have completed an EMT program, hold a current Florida EMT license and meet the other program admission requirements.**

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) A.S. DEGREE:

The A.S. Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology requires **19 credits** in addition to the EMT and Paramedic coursework. When you indicate for your official Valencia record, either on your Valencia Application for Admission or in a campus Answer Center, that you are seeking the A.S. Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology, you will be required to satisfy entry testing requirements, attend New Student Orientation, and complete satisfactorily any mandated courses in Reading, New Student Experience, Mathematics, English, and English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed.

The following information explains the differences in declaring your program as the EMT Technical Certificate, the Paramedic Certificate or the A.S. Degree in EMS:

EMT	To receive financial aid for the EMT courses, you may need to complete additional course prerequisites and you need to:

- Declare the AA degree or the AS Fire Science as your Primary major
- Declare the EMT Technical Certificate as your Secondary major
- Have at least 12 Elective credits remaining in the AA Degree

Paramedic	You will be entered as "Pending Paramedic" until actually accepted to the Paramedic Program. If you hold a current Florida EMT license, you will **not** be required to complete entry testing in reading, English and mathematics or the EMT Program to apply to Paramedic, unless you also declared the AA degree for financial aid purposes. The Paramedic program is eligible for financial aid upon admittance.
EMS	You must satisfy entry testing requirements and satisfactorily complete all mandatory courses in reading, New Student Experience, mathematics, English, and English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed. You must complete EMT and Paramedic courses as well as General Education courses to earn the degree. The A.S. in EMS is eligible for financial aid when all conditions of degree-seeking status are met.

The School of Allied Health and the School of Nursing provide information about specific admission criteria for Health Sciences programs. The Health Sciences Program Guides, of which this is one, are developed for a specific academic year (August to July) and, as a rule, changes to admission and program requirements become effective at the start of an academic year. **Valencia College; however, reserves the right to make changes in admission and program requirements as circumstances require.** If a mid-year change becomes necessary, it will be indicated for the specific program on the [Program Updates](#) page.

Students interested in a health sciences career are encouraged to explore the many challenging and rewarding opportunities available in health professions. The health sciences programs may have clinical experiences that expose the student to blood borne pathogens via contact with bodily fluids including, but not limited to blood and saliva. Students accepted into these programs will be expected to adhere to Centers for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines for the use of Standard Precautions. The CDC defines standard precautions as "a set of precautions designed to prevent the transmission of HIV, Hepatitis B virus (HBV), [and] other blood borne pathogens when providing first aid or health care." Under standard precautions, blood and certain body fluids are considered potentially infectious for HIV, HBV, and other blood borne pathogens. Students will be expected to adhere to hand hygiene protocols and consistent use of personal protective equipment including masks, gloves and eyewear. In some of the health sciences programs, students may need to conduct peer-to-peer examinations in lab settings.

To enroll in the EMT Program, you must be a U.S. citizen, permanent resident or International Student.

All communication from Valencia relative to enrollment in the EMT Program will be via your Atlas e-mail address. Written communication you initiate with Valencia staff should also be via your Atlas e-mail and should include your first and last names and your Valencia ID number.

BACKGROUND CHECK, FINGERPRINTING, DRUG TESTING, IMMUNIZATIONS AND CPR CERTIFICATION
The Health Sciences programs include student clinical rotations in external affiliate health care facilities with which Valencia has agreements for student clinical assignments. The affiliates' policies require that students serving in a clinical rotation be cleared of offenses that would disqualify them from participating in student clinical assignments. Thus, all students **conditionally* accepted** to a Health Sciences program are required to submit to a criminal background check, fingerprinting and drug testing as well as provide documentation of specific immunizations and American Heart Association (AHA) and Basic Life Support (BLS) CPR certification for health care providers **following acceptance to a program**. The timeframe for meeting these requirements will be provided in the Orientation information that will be sent to the student upon acceptance through ATLAS email.
Students may need to renew their background and drug testing requirements annually. See the Compliance Department for more details at HSCompliance@valenciacollege.edu

If you have a positive background check, fingerprint or drug screening, you _may_ be denied enrollment in a Health Sciences program due to the inability to participate in a student clinical assignment. If you have concerns regarding known background issues, it is recommended that you email questions to hscompliance@valenciacollege.edu.

MANDATORY ORIENTATION
The **mandatory** program Orientation for accepted students usually is held four to six weeks prior to the program start date. Once accepted to a program, students will receive an email via ATLAS regarding orientation date, requirements and deadlines. The Orientation materials will give the student information regarding the processes for completing background checks, fingerprinting, drug screening, and other requirements completed through the designated vendor.

TRANSPORTATION TO CLINICAL SITES
If accepted to a program, students will be responsible for furnishing transportation to the community and/or hospital facilities used by Valencia for clinical practice.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS FOR ADMISSION AND PROGRESSION

Emergency Medical Services is a practice discipline with cognitive, sensory, affective, and psychomotor performance requirements. Based on these requirements, the following list of "Core Performance Standards" has been developed. Each standard has an example of an activity or activities, which a student will be required to perform while enrolled in the Emergency Medical Services Technology Program. These standards are a part of the Emergency Medical Services Technology courses and of the role expectation of an Emergency Medical Services professional.

For the Emergency Medical Services Technology Program, a "qualified individual with a disability is one who, with or without reasonable accommodations or modifications, meets the essential eligibility requirements for participation in the program. The School of Allied Health at Valencia makes no preadmission inquiries concerning an applicant's disability status. Information related to an applicant's disabilities is not a part of the information reviewed by the Admission Committee.

These Performance Standards should be used to assist students in determining whether accommodations or modifications are necessary for the student to meet program requirements. A student who identifies potential difficulties with meeting the Performance Standards should communicate his/her concerns to an advisor in the Office for Students with Disabilities. The student has the responsibility to identify and document the disability and to request reasonable and appropriate adjustments. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether any accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made.

Valencia is an Equal Opportunity Institution: http://valenciacollege.edu/HR/EqualAccessEqualOpportunity.cfm

Issue	Standard	Some Examples of Necessary Activities (not all inclusive)
Critical Thinking	Critical thinking ability sufficient for clinical judgment	Identify cause-effect relationships in clinical situations. Develop patient treatment plans
Interpersonal	Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families, and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds	Establish rapport with patients/clients and colleagues
Communication	Communication abilities sufficient for inter-action with others in verbal and written form	Explain treatment procedures, initiate health teaching, document and interpret treatment strategies and patient/client responses
Mobility	Physical abilities sufficient to move from room to room, maneuver in small spaces, and navigate stairwells	Moves around in patient's rooms, homes, ambulances, work spaces, and treatment areas, administer medications, lift a minimum of 100 pounds
Motor Skills	Gross and fine motor abilities sufficient to provide safe and effective emergency care	Calibrate and use equipment; position patients/clients
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs	Hears monitor alarm, emergency signals, auscultatory sounds, cries for help
Visual	Visual ability sufficient for observation and assessment necessary in emergency care	Observes patient/client responses
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment	Perform palpation, functions of physical examination and/or those related to therapeutic intervention, e.g., insertions of an intravenous catheter

VALENCIA COLLEGE SCHOOLS OF ALLIED HEALTH AND NURSING
Sample Form of the Health and Physical Core Performance Requirements

Assess Ability to Meet Program Requirements	Y E S	N O	If NO, Note Limitations	Assess Ability to Meet Program Requirements	Y E S	N O	If NO, Note Limitations
General Requirements (has the ability to…)				**Require Lifting** (ability to lift…)			
Sit				Up to 10 lbs.			
Stand				11 to 24 lbs.			
Walk				25 to 34 lbs.			
Bend				35 to 50 lbs.			
Kneel				Up to and over 100 for some Clinical Areas			
Crouch				**Pushing/Pulling** (ability to push and pull…)			
Twist				Up to 10 lbs.			
Maintain Balance				11 to 24 lbs.			
Reach				25 to 34 lbs.			
Climb Stairs				35 to 50 lbs.			
Sensory Requirements (has ability for…)				Up to and over 100 for some Clinical Areas			
Far Vision							
Near Vision				**Hand Manipulation** (ability with…)			
Color Vision				Simple Grasping			
Depth Perception				Firm Grasping			
Seeing Fine Details				Fine Manipulation			
Hearing Norm Speech				Use of Keyboards			
Hearing Overhead Pages							
Infectious Diseases				**Mental & Emotional** Requirements (ability to…)			
Chemical Agents				Cope with high level of stress			
Dust, Fumes, Gases				Make decisions under high pressure			
Extremes in Temperature or Humidity				Cope with anger/fear/hostility of others in a calm way			
Hazardous or Moving Equipment				Concentrate			
Loud Noises				Handle a high degree of flexibility			
				Handle multiple priorities in stressful situations			
				Demonstrate high degree of patience			
				Work in areas that are close and crowded			
				Verbally Communicate under stress			