

VALENCIA COLLEGE

2023-2024 Program Guide for the Technical Certificate in Paramedic Technology & Associate in Science Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology

The Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology (EMS) has three parts:

1. The first part is the Technical Certificate in **EMT** (which is an open-access program offered in Fall, Spring, and Summer terms. See the Program Guide for Emergency Medical Technician).
2. The second part of the degree is the Technical Certificate in **Paramedic Technology** (which is a limited-access program offered in Fall and Spring terms for new admission).
3. The third part consists of the General Education and Elective course required for the EMS degree. To earn this degree, **all three parts must be completed**. The EMT Certificate must be completed successfully prior to starting the limited access Paramedic Certificate; however, the General Education courses for the A.S. Degree can be completed at any time.



By maintaining an Active Student Status at Valencia College, you will submit one application for Admission for the Paramedic Certificate and the A.S. in EMS (*Admission to the Paramedic Program also grants admission to the A.S. EMS degree.*)

Technical Certificate in Paramedic Technology **Application Deadline: September 29, 2023 for Osceola Campus**

Students are admitted to Valencia's Paramedic Technology Program by a selective admission process. The Health Sciences Admission Committee selects a limited number of students twice per year.

ADMISSION CHECKLIST

The admission requirements that MUST be satisfied PRIOR to application submission for Paramedic are:

- _____ 1. Read about Paramedic admission, [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 within 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 4](#) 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. Attend a Health Sciences Information Session (**strongly recommended**). Information Session dates are posted on the Health Sciences website: valenciacollege.edu/health.
- _____ 4. 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](#). Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to a health sciences program.
- _____ 5. Submit **all official transcripts** from all institutions (**include High School transcripts or GED score report**) must be submitted to Valencia and posted on your record prior to applying. Students using AP/IB/CLEP scores to satisfy one or more prerequisite courses must request official scores from collegeboard.org (AP/CLEP) or ibo.org (IB). AP/IB/CLEP credits earned as 'Z' grades on record equate to 'A' grades for points.
- _____ 6. Must be at least 18 years of age by the program start date.
- _____ 7.  Submit verification of a current Florida EMT certificate/license (as designated here and on the application).
- _____ 8.  Complete **[EMS1010 Essentials of Human Structure & Function](#)**, the Prerequisite for Admission, with a minimum grade of C. EMS1010 may be in progress at the time of program application but must be completed with a

minimum grade of C by the program start date.

BSC2093C and BSC2094C may substitute for EMS1010. BSC2094C may be in progress at the time of application and completed with a minimum grade of C by the program start date.

- _____ 9. Have a minimum **overall college GPA of 2.0** including all undergraduate transfer work for admission into the program. Must be in good academic standing. **NOTE:** Transfer students with completed coursework at Valencia College also need to have a minimum Institutional/Valencia GPA of 2.0 at the time of applying (in addition to the minimum overall college GPA of 2.0).
- _____ 10. Prior to submitting your program application, you are encouraged to meet with your assigned advisor. You can locate your assigned advisor by logging into Atlas, Courses tab, Academic Profile. We strongly recommend that you meet early in your course planning to ensure all requirements, including program pre-requisite courses mentioned in this guide are met.
- _____ 11. [Obj] After completing numbers 1 – 10 and prior to the application deadline, submit a completed Paramedic Program application, and pay the \$15 non-refundable Health Sciences program application fee. The application can be found at valenciacollege.edu/health.

General information about the EMT certificate, Paramedic certificate and the A.S. degree in EMS

The Technical Certificate in Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) is a complete program and 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 Certificate must be completed successfully prior to starting the limited access Paramedic Certificate; however, the General Education and Elective courses for the A.S. Degree can be completed at any time.

The Paramedic Certificate is **42 credits** beyond the EMT Certificate and is a complete program and can also be the second part of the Associate in Science (A.S.) Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology (EMS). It 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 hold a current Florida EMT certification and meet the other program admission requirements.**

The A.S. Degree in Emergency Medical Services requires **19 credits** in addition to the EMT and Paramedic coursework. During Paramedic III, when you indicate for your official Valencia record that you are seeking the A.S. Degree in Emergency Medical Services, if you have not already done so, 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 Certificate, the Paramedic Certificate, or the A.S. Degree in EMS:

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|------------------|--|
| EMT | - <u>Cannot receive financial aid if EMT is declared the only program in your official Valencia record</u> . To be eligible for financial aid, students will need 12 credits of electives available in the AA General Studies degree to allow EMT tuition coverage. |
| Paramedic | - Will be entered as "Pending Paramedic" until actually accepted to the Paramedic Program
- Not required to complete entry testing in Reading, English and Mathematics
- Paramedic Program <u>is eligible for financial aid</u> |
| EMS | - Satisfy entry testing requirements and satisfactorily complete any mandatory courses in Reading,
- New Student Experience, Mathematics, English, and English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed
- A.S. in EMS is eligible for financial aid once <u>accepted</u> into the program |

PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE ADMISSION POINTS GUIDE

The Health Science Admission Committee uses the following point system to guide them in the selection of qualified students to be

admitted to the **Paramedic Technical Certificate** Program. Student selection is based on the total number of points earned below.
In case of a tie, overall GPA will be considered.

If a student was previously accepted into a Health Sciences Program at Valencia College and subsequently deemed ineligible for return to the program, the selection committee has the right to contact the applicant's previous program. This information will be included in the consideration for program admission.

COURSES THAT AWARD POINTS TOWARD ADMISSION TO THE PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE

EMS1010, the Prerequisite for Admission, may be in progress at the time of program application, but must be completed with a minimum grade of C by the program start date. BSC2093C and BSC2094C may substitute for EMS1010 and will satisfy the requirements for one elective credit and for three credits in General Education Science or Math. BSC2094C may be in progress at the time of application and must be completed with a minimum grade of C by the program start date.

You may not repeat a course for grade forgiveness for which you previously have earned a grade of A, B or C

EMS 1010	Essentials of Human Structure and Functions	A=10 pts, B=8 pts, C=6 pts	3.0 credits
Or Both			
BSC2093C	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	A=10 pts, B=8 pts, C=6 pts	4.0 credits
BSC2094C	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	A=10 pts, B=8 pts, C=6 pts	4.0 credits
The courses below are required for the AS Degree in EMS and will result in more points toward admission to the Paramedic Program if completed with a minimum grade of C prior to the Paramedic application deadline.			
ENC 1101	Freshman Composition I	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	3.0 credits
Science	Core General Education Science requirement	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	3.0 credits
POS 2041 or AMH2020	U.S. Government or U.S. History (Civic Literacy)	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	3.0 credits
PSY 2012	General Psychology	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	3.0 credits
Humanities	Any course that meets the Core General Education .	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	3.0 credits
Mathematics	Any course that meets the Core General Education	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	3.0 credits
Elective	1 Elective Credit Hour Completed with a C or better	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt	1.0 credit

****POS2041 & AMH2020 completed with a grade 'D' is accepted due to meeting graduation, however, points are not earned for this grade.***

NOTE: Transfer courses may need to be reviewed by an Advisor for potential course substitution or equivalency. **Courses taken at other institutions may not be equivalent to Allied Health Program course requirements as listed in this guide.** Course substitution or equivalency must be on your Valencia record **before** applying. Course substitutions are only permitted when students have not previously earned a grade of A, B or C for the required course. *Transfer courses with 'S' or 'P' grades need to be reviewed for eligibility by the [Health Sciences team](#)*

ADDITIONAL ADMISSION POINTS AWARDED (OPTIONAL)

HSC 1531	Medical Terminology	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
PHI 2600	Ethics and Critical Thinking (does not satisfy the 'Core' graduation requirement)	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
EMS 1119	Fundamentals of Emergency Medical Technology	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
EMS 1119L	Fundamentals of Emergency Medical Technology Practice	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
EMS 1431L	Emergency Medical Technician Clinical Practicum	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
Alternate	Previous-year applicant placed on Alternate List	3 pts
Civic Literacy	Earn a passing score (60%) on the Florida Civic Literacy Exam (FCLE) Required for the graduation of the degree.	1 pt

EXPERIENCE ADMISSION POINTS (OPTIONAL)

Points may be earned for **ONLY ONE** of the following and documentation must be submitted.

EMT Alumnus	Applicants who successfully completed Emergency Medical Technician at Valencia	5 pts
EMT Work Experience	Applicants with a minimum of 1 year work experience as an EMT with documentation from employer	20 pts
EMT Work Experience	Applicants with a minimum of 6 months work experience as an EMT with documentation from employer	10 pts

➤ Please check [Program Updates](#) page for the most updated information. Click here for [estimated program costs](#).

Total Points: _____ Total Possible Points: 80

GUIDELINES for ALL HEALTH SCIENCE LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAMS (EXCEPT THE BACHELOR DEGREE PROGRAMS AND ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES)

Valencia's Health Science programs are offered through the School of Allied Health and the School of Nursing, which provide information about specific admission criteria for the 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 becoming 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. Valencia offers eight health sciences programs which lead to an A.S. degree. They are the Cardiovascular Technology, Dental Hygiene, Diagnostic Medical Sonography, Emergency Medical Services Technology (including EMT and Paramedic technical certificates), Health Information Technology (Medical Information Coder/Biller technical certificate), Nursing (R.N.), Radiography, and Respiratory Care. Admission to these programs is limited because of clinical facilities and staff.

Students whose official records indicate they are seeking admission to a limited access Associate in Science (A.S.) health sciences program will have the health sciences program designated as their secondary major and the Associate in Arts (A.A.) degree designated as their primary major in order to maximize their educational opportunities. If the student has already earned a Bachelor’s or A.A. degree, the student will not have A.A. designated as a major.

APPLICATION INFORMATION

Program Application information for each admission cycle can be found on the specific [program’s webpage](#). Program applications received after the deadline date will not be considered for the identified term. Students who are not accepted will need to reapply for a future term. Students must complete a Valencia application for admission and the application for the specific health sciences program. Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to the health sciences program. Students may apply to more than one limited access Health Science program; however, enrollment is limited to only one Health Sciences program in a term. A new program application is required if reapplying for admission. **Having previously earned a college degree does not grant an advantage in admission to a Health Sciences program that does not require a degree for admission.** Having previously earned a college degree does not grant an advantage in admission to a Health Sciences program that does not require a degree for admission.

Communication Policy: Application review may take **4-6 weeks after the deadline closes.** **Students are expected to check Atlas email regularly for any communication about an application.** Application updates are **only** communicated through the Valencia College Atlas email. Students who are offered an accepted program seat are required to attend the mandatory program orientation to keep the seat and start the program. The admission decision email will include a **strict deadline** to accept an offered program seat. If a response is **not** received by the deadline of the acceptance invite, then the next student will be invited for the opportunity of acceptance.

Mandatory Orientation: The mandatory program Orientation for accepted students may be held four to six weeks prior to the program start date. Once accepted to a program, students will receive an email via ATLAS regarding the 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.

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 **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. **All clinical Compliance must be met to begin the program.**

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.

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 identifying the academic and clinical expectations for all students. Students who may need reasonable accommodations to fulfill required program outcomes or clinical expectations are encouraged to contact the [Office for Students with Disabilities](#) to engage in an interactive process regarding their request. It is the student’s responsibility to notify and register with the Office for Students with Disabilities to identify and receive reasonable accommodations. Reasonable accommodations are effective only after engaging in this process and are not retroactive. Determination is made on an individual basis as to whether any accommodations or modifications can be reasonably made.

Valencia is an Equal Opportunity Institution: [Equal Access and Equal Opportunity | Valencia College](#)

Criteria	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 interaction 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			