

VALENCIA COLLEGE
2019-2020 Program Guide for the
Technical Certificate in Paramedic Technology
and
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 explained in the Program Guide for Emergency Medical Technician – EMT).
2. The second part of the degree is the Technical Certificate in **Paramedic Technology**.
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 and Elective courses for the A.S. Degree can be completed at any time.

For your official Valencia record, you may declare that you are seeking the Paramedic Certificate. The Valencia Application for Admission serves as the application for the A.S. Degree in EMS, while there is a specific program application with application deadline dates for the Paramedic Certificate. (As long as you remain in Active Student Status, you will submit only one Valencia Application for Admission for the EMT Certificate, the Paramedic Certificate and the A.S. in EMS.)

Technical Certificate in Paramedic Technology

Admission requirements are subject to change. Please [check](#) for any admission updates

**Application Deadlines: October 15, 2019 for Spring 2020 on Osceola Campus
June 15, 2020 for Fall 2020 on West Campus**

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

ADMISSION CHECKLIST

The admission requirements that MUST be satisfied PRIOR to submitting an application for the Paramedic Technology Program are:

- _____ 1. Read about Paramedic Technology admission and program requirements at valenciacollege.edu/health and the Valencia Catalog <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/>; read this program guide in its entirety and 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 Student: F-1, J-1, and all other non-immigrant visa types eligible to enroll in degree-seeking programs, must complete their background check, fingerprinting, drug testing, immunizations and CPR certification at least **six months** in advance of the anticipated start term. Contact the Health Sciences Compliance Office to begin the compliance process and background check at email: HSCompliance@valenciacollege.edu.
NOTE: All individuals who have DACA, Temporary Protection Status, Refugee, Asylee status, etc. must complete the Employment Authorization Permit (EAP) 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 on Valencia's website at <http://valenciacollege.edu/> click on **Future Students, Admissions**, and pay the application fee; 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 and be in Active Student Status.
- _____ 5. Must be at least 18 years of age at program start.
- _____ 6. Submit verification of a current Florida EMT certificate.
- _____ 7. Complete EMS1010, 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. BSC 2094C may be in progress at the time of application and completed with a minimum grade of C by the program start date.
NOTE: Transfer courses may need to be reviewed by an Advisor for potential course substitution or equivalency. NOTE: courses taken at other institutions may not be equivalent to Valencia Allied Health Program course requirement, as listed in this guide. Course substitution or equivalency must be on your Valencia record before submitting program application.

To be competitive for admission, additional Science and General Education courses should be completed with high grades. See the point system that follows.
- _____ 8. 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).
- _____ 9. Prior to submitting your program application, you are encouraged to meet with your Valencia College campus base Allied Health, Pending Program Advisor. 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.
- _____ 10. After completing numbers 1 – 9 and prior to the program application deadline, submit a completed Valencia Paramedic Technology Program application, pay the \$15 non-refundable Health Sciences program application fee, and submit any required documentation. The application can be found at valenciacollege.edu/health and must be received by Valencia College Business Office by the program deadline or it will be denied.

Estimated program costs can be found at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm>

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.

Note: 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. BSC 2094C may be in progress at the time of application and must be completed with a minimum grade of C by the program start date.

Transfer courses may need to be reviewed by an Advisor for potential course substitution or equivalency. NOTE: courses taken at other institutions may not be equivalent to Valencia Allied Health Program course requirement, as listed in this guide. Course substitution or equivalency must be on your Valencia record before submitting program application.

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
Or Both		
BSC2093C	Human Anatomy & Physiology I	A=10 pts, B=8 pts, C=6 pts
BSC2094C	Human Anatomy & Physiology II	A=10 pts, B=8 pts, C=6 pts
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
SLS 1122	New Student Experience	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
POS 2041	U.S. Government	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
PSY 2012	General Psychology	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
Humanities	Any course that meets the General Education Humanities requirement: Core or Institutional	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
Math or Science	Any course that meets the General Education Math or Science requirement: Core or Institutional (points not given twice for same science course)	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
Elective	1 Elective Credit Hour Completed with a C or better	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt

Please check <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm> for the most updated information.

ADDITIONAL ADMISSION POINTS AWARDED

HSC 1531	Medical Terminology	A=3 pts, B=2 pts, C=1 pt
PHI 2600	Ethics and Critical Thinking (can satisfy Humanities 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

EXPERIENCE ADMISSION POINTS

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

EMT Alumus	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

Total Points: _____ Total Possible Points: 86

Associate in Science Degree in Emergency Medical Services Technology (EMS)

Admission requirements are subject to change. Please [check](#) for any admission updates

ADMISSION CHECKLIST

- _____ 1. Read about EMS admission and program requirements at valenciacollege.edu/health and the Valencia Catalog <http://valenciacollege.edu/catalog/>; read this program guide in its entirety and confirm you are capable of meeting the Core Performance Standards listed within this guide.
- _____ 2. Be a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. permanent resident or an International Student.
International Students: F-1, J-1, and all other non-immigrant visa types eligible to enroll in degree-seeking programs, must complete their background check, fingerprinting, drug testing, immunizations and CPR certification at least **six months** in advance of the anticipated start term. Contact the Health Sciences Compliance Office to begin the compliance process and background check at email: HSCompliance@valenciacollege.edu.
NOTE: All individuals who have DACA, Temporary Protection Status, Refugee, Asylee status, etc. must complete the Employment Authorization Permit (EAP) prior to submitting application.
(Social Security document is required from state to sit for Board Exam).
- _____ 3. Must be at least 18 years of age at program start.
- _____ 4. Attend a Health Sciences Information Session (**strongly recommended**). Information Session dates are posted on the Health Sciences website: valenciacollege.edu/health.
- _____ 5. Satisfy the Valencia entry testing requirements.
- _____ 6. Attend a Valencia New Student Orientation.
- _____ 7. Satisfactorily complete any mandatory courses in Reading, New Student Experience, Mathematics, English and English for Academic Purposes in which you are placed (must be at college-level for Reading, Mathematics, and English). For more information about Mandatory Courses: <http://catalog.valenciacollege.edu/entrytestingplacementmandatorycourses/mandatorycourses/>
Complete the EMT Certificate courses if you have not already done so or continue taking the General Education courses required in the EMS Degree. The EMT courses will need to be completed prior to application to the Paramedic Certificate.
- _____ 8. Transfer students with completed coursework at Valencia College also need to have a minimum Institutional/Valencia GPA of 2.0.
- _____ 9. 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.

Estimated program costs can be found at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm>

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 in the information for the specific program at:

<http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/AdmissionUpdates.cfm>.

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. Once you complete your A.S. degree in Emergency Medical Services, you can continue at Valencia to earn a bachelor-level Advanced Technical Certificate (ATC) in Leadership in Healthcare. With additional education at the bachelor's level and professional experience, you will enhance your skills and may have more career options available.

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.

Most programs have an application deadline, but some do not. If a program application deadline falls on Saturday, Sunday or a Valencia holiday, the deadline will become the following Valencia business day. Health Sciences program applications are available at valenciacollege.edu/west/health/AppDeadlines.cfm. 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 nor does it exempt students from taking the ATI Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) if the ATI TEAS is required for admission to the program.

All communication from Valencia relative to program admission will be sent via your **Atlas e-mail address**. Written communication you initiate with Valencia staff should also be via your Atlas e-mail account and should include your full name 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 **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.

NOTE: Non-Immigrant visa holders must complete their background check, fingerprinting, drug testing, immunizations and CPR certification at least six months in advance of the anticipated start term.

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 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 through CastleBranch.com.

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.

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

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE EMT CERTIFICATE, THE PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE AND THE A.S. DEGREE IN 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

The Technical 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 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. More information about the Paramedic Technology Certificate can be found at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm>

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. More information about the A.S. Degree in Emergency Medical Services can be found at: <http://valenciacollege.edu/west/health/admissionupdates.cfm>

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

EMT	-Cannot receive financial aid if EMT is declared the Primary program in your official Valencia record
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 is eligible for financial aid
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 accepted into program

**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 purpose of 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.

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 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

Asses Ability to Meet Program Requirements	Y E S	N O	If NO, Note Limitations	Asses 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				Hand Manipulation (ability with...)			
Near Vision							
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			