



2025-2026 Program Guide for the Technical Certificate in

Paramedic Technology

Please [check](#) for any program updates.

The Paramedic Program consists of 11 courses of 42 total college credits. These courses must be completed in a specified, mandatory order over the course of three semesters. The Paramedic Program is a limited-access program offered in the fall and spring semesters for new admissions. Check the [Academic Calendar](#) for registration dates and deadlines for each semester.

**Admission to the Paramedic program is selective, and candidates are admitted based on priority.*

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 Paramedic Orientation

ADMISSION CHECKLIST

Before submitting a Paramedic application, the following admission requirements MUST be satisfied:

1. Review the Paramedic [admission requirements](#) and the Valencia [Catalog](#).
2. Review this program guide to confirm you can meet the Core Performance Standards listed within this guide.
3. Must be a U.S. Citizen, a U.S. permanent resident, or an International Student.
 - a. 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 School of Public Safety: publicsafety@valenciacollege.edu
 - b. Please review Page 3 of this Program Guide for clinical compliance information.
 - c. All individuals who have DACA, Temporary Protection Status, Refugee, Asylee status, etc. must complete the [Employment Authorization Document](#) (EAD) prior to submitting application.
 - d. State Social Security documentation is required to sit for Board Exam.
4. Submit a completed [Valencia Application](#) for Admission: click on 'Credit Programs'.
 - a. You will need to pay the \$35 application fee.
 - b. Satisfy the requirements for [Degree-Seeking Status and be in Active Student Status](#).
 - c. Submit all official transcripts.
 - d. Admission to Valencia does not imply acceptance to a Public Safety program.
5. Submit **all official transcripts** from all institutions (including high school transcripts or GED score reports), which must be submitted to Valencia and posted on your record before applying. To satisfy one or more prerequisite courses, students using AP/IB/CLEP scores 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.
 - a. BSC 2085C and BSC 2086C (previously, BSC 2093C and BSC 2094C) may substitute for EMS1010.
 - b. BSC 2086C may be in progress at the time of application and completed with a minimum grade of C by the program start date.
 - c. **All transfer courses must be from a Regionally Accredited Institution.**
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 must also 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. You are encouraged to meet with your Student Success Coach prior to submitting your program application. You can locate your assigned Success Coach in MyVC. We strongly recommend that you meet early in your course planning to ensure that all requirements, including program pre-requisite courses mentioned in this guide, are met.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATION

The Paramedic Certificate is **42 credits** beyond the EMT Certificate. It 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). The third part consists of the General Education and elective courses required for the degree.

The Paramedic program begins on the West Campus each Fall semester (August) and on the Osceola Campus each Spring semester (January).

The Paramedic Program has limited seating, and candidates will be admitted on a priority basis.

To be accepted into the Paramedic Program, you must have a current Florida EMT license and meet additional program admission requirements.

CERTIFICATION:

Upon completion of all required Paramedic 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, you will receive your National Paramedic Certification. You must then follow the guidelines for obtaining your State of Florida Paramedic License. Students have one year from the date of the program completion to pass the exam for their certification.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- ✓ The Paramedic certificate is eligible for financial aid. Please visit Valencia's [Financial Aid Services](#) for information related to obtaining financial aid.
- ✓ Students who are pursuing the Paramedic certification as a stand-alone program are not required to complete entry testing in reading, English and mathematics.
- ✓ Students who are completing the Paramedic certification as part of the AS EMS degree must complete mandatory courses in reading, English and mathematics.

GUIDELINES FOR ALL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES LIMITED ACCESS PROGRAMS (EXCEPT THE BACHELOR'S DEGREE PROGRAMS AND ADVANCED TECHNICAL CERTIFICATES)

Valencia's Paramedic Program is offered through the School of Public Safety, Legal Studies, and Education, which provides information about specific program admission criteria. The Program Guides, of which this is one, are developed for a particular academic year (from 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 change 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.

Communication Policy: Students are expected to check their Valencia email regularly for any communication regarding acceptance. **Paramedic Acceptance** updates are **only** communicated through Valencia College email. Students offered an accepted program seat must attend the mandatory program orientation to keep the seat and start the program. The admission decision email will include a **strict deadline** for accepting a program seat offered. If a response is **not** received by the deadline for the acceptance invite, the next student will be invited for acceptance.

Mandatory Orientation: The mandatory program orientation for accepted students may be held four to six weeks before the program start date. Once admitted to a program, students will receive an email via MyVC 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 CHECKS, FINGERPRINTING, DRUG TESTING, IMMUNIZATIONS, AND CPR CERTIFICATION

The Paramedic Program includes student clinical rotations in external affiliate healthcare facilities, with Valencia having 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 the Paramedic 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**. The Orientation information sent to the student upon acceptance through MyVC email will provide the timeframe for meeting these requirements.

To begin the program, all clinical Compliance must be met by the close of business on the Friday immediately preceding the first day.

Students may need to renew their background and drug testing requirements annually. For more details, contact the School of Public Safety at publicsafety@valenciacollege.edu

***If you have a negative background check, fingerprint, or drug screening, you *may* be denied enrollment in the Paramedic 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 publicsafety@valenciacollege.edu

TRANSPORTATION TO CLINICAL SITES

If accepted to a program, students are responsible for furnishing transportation to the community and hospital facilities used by Valencia for clinical practice.

The Paramedic program 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 this program 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 public safety programs, students may need to conduct peer-to-peer examinations in lab settings.

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: <https://valenciacollege.edu/about/equal-opportunity-title-ix/>

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 PARAMEDIC PROGRAM
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 (can...)				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				Simple Grasping			
Color Vision				Firm Grasping			
Depth Perception				Fine Manipulation			
Seeing Fine Details				Use of Keyboards			
Hearing Norm Speech							
Hearing Overhead Pages							
Infectious Diseases				Mental & Emotional Requirements (ability to...)			
Chemical Agents				Cope with high levels 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 a high degree of patience			
				Work in close areas and crowded			
				Verbally Communicate under stress.			