EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN Certificate Program (graduation from EMT certificate does not earn you a diploma unless you will complete an AEMT certificate too)

What is an EMT?
An EMT functions as a primary care provider in the pre-hospital setting. The EMT is responsible for all aspects of care provided to the sick and injured, including basic life support. The EMT is responsible for driving an ambulance and will work under the supervision of a paramedic. An EMT may work for local government, ambulance services, or in the hospital emergency room. Starting salaries are $24,000-$26,000 per year. Learn more about the career at www.nremt.org

Length of Program
1 semester (not including prerequisite courses); Program courses must be taken in sequence within the prescribed time frame.

Semester Program Begins
Lawrenceville Campus: Spring Semester; Day classes; 3/week
Fall Semester; Day classes; 3/week
Summer Semester (continues onto Fall Semester); Night classes; 3/week

Alpharetta-North Fulton Campus: Fall Semester; Night classes; 3/week

Minimum Age Requirement
Age 18 at the time program starts.

General Admission Application Process
1. Apply to Gwinnett Technical College at www.GwinnettTech.edu, submit all transcripts from high school and previous college work, and take the Accuplacer test if required. You must be accepted into Gwinnett Technical College prior to applying to a program of study.
2. Applicants are initially accepted into the Healthcare Assistant Certificate program while completing the required prerequisite courses.

Program Application Process
All applicants are required to submit a program packet. Forms are available online at http://www.gwinnettech.edu/enrollment/forms-documents/

• Summer Application Deadline: March 22
  Prerequisite Deadline: End of Spring Semester
• Fall Application Deadline: June 1
  Prerequisite End of Summer Semester
• Spring Application Deadline: October 10
  Prerequisite Deadline: End of Fall Semester

Prerequisite Courses Requirement
ALL of the following:
ENGL 1010 OR ENGL 1101
MATH 1012 OR MATH 1111
ALHS 1011* OR BIOL 2113/L* and BIOL 2114/L*
ALHS 1090*
FYES 1000
PSYC 1010 OR PSYC 1101
ALHS 1090*
*These courses cannot be more than 5 years old at time of program application.

Competitive Admissions
Acceptance into the EMT program is based on: GPA of all prerequisite courses.

Program Costs & Requirements
Approximately $720 for: uniforms; malpractice insurance; textbooks; criminal background checks & drug screening; FISDAP clinical scheduler; National Registry Exam; National Registry practical exam site fee; Georgia state licensure; other incidental costs. All costs are approximated and are subject to change.
Please note: some of these additional costs are added as fees at the beginning of the semester.

For more information, contact: Kim Smith, Program Support Specialist, kimberlysmith@gwinnettech.edu, 678-226-6966.
For admission and enrollment, contact: Enrollment Support Center in Building 100 or at healthteam@GwinnetTech.edu
EMS Professions

Quick Facts

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 Median Pay</th>
<th>Entry level education</th>
<th>Number of jobs, 2014</th>
<th>Job growth, 2014-2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$31,980 per year</td>
<td>Diploma or certificate</td>
<td>241,200</td>
<td>24% (much faster than average)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Nature of the Work

The EMT represents the first response of the emergency medical system. An EMT trained at this level is prepared to care for patients at the scene of an accident and while transporting patients by ambulance to the hospital under the direction of more highly trained medical personnel. The EMT has the emergency skills to assess a patient's condition and manage respiratory, cardiac, and trauma emergencies. The AEMT has more advanced training. However, the specific tasks that those certified at this level are allowed to perform varies greatly from state to state. Once they arrive, EMTs assess the nature of the patient’s condition, while trying to determine whether the patient has any pre-existing medical conditions. Following protocols and guidelines, they provide emergency care and transport the patient to a medical facility. EMTs operate in emergency medical services systems where a physician provides medical direction and oversight.

EMTs use special equipment, such as backboards, to immobilize patients before placing them on stretchers and securing them in the ambulance for transport to a medical facility. These workers generally work in teams. During the transport of a patient, one drives, while the other monitors the patient’s vital signs and gives additional care, as needed. At the medical facility, EMTs help transfer patients to the emergency department, report their observations and actions to emergency department staff, and may provide additional emergency treatment. After each run, EMTs document the trip, replace used supplies, and check equipment.

Work Environment

EMTs work both indoors and out, in all types of weather. They are required to do considerable kneeling, bending, and heavy lifting. These workers are at a higher risk for contracting illnesses or experiencing injuries on the job than workers in other occupations. They risk noise-induced hearing loss from sirens and back injuries from lifting patients. In addition, EMTs may be exposed to communicable diseases, such as Hepatitis-B and AIDS, as well as to violence from mentally unstable or combative patients. The work is not only physically strenuous but can be stressful, sometimes involving life-or-death situations and suffering patients. Many EMTs are required to work more than 40 hours a week. Because emergency services function 24 hours a day, EMTs and paramedics may have irregular working hours.

Employment

EMTs and paramedics held about 241,200 jobs nationally in 2014. Most career EMTs work in metropolitan areas. Volunteer EMTs are more common in small cities, towns, and rural areas. These individuals volunteer for fire departments, emergency medical services, or hospitals and may respond to only a few calls per month. Employment of emergency medical technicians and paramedics is expected to grow 24 percent between 2014 and 2024.

Earnings

Median annual wages nationally of EMTs and paramedics were $31,980 in May 2015. The lowest 10 percent earned less than $20,860 and the highest 10 percent earned more than $55,110.

Research the Career


INFORMATION SESSIONS

Lawrenceville Campus: 4th Tuesday of each month at 5:00 p.m. Building 200, Room 271
Alpharetta-North Fulton Campus: 1st Tuesday of every month from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. by appointment only
Please contact Kim Smith (Kimberlysmith@GwinnettTech.edu) to make an appointment