Emergency Medical Services

250 Taylor Health Science Bldg.
(435) 879-4950
http://health.dixie.edu/ems/

To find faculty & staff phone numbers and email addresses, please consult the University Directory (http://www.dixie.edu/directory/directory.php).

Program Coordinator
Shanna Alger, B.A.

Program Secretary
Arvilla McInnes

CTE Advisor
Christian Wright

Interim Dean
Patricia Wintch RDH, MSDH

Administrative Specialist
Merilee Gustafson

Program Description
The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program is designed to prepare students for career opportunities in pre-hospital emergency care, such as ambulance, fire department, search and rescue, law enforcement, and volunteer service. Pre-hospital emergency care involves a wide scope of activities such as recognition and management of patients with heart disease, trauma, burns, poisoning, alcohol and drug abuse, childbirth, acute psychiatric disorders, and other medical emergencies. Curricula for all EMS courses are based on the National Standard Curriculum.

Our Goal is to prepare competent entry level paramedic/EMTs in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Accreditation
The EMS Program is accredited through the Joint Review Committee on Education Programs for EMT-Paramedic, which can be contacted at:

Joint Review Committee on Education Programs for the EMT-Paramedic
7108-C South Alton Way Suite 150
Englewood CO 80112-2106
(303) 694-6191
www.caahep.org (http://www.caahep.org)

Course Prefixes
• EMS

Degrees & Certificates
Emergency Medical Services (p. 1)
• Associate of Applied Science in Emergency Medical Services (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/emergencymedicalservices/associate_of_applied_science_in_emergency_medical_service)
• Advanced Emergency Medical Technician – Certificate of Proficiency (AEMT)* (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/emergencymedicalservices/advanced_emt_certificate_of_proficiency)
• Emergency Medical Technician – Certificate of Proficiency (EMT)* (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/emergencymedicalservices/emt_certificate_of_proficiency)
• Paramedic Certificate of Completion (catalog.dixie.edu/programs/emergencymedicalservices/paramedic_certificate_of_proficiency)

Admission to the Paramedic Program
To be considered for admission to the Paramedic program, an applicant must first be admitted as a Dixie State University student. Then, the applicant must complete a separate application to the Paramedic program. Applications for admission to the Paramedic program are available online (http://dixie.edu/health/ems). The deadline for submitting applications is October 1.

Prerequisite Courses
BIOL 2320 & BIOL 2325  Human Anatomy and Human Anatomy Lab  5
BIOL 2420 & BIOL 2425  Human Physiology and Human Physiology Lab  4
ENGL 1010 or ENGL 1010A  or ENGL 1010D  Introduction to Writing Honors Intro to Writing Introduction to Writing  3
One of the following:
MATH 1000  Transitional Mathematics II  3-4
or MATH 1010  Intermediate Algebra
or Math Placement score 23 or higher  0

**NOTE:** Average GPA 2.0 required in prerequisite classes

Adjustment or changes to prerequisites/corequisites courses will be handled on an individual basis.

After students have completed prerequisites courses, in order to qualify for admittance into the Paramedic Program, a complete application, which includes all of the following, must be submitted:

- Admission to Dixie State University
- Completed DSU Paramedic Program Application
- 2 Confidential Recommendation Forms
- Proof of current EMT certification
- Official Transcripts
- Personal Letter, which should include why you want to be a Paramedic, why you feel you should be admitted into the program, and other information you think the Advisory Board will find useful in making its selections.
- Receipt for $25.00 Application Fee

A candidate who has submitted a complete application by the deadline of October 1st will be scheduled for skills testing and an interview which will be judged by the candidate’s exhibition of prudence and good judgment, answers to scenario based questions, and competence. Oral interviews are conducted at Dixie State University beginning October 10.

The application and interview will then by reviewed by a panel that will select the top 12 applicants to be accepted into the program, as well as possible alternatives in case space becomes available. All applicants will receive written formal notification of their status via U.S. mail. A candidate who is declined acceptance may reapply the following year, but will be required to submit a new application.

Once admitted to the Paramedic program, students may pursue either a Paramedic Certificate or an Associate of Applied Science in Emergency Medical Services.

**Career Strategies**

What does it take to be a successful paramedic?

- Compassion - EMTs and paramedics must provide emotional support to patients in an emergency, especially patients who are in life-threatening situations or extreme mental distress.
- Interpersonal skills - EMTs and paramedics almost always work on teams and must be able to coordinate their activities closely with others in stressful situations.
- Listening skills - EMTs and paramedics need to listen to patients to determine the extent of their injuries or illnesses.
- Physical strength. EMTs and paramedics need to be physically fit. Their job requires a lot of bending, lifting, and kneeling.
- Problem-solving skills - EMTs and paramedics need strong problem-solving skills. They must evaluate patients’ symptoms and administer the appropriate treatments.
- Speaking skills - EMTs and paramedics need to be able to comfort and explain procedures to the patient, give orders, and relay information to others.

**Career Opportunities**

Approximately 48% of EMTs/paramedics are employed by ambulance services. Twenty-nine percent work for local governments, and the remaining 17% work directly for hospitals. The DSU Paramedic Program currently has a 100% job placement.

**Job Outlook**

The growth rate in jobs for EMTs/paramedic from 2010 to 2020 is extraordinary at 33%, which is much faster than the average for all professions.

**Salary Range**
The median wage for an experienced EMT/paramedic is $31,980.

* From the Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2015