



PARAMEDIC PROGRAM OVERVIEW

LEMOORE COLLEGE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

Thank you for your interest in the Lemoore College Paramedic Program! Read on for more information about our program, including the application process, prerequisites and answers to general questions about the paramedic program.

WHEN DOES THE NEXT PARAMEDIC PROGRAM BEGIN?

Each new cohort begins in August and takes 12 months to complete. Terms are Fall, Spring, and Summer. Lemoore College admits 32-36 students once per year to the paramedic program.

WHAT IS THE PROCESS FOR APPLICATION/ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM?

The Lemoore College Paramedic Program begins accepting applications in early March before the August start date.

Current pre-requisites to be eligible to apply to the program are:

- Minimum of 18 years of age** (verified by copy of valid diver license and vehicle insurance)
- Minimum 2.0 GPA** (verified by OFFICIAL transcripts)
- Current EMT certification with the State of California** (with no current disciplinary action) (validated by copy of current local or state EMT card, and program director verification of online certification database)
- Minimum of 6 months field experience as an EMT within the last 2 years** (verified by work verification form and employer letter of recommendation/good standing)
- Anatomy and Physiology requirement.** For certification track of the program EMT 052 must be taken and completed with "C" or better prior to admission, for AS degree track, BIO 032 and BIO 035 or equivalent must be taken and completed with a "C" or better prior to admission. (verified by college transcripts)

1. Complete and submit the application when it becomes available.

Additional Application documents needed at the time of application are:

- **Copies of OFFICIAL Transcripts** from EVERY college attended uploaded to PDF files for each individual college
- **Work Employment Verification form** completed and signed by employer with employer Letter of Recommendation (limit of two, most current EMS employers) print form, have completed and saved as PDF to upload to application along with PDF of employer letter of recommendation.
- **Current CPR certification** (**ONLY** American Heart Association CPR certification is accepted) copy as PDF for uploading to application



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- **Copy of High School Diploma or GED or AS degree** posted to official transcripts (copy as PDF for uploading to application)

- **Copy of Valid CA Driver's license and vehicle insurance** saved as PDF documents for uploading to application

2. Applications are accepted and processed in the order that they are received. Fully completed applications will be forwarded for processing and, if complete, will be ranked on a first come first serve basis. **APPLICATIONS THAT ARE INCOMPLETE WILL GO TO THE BOTTOM OF THE LIST AND MAY NOT BE PROCESSED AT ALL IF THE CLASS IS FULL.**

3. Applications are not accessible to staff prior to the end of the application period. So, if you believe you made an error upon submission, you must re-submit the application.

4. After reviewing applications, notifications of acceptance will take place the first week of May.

AFTER PRELIMINARY ACCEPTANCE TO THE PROGRAM:

1. You will be required to attend a MANDATORY ORIENTATION (typically the 3rd week of June) where you will need to submit documentation related to immunizations, criminal background checks, and any prerequisites that were in progress during the application period. ALL vaccinations are required to receive full acceptance to the program.

2. REQUIRED IMMUNIZATIONS

- **MMR** - Rubeola: 2 vaccines OR serological testing (titer) to demonstrate immunity
Mumps: 2 vaccines OR serological testing (titer) to demonstrate immunity
Rubella: 2 vaccines OR serological testing (titer) to demonstrate immunity
- **Varicella** - 2 vaccines OR serological testing (titer) to demonstrate immunity.
- **Hepatitis B** - Documentation of immunization (series of three doses) AND documentation of titer.
- **Tdap** – Documentation of booster.
- **TB Test** - If history of positive PPD, then chest X-Ray negative for active TB.
- **COVID** – Documentation of initial and any boosters.
- **Influenza** - Vaccination for current season.
- **Health clearance physical.** (**DMV Physical satisfies this requirement**)

***Background and drug screen information will be provided after acceptance into the program**

3. The program begins with the Fall semester, usually the third week of August.



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WHAT ARE THE CRITERIA FOR GRADUATION?

1. Graduation from the core paramedic course (40.5 credits), which allows you to sit for the NREMT Exam, requires successfully passing EMT 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15 with a 77% or better.
2. Completion of the AS degree will vary with the student's ability to complete General Education (GE) requirements.
3. To Exit the core paramedic program, students must pass EMT 15, the Capstone Field Internship. To do so, all of the following must be completed.
 - a. Complete a minimum of 480 hours of internship
 - b. Receive endorsement of field preceptor and faculty
 - c. Receive endorsement of Program Director
 - d. Receive endorsement of Medical Director
 - e. Pass all quizzes/exams with a minimum score of 77%
 - f. Pass Comprehensive Adaptive Final via EMS Testing with one of the following:
 - 5 scored as "GOOD"
 - 3 scored as "GOOD" and 1 "EXCEPTIONAL"
 - 2 scored as "EXCEPTIONAL"
 - Of these attempts, one attempt must be passed in the presence of Instructor.
4. Once all this has been met, the program will consider the student as having completed the program. Their status with the NREMT will be immediately changed to "Successfully Completed Course", thereby allowing them to apply for the NREMT Exam.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does it take to be a Paramedic? What characteristics and abilities matter most?

[Technical Standards](#)

[Functional Abilities](#)



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What is the time commitment for the Paramedic program?

The didactic portion of the class is two days per week. The class meets at the Lemoore Campus in Room 361. Lectures will be Mondays from 8am -3:30pm. While lecture is in person, students have the option to attend via ZOOM if they choose. Labs will take place on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Students will choose which lab section they wish to attend, with a limit of 12 students per section. Lab sections will be assigned by application date. **LABS MUST BE ATTENDED IN PERSON.** Successful students typically study an average of 26-32 hours per week in addition to classroom learning.

Clinical rotations begin in Spring immediately after first semester. Students are allowed to bid their clinical days. Order of bid is determined by class rank in didactic. Clinical rotations are currently held at: Kaweah Delta, Adventist Medical Center – Hanford, and Valley Children's Hospital. This is subject to change.

Field internships are full time commitments and based on preceptor schedules and other demands. These occur beginning in summer semester immediately following Spring Didactic/Clinicals. You are expected to attend your internship according to the preceptor schedule. Students are encouraged to limit work schedules during this time if possible. Currently we are contracted for precepting with American Ambulance (Fresno/Kings/Madera), American Ambulance of Visalia, Lifestar Ambulance, American Medical Response (Merced/Stanslaus), Coalinga City FD, Selma City FD, Imperial Ambulance, Sequoia Safety Council, Dinuba City Fire Department, and Sanger City FD.

What if I don't have experience on an ambulance?

Please be mindful that the field internship is challenging, even for an experienced EMT. Because you will be evaluated for paramedic knowledge and skills, it is expected that you can function as an EMT. As a result, you are required to have a minimum of six months' pertinent field experience (such as: EMT on an ALS ambulance, fire department, or ER technician are acceptable) within the last two years at the time of your application. You will be required to show proof of employment and have employer recommendation.

What is the stress level and how will it affect my family and other relationships?

Per feedback from past graduates: until you experience the stress of the course, there is no way you can be prepared for it. It is very important that everyone important to you (family, friends, and work) understands and accepts the time and commitment you will need to dedicate to the program. Everyone must understand that paramedic education will be your priority over the next 12 months.



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Organizing your support system ahead of time will ensure success in the program and alleviate stress as well. Things to prepare in advance:

- Work schedule
- Childcare
- Scheduling appointments around class and not missing (there are hours of attendance mandated by the State of California. Students falling below those hours will be dismissed from the program. Not scheduling major events such as weddings, vacations, etc. during the program I advised.

What is the cost and is there financial aid?

It costs approximately \$5,200 to attend the Program if you are a California resident and are not being sponsored or in the apprenticeship program. Sponsored students/apprentices typically do not have to pay for their field internships which brings the cost of the program down to approximately \$3,200-3,500. Apprenticeship participants will also get free tuition. All students/apprentices are also HIGHLY ENCOURAGED to apply for traditional financial aid.

*Non-residents of California pay about \$14,000. This does not include your living expenses (rent, food, utilities, etc.).

Start the financial aid process early and be persistent. There is an abundance of monies available, and it requires effort on your part to go through the financial aid process.

Our Financial Aid office can be reached at:

<https://www.westhillscollge.com/lemoore/admissions/financial-aid> or call 559-925-2310

Am I able to get an associate's degree from the Program?

The Program offers both an associate's degree in Paramedicine (which has additional classes required) or the traditional Paramedic Certification. You can choose which works better for you. The chart below shows an example of both tracks:

What's the recipe for success?

Professionalism, attitude and enthusiasm are all essential factors. Be diligent to the policies, procedures and details of the Program. A high degree of self-motivation is key to being successful in this program. Keep these points in mind and find ways to continually motivate yourself. Practice time management and organizational skills. This will be one of the most challenging yet rewarding experiences of your life.



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Does the program offer Advanced Placement for higher level providers?

Currently, our program does not offer Advanced Placement for Nurses, PA/FNP's, or MD's that wish to become paramedics. Any choosing to attend the program must do so in its entirety.

Is the Program accredited?

"The Lemoore College Paramedic Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP)."

To contact CAAHEP:

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

www.caahep.org

To contact CoAEMSP:

Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions

www.coaemsp.org

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Or call

Health Careers Office

559.925.3490