

# EMS Program Information Sheet

Here are some important items related to our EMS Program:

All EMS courses in North Carolina fall under the authority of the state agency NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NCOEMS). NCOEMS sets the educational requirements for all EMS programs in our state. Essentially, there are two separate NCOEMS courses within our EMS Program; EMT (EMS-110) and Paramedic (all of the other EMS courses).

1. **First fall semester prerequisite for EMS-110:** students must have a reading comprehension at a minimum of the eleventh-grade level prior to starting the course.
  - a. High School diploma or general education certificate, **AND**
  - b. CASAS placement test taken within 12 months prior to the start of the fall semester with scores showing 11<sup>th</sup> grade reading levels, or successful completion of ENG-111 or higher.
  - c. EMS-110 requires four 12.25-hour shifts in the hospital and EMS field settings.
    - a. One shift in the hospital emergency room and three shifts in the EMS field setting. These shifts are in addition to the classroom and lab dates.
  - d. Valid driver's license (ambulance operations is required for EMS-110).
2. **First spring semester prerequisites for Advanced Life Support level courses:** reading and math requirements and valid EMT credential:
  - a. Students must meet reading comprehension and math skills, which can be met by one of these two options:
    - OPTION 1 (completed within 12-months of the start of the first spring semester):**  
RISE Tier 1 and 2 English placement test scores of 70 or higher **AND**  
RISE Tier 1 and 2 Math placement test score of 70 or higher  
**OR**
    - OPTION 2:**  
Successful completion of ENG-111 (or higher) within the past 5 years, **or**  
successful completion of ENG-002/BSP4002 Tier 2 or developmental English DRE-098 within the past 5 years **AND**  
Successful completion of \*MAT-110 (or higher) within the past 5 years, **or**  
successful completion of MAT-003/BSP4003 Tier 1 or developmental Math DMA 10-30 within the past 5 years  
*\*Note: MAT-110 is not offered at BCC, but will be accepted if successfully completed at another institution and listed on an official college transcript.*
  - b. After completion of EMS-110 you will need to take the NCOEMS written exam and obtain your EMT credential prior to the start of spring courses. The NCOEMS state EMT exam is a computer-based multiple choice question format and is offered through a local testing center. Once you complete EMS-110 you will be able to sign up for the exam through a third-party vendor.

# EMS Program Information Sheet

## **Clinical and Field Rotations and other requirements for ALL semesters:**

Each of the five semesters require a set minimum number of 12.25-hour shifts in emergency departments and on ambulances. These requirements are the clinical and field rotation component.

We contract with area hospitals and EMS agencies to meet these requirements, and must follow their current standards and regulations. Each contracted agencies has their own requirements that must be met by all students, and such requirements can change without advance notice. The current requirements set by these agencies include the following:

### Age Requirement

Students must be 18 years of age or older prior to starting clinical/field rotations, per contractual agreement with our clinical and field sites. The first day of EMS-110 (EMT) clinical rotations is typically around the 30% mark of class and will be noted on your class schedule.

### Functional Job Analysis/Characteristics and Expectations

The National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration has a Functional Job Analysis for all levels of EMS providers. These list the minimum expectations for all levels of EMS provider, which can be found here: [https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/ems/EMT-P/disk\\_1%5B1%5D/Intro-C.pdf](https://one.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/ems/EMT-P/disk_1%5B1%5D/Intro-C.pdf)

### Health Requirements

Several of these are childhood immunizations, so begin gathering the paperwork. Some of your previous vaccination records may be found at your physician's office, through the county health department, or stored away at the home of your parent or guardian. If you cannot locate these records you can take a simple blood test that checks for antibodies for many of these required items.

- a. Current Flu Vaccination (required October - March)
- b. 2 Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccinations or positive antibody titer
- c. History of Chicken Pox (documentation required) or 2 Varicella immunizations
- d. TB skin test (PPD within the past year) or chest x-ray or TB Screening form. TB screening is due every 12-months. Contact your physician or county health department to have this accomplished.
- e. Tetanus vaccination within the last 10 years (must remain current during the Program)
- f. Three (3) Hepatitis B vaccinations or a signed declination statement
- g. Completed COVID-19 initial series. Novant Health does allow requests for religious or medical waivers, but such approvals are not guaranteed. BCC has no input or authority over that decision-making process. Currently, there is no requirement for a COVID-19 booster. The Novant Health waiver request can be found here: [https://www.novanthealth.org/Portals/92/novant\\_health/documents/careers/student\\_programs/COVID%20and%20Flu%20Exemption%20Request%20Process%20.pdf?ver=fuAKVBXCTmhu9\\_376-9pJg%3D%3D&timestamp=1631803082628](https://www.novanthealth.org/Portals/92/novant_health/documents/careers/student_programs/COVID%20and%20Flu%20Exemption%20Request%20Process%20.pdf?ver=fuAKVBXCTmhu9_376-9pJg%3D%3D&timestamp=1631803082628)

# EMS Program Information Sheet

## N95 Respirator Mask Fit-Testing

N95 respirators are masks that produce a seal while covering your nose and mouth. These are different from generally surgical mask. Facial hair cannot disrupt the seal of this mask. We also must follow our contracted agency's facial hair policies. Fit-testing will occur during class.

## Urine Drug Screen

This will be completed early on during EMS-110, with the student paying the third-party vendor directly for this service. If you fail the drug screen you will not be able to progress through the Program due to contracted requirements with our clinical and field sites. Please note that marijuana can stay in your system and show up on a drug screen in excess of 45 days. This screening will need to be repeated within 12-months of the first one.

## Criminal Background check

This will be completed early on during EMS-110, with the student paying the third-party vendor directly for this service. This background check will need to be repeated within 12-months of the first one. If you have any felony charges or convictions, or any pending charges other than minor traffic violations, please contact the EMS Program Director to discuss and determine eligibility for clinical/field sites. If you are ineligible for clinical/field rotations you will not be able to progress through the Program.

## Current CPR/BLS Certification

American Heart Association BLS Card. CPR is taught during EMS-110, and the card is valid for two years. Students must maintain current and valid AHA BLS certification throughout the EMS Program.

## Mental Health and Wellness

Prehospital healthcare is a service industry type of profession. We help others in their time of need, which is very rewarding yet also very stressful.

Pride and ownership for your profession while helping others in their time of need are amazing experiences. With this in mind, maintaining a healthy balance related to your mental and physical health are extremely important.

Find constructive and healthy hobbies that you enjoy, eat reasonably well, stay active, and always make some healthy time for you.

For any Program-specific questions, please contact:

Chip Munna, EMS Program Director

[munnaj@brunswickcc.edu](mailto:munnaj@brunswickcc.edu)

910.755.7387 or 910.619.2551