



 Prairie State College

A.A.S.
Paramedicine
Program



Information
Booklet



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Prairie State College is pleased to offer an A.A.S. Paramedicine program that will provide skilled clinicians in pre-hospital care to the region. Additionally, these students will be enrolled in course work and practicums to help them develop skills in leadership and management.

THE GOALS OF THE PROGRAM

- To prepare a pre-hospital care provider with the knowledge and skills necessary to deliver efficient and clinically correct advanced care to a client(s) with an illness or injury necessitating transport to a hospital.
- To facilitate the development of verbal and written skills that provide the student with the ability to communicate clearly and succinctly with clients, families, other health care providers and emergency responders.
- To develop critical thinking skills that facilitate the delivery of appropriate, prioritized care to the sick and injured.
- To assist students in developing the ability to work as a team and to respect the viewpoints of others.
- To demonstrate skills in leadership as they relate to managing, staffing and equipping an EMS department.
- To demonstrate the ability to present information, develop evaluation tools and utilize a variety of instructional strategies in a teaching setting.

APPLICATION

Application for the Prairie State College Paramedicine, Associate in Applied Science degree, shall consist of the regular Prairie State College student application form, completion of the Paramedicine Intent Form (found in the back of this booklet) and completion of the admissions requirements.

Applicants must have a high school diploma or GED diploma and be at least 18 years of age.

PSC's assessment test, COMPASS, must be taken at the start of general education courses. The student must achieve placement levels in English, reading and mathematics to qualify him/her to take college-level work in these areas:

- English—COMPASS placement in PSC's ENG 101 or successful completion of PSC's ENG 099.
- Reading—a reading COMPASS score of 60 or higher.
- Mathematics—Completion of PSC's Math 090, or equivalent, or a COMPASS placement score in mathematics at the Math 095 level or higher.

No student will be admitted to the core curriculum unless all developmental course work has been successfully (*grade of C or better*) completed.

Transcripts from all previous colleges must be submitted prior to the deadline date with a Transcript Evaluation Form (prairiestate.edu/admissions/adm-form.html)

All necessary materials needed for evaluation must be in the Office of Admissions by June 1 of each year, if fall enrollment into the core curriculum of the same year, is anticipated.

This selected enrollment program will admit students into the core curriculum who have successfully completed the prerequisite courses with a grade of C or better and who have completed most, if not all, of the general education courses. Each student's course completion will be evaluated before approval is granted to enter the core curriculum. The core curriculum will be offered during the second year of the two-year program. Students who successfully complete the core curriculum and who are eligible to graduate with an A.A.S. degree in paramedicine will be given approval to submit the request to write the national registry exam and/or state licensing exam. Students entering the core curriculum must be able to commit to a full-time credit hour load. There is no part-time option in the core curriculum.

BRIDGE OPTION FOR PRACTICING PARAMEDICS

Practicing paramedics will have an opportunity to participate in a bridge program to obtain the A.A.S. degree. Students must be active in the practice of paramedicine, show proof of a current Illinois paramedic license, be up-to-date with continuing education requirements and must obtain a letter of recommendation from either the department EMS coordinator, department chief or the regional medical director.

Students who have been accepted into the A.A.S. Paramedicine program through a bridge option will be required to successfully complete all of the general education courses as well as EMS 230 and EMS 235 to graduate from the program.

COURSE SEQUENCE

Prerequisite Courses (student will not be considered a candidate for the core curriculum without these courses being successfully completed with a grade of C or better)

EMS	101	Emergency Medical Technician	7
HLTH	105	Medical Terminology	1
BIOL	221	Anatomy & Physiology I	4
BIOL	222	Anatomy & Physiology II	4

Documented work experience as an EMT for a minimum of six months prior to enrollment into the core curriculum.

Total: 16 credit hours

General Education Requirements

ENG	101	Composition I	3
COMM	101	Principles of Communication	3
PSYCH	101	Introduction to Psychology	3
HUMAN	any IAI approved course in Area B		3

Total: 16 credit hours

Core Curriculum

EMS	200	Paramedicine I	12
EMS	205	Paramedicine: Field Practicum I	2
EMS	210	Paramedicine: Hospital Practicum	2
EMS	215	Paramedicine: Seminar I	1
EMS	220	Paramedicine II	12
EMS	225	Paramedicine: Field Practicum II	2
EMS	230	Paramedicine: Leadership Practicum	2
EMS	235	Paramedicine: Seminar II	1

Total: 34 credit hours

STUDENT RANKING

Students are required to have the prerequisites as well as the majority of the general education courses completed during the first academic year of the program. All lab science courses must have been taken within five years of application to the program. Students will be selected based on validation of completed prerequisites, documentation of a minimum of six months working as an Emergency Medical Technician and the earned rank score. In-district students will be given five additional rank points.

Rank points will be earned as follows:

- A= 4 points
- B = 3 points
- C = 2 points

Example: A student takes a 3 credit hour class and earns an A. He/she will earn 12 rank points for that class. Rank points will only be earned in courses that are prerequisites or general education requirements for the program. This does not match the GPA a student earns which would include all courses a student takes while in college.

Qualified students will be required to participate in an orientation session which will acquaint them with the details of the core curriculum. Students will be given a physical form to have completed by the start of the fall semester. Students will be required to have a current CPR card and documented health insurance coverage by the beginning of classes. A five panel drug screen and a criminal background check will be a requirement for entry into the program. If a student has been convicted of a disqualifying offense, it may not be possible to arrange for clinical placement in a health care institution. The student would be required to withdraw from the program. If a student has a positive drug screen and no documented medical reason for such, the student will be referred to an appropriate community agency for rehabilitative services. The student may be reconsidered for entry into the program upon successful completion of a rehabilitative program and at least one year of documented drug free behavior.

If a student has a chronic condition, previous injury to the spine, knees or feet, or is pregnant a medical release must be obtained for the student to be able to participate fully in the program. A special pregnancy policy must be signed and the procedures must be followed to assure the health of the student and the fetus.

No student will be permitted to write the licensing exam until he/she has completed all of the requirements to graduate from the program.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION

Students must be able to consistently attend class and be on time to participate in the program. The program policy booklet will outline the maximum number of tardy days or absences a student can have without it adversely affecting continuation in the program. This is an academically rigorous program and requires that the student dedicate the appropriate amount of in classroom and out of classroom time to achieve competency in the skills and didactic elements of the program. Students are advised not to enroll in the core curriculum if this time commitment cannot be assured.

Special Provision

In the event that there are insufficient qualified candidates who have applied by the June 1 deadline, the application date will be extended to the end of the summer term second session. Under this provision, students can make application and have courses taken over the summer reflected in their application process.

Should space still remain, review of any late qualified applicants will be conducted with the intention of filling the space in the class.

CORE COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

EMS 200 Paramedicine I

This is the student's introduction to the field of paramedicine. The student will study the roles and responsibilities of the pre-hospital care provider, medical/legal issues, ethics, principles of pathophysiology, pharmacology, medication administration, airway management and ventilation, patient assessment, trauma and gynecological and obstetrics emergencies. Skill acquisition will be integrated into the course of study.

EMS 205 Paramedicine: Field Practicum I

This course will allow student opportunities to perform or observe assessments and procedures learned in the classroom in a pre-hospital setting under the supervision of a licensed paramedic. The students will focus on trauma, acute/chronic illnesses and life-threatening emergencies of various etiologies. They will function as team members while riding with the assigned advanced life support (ALS) unit. Upon successful completion of this field practicum, the student will be able to meet the required competencies to advance to Paramedicine: Field Practicum II.

EMS 210 Paramedicine: Hospital Practicum

This course will allow students opportunity to perform or observe assessments and procedures learned in the classroom in various departments within a hospital setting. The student will be under the direct supervision of a licensed nurse or physician. The student will focus on trauma, acute/chronic illnesses and obstetrics. They will function as team members in the respective hospital units. Upon successful completion of the required activities and skill sets, the student will be able to advance to the Paramedicine II course and the final program practicums.

EMS 215 Paramedicine: Seminar I

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to discuss their first-semester field and hospital-based experiences. It provides a forum to help insure the successful transition to the work world. Previously determined topics will be discussed that go beyond the scope of the core curriculum. Students will present small group projects based on real-world issues in pre-hospital care to the class that will involve both written and oral communication skills.

EMS 220 Paramedicine II

This course is a continuation of Paramedicine I. Students will study medical emergencies, which will cover, but are not limited to: cardiac, neurology, endocrinology, allergies and anaphylaxis, gastrointestinal disorders, urinary and renal disorders, toxicology, hematology and environmental conditions, infectious and communicable diseases and psychiatric disorders. Additionally, students will focus on the use of the intravenous route of administration in all its forms, pharmacology, and life span considerations from neonatal, to pediatrics and through gerontological considerations.

EMS 225 Paramedicine: Field Practicum II

This course is a continuation of Field Practicum I. This course will allow students opportunities to perform or observe assessments and procedures learned in the classroom in a pre-hospital setting under the supervision of a license paramedic. This practicum will focus more heavily on the care of the cardiac client and the standard medical orders related to the treatment of these conditions. The students will function as team members while riding with the assigned advanced life support (ALS) unit. This course must be completed successfully with Paramedicine II to be eligible to write the state licensure exam.

EMS 230 Paramedicine: Leadership Practicum

This course will focus on the management and leadership responsibilities of a professional paramedic. The students will have a project-based experience that introduces the paramedic to the role of instructor, EMS coordinator, quality assurance manager and the like. The students will be assigned to observe and assist various individuals who function in a management or leadership role in emergency pre-hospital care or the education of pre-hospital care providers. Assignments will reflect hands-on experience related to the preceptor's daily responsibilities. This experience will also include observational and hands-on experience with end-of-life and pastoral care.

EMS 235 Paramedicine: Seminar II

This course is designed to provide students with an opportunity to discuss field and hospital-based experiences they encounter during the last semester of their core curriculum. It provides a forum to help insure the successful transition to the work world. Previously determined topics will be discussed that go beyond the scope of the core curriculum. Students will present group projects to the class that deal with leadership or staff development topics. This presentation will require the use of several instructional methodologies that match the topic being presented.

PRAIRIE STATE COLLEGE

PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM INTENT FORM

***Not to be submitted until completion of the PSC COMPASS assessment test and test scores are available in Admissions office and all required developmental course work is completed OR all official college transcripts showing completed levels of English, math and reading have been submitted.*

I have carefully reviewed the "Prairie State College Paramedicine Department Application and Admissions Procedures." I understand all of the admission requirements, as well as responsibilities which I must meet to be considered for admission to the PSC Paramedicine Program. I understand all sciences must have been completed within the past five years.

Further, I understand that: 1) the application deadline for consideration for entry into the next Fall class of Prairie State College's Paramedicine Program is June 1; 2) students who complete the prerequisites after June 1, will be considered only as remaining space is available in a given entering class; and 3) qualified applicants who were not granted admission (due to space limitations during a particular year) must reapply to be considered the following year.

I wish to be considered for admission to the Fall, 20____ PARAMEDICINE PROGRAM.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Social Security Number: _____

RETURN THIS FORM TO THE OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS, RECORDS AND REGISTRATION ON OR BEFORE
JUNE 1

PLEASE PRINT:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City & State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Home Phone: _____

Work Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:
Test Date: _____
ENG _____
RDG _____
MATH _____
Other Method _____

I am RE-APPLYING for admission to the PSC Paramedicine Program ___ yes ___ no

I graduated from high school in _____ month ___ year in the State of _____

My maiden name (or the name that appears on my transcripts) is: _____

*****IMPORTANT***** *Your signature above verifies your knowledge of the five year science rule.*