



**Forsyth Tech**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

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**EMS PROGRAMS**

***Paramedic  
Academy***

**Information Packet**



Dear Prospective Paramedic Student,

Thank you for considering the Forsyth Tech EMS Paramedic Academy as the next step in your journey toward a career in emergency medical services (EMS). By joining our program, you are preparing to enter a rewarding and impactful profession where every day brings the opportunity to make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

The Paramedic Academy is an intensive 11-month program designed to prepare highly skilled, confident, and compassionate EMS professionals. Through a combination of classroom instruction, immersive lab sessions, and real-world clinical experiences, you'll develop the critical thinking and technical expertise required to perform in high-stakes environments. Our curriculum not only challenges you academically and professionally but also builds the leadership and decision-making skills needed to manage complex patient care situations in the field.

Throughout the program, you will study advanced life support (ALS) care and gain in-depth knowledge in airway management, cardiology, ECG interpretation, pharmacology, and emergency care across the lifespan—from pediatric to geriatric patients. You will learn to assess and manage trauma and medical emergencies, respond to respiratory, neurological, and endocrine conditions, and understand the legal and ethical aspects of EMS practice. You'll also be trained in EMS operations, scene safety, communication, documentation, and collaborative care in high-pressure settings. Your hands-on training will include simulations with high-fidelity manikins and clinical rotations in hospitals, specialty units, and with local EMS agencies, ensuring you graduate with real-world experience and confidence.

***Before applying, please take time to review the Technical Standards and Essential Functions of a Paramedic, which can be found here by using Ctrl + click: [Paramedic Technical Standards](#).*** These standards outline the physical, cognitive, and emotional requirements essential for success in the program and the profession. Understanding these expectations will help you assess your readiness for the rigors of paramedic training.

Paramedics are essential members of the healthcare system, responding to emergencies, providing life-saving care in the field, and ensuring patients are safely transported for further treatment. This career requires resilience, compassion, quick thinking, and a commitment to service. Graduates of our academy will be eligible to sit for both the North Carolina State Paramedic Examination and the National Registry Paramedic Examination, unlocking access to a wide range of career paths. In addition to traditional 911 response roles, paramedics are increasingly being sought for positions in critical care transport, emergency departments, urgent care clinics, and even physician offices—demonstrating the versatility and value of this profession across the healthcare landscape.

Included in this application packet, you will find everything you need to guide you through the admissions process. This includes information on prerequisites, eligibility criteria, program coursework, and a step-by-step overview of the application process. Admission to the academy is competitive, with only the top 20 candidates selected through a points-based ranking system. To be considered, applications must be accurate, complete, and submitted by the posted deadline.

Choosing to become a paramedic is more than a career decision—it is a commitment to serve others during their most vulnerable moments. If you are ready to embrace that challenge, our team is here to support you every step of the way.

We look forward to reviewing your application and helping you begin your path toward a meaningful and dynamic career in EMS.

Sincerely,  
*The Forsyth Tech EMS Education Team*

## **Candidate Eligibility**

To be eligible for the Forsyth Tech EMS paramedic academy, candidates must meet the following minimum requirements:

- Must be 18 years of age at the start of the course to enroll.
- High school diploma or high school equivalent.
- Possession of a valid form of ID.
- Completion of the prerequisites below.

## **Required Prerequisites**

In addition to meeting the eligibility requirements, candidates must complete the prerequisites below to be eligible to apply:

- Possession of a valid and active North Carolina EMT Credential
- Completion of one of the Anatomy and Physiology courses below prior to the first day of class.
  - Option 1: EMS- 3163 Basic Anatomy and Physiology
  - Option 2: BIO- 163: Basic Anatomy and Physiology
  - Option 3: BIO- 165 & 166: Anatomy and Physiology I & II (Must complete both sections)
  - Option 4: BIO- 168 & 169: Anatomy and Physiology I & II (Must complete both sections)
- Successful completion of college-level English or successful benchmark score on placement test within the past 12 months placing them in college-level English.
- Successful completion of college-level Math or successful benchmark score on placement test within the past 12 months placing them in college-level Math.

## **Entry Examination**

As part of the application process for the Paramedic Academy, candidates must complete an entry exam. This exam will assess basic entry-level EMT knowledge through validated test questions, evaluating the candidate's understanding of foundational EMS concepts. The purpose of the exam is to ensure that applicants possess the essential knowledge required to succeed in the rigorous Paramedic Academy program.

The score achieved on the entry exam will contribute additional points toward the candidate's overall admission ranking. Details regarding the entry exam, including scheduling and instructions, will be provided after the application period has closed.

## **Information Session (Orientation)**

All students accepted into the Paramedic Academy are required to attend a mandatory information session. Failure to attend this session without prior approval from the EMS Program Director will result in the forfeiture of their spot in the program. Vacated spots will be offered to alternate candidates on the program's waiting list. Once accepted into the course, all information will be communicated to the students via their Forsyth Technical Community College email. Information will not be sent through any alternative communication methods.

## **Program Admission Process**

The Forsyth Tech EMS Program's Paramedic Academy admits candidates based on a points-based ranking system. This application packet outlines the program's admission criteria and provides a detailed explanation of how students are ranked. The academy will accept the top 20 applicants into the program. In the event of a tie between candidates, the applicant with the highest score on the entry examination will be admitted.

## **Ranking Criteria**

The ranking system for admission to the Forsyth Tech EMS Programs Paramedic Academy is points-based and designed to evaluate candidates on a combination of academic preparation, professional experience, certifications, and performance on the mandatory entry examination. All students must submit copies of transcripts, active certifications, or letters from their EMS agency verifying that they have the field experience as outlined in the

points system to be awarded points. Below are the criteria that will be used to rank and select candidates for the Forsyth Tech EMS Program's Paramedic Academy.

Check	Minimum Prerequisites and Points System	Total Points
<input type="checkbox"/>	Valid NC EMT certification	3
<b>Meet one of the following anatomy &amp; physiology options*</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	BIO-168 & BIO-169: Anatomy and Physiology I & II	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	BIO-163: Basic Anatomy and Physiology	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	BIO-165 & BIO-166: Anatomy and Physiology I & II	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	EMS-3163: Basic Anatomy and Physiology	2
<b>Meet one of the following college-level math and reading competencies*</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Successful completion of college-level English or pass a written assessment within the past 12 months placing them in college-level English	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Successful completion of college-level Math or pass a written assessment within the past 12 months placing them in college-level Math	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post-secondary degree associate degree	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post-secondary degree bachelor's degree	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	Post-secondary degree master's degree or higher	6

Sections with \* mean maximum of one option will count

Check	Remaining Points System	Total Points
<b>Mandatory Entry Examination Score</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	100-95	20
<input type="checkbox"/>	94-90	15
<input type="checkbox"/>	89-85	10
<input type="checkbox"/>	84-80	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	79-70	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	69-60	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	59 or below	1
<b>Professional Experience as an EMT*</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 year	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 years	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 years	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 years	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	5+ years	5
<b>Professional Experience as an Advanced-EMT*</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	1 year	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	2 years	4
<input type="checkbox"/>	3 years	6
<input type="checkbox"/>	4 years	8
<input type="checkbox"/>	5+ years	10
<b>Professional Certifications</b>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	NREMT certification**	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	NR Advanced-EMT certification**	5
<input type="checkbox"/>	AHA BLS	1
<input type="checkbox"/>	AHA ACLS	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	AHA PALS	2
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trauma certification	2

Sections with \*under profession experience mean candidate get points for either EMT or Advanced-EMT, not both.

Sections with \*\* under profession certification mean candidate get points for either EMT or Advanced-EMT, not both.

Check	Additional Credits for Educational Courses	Total Points
<input type="checkbox"/>	PSY 150 or PSY 118*	3
<input type="checkbox"/>	ENG 112 or ENG 114*	3

Sections with \* mean only one option in each section will count

## Program Cost

Please note that all fees are subject to change, and the estimated pricing provided does not account for potential fee waivers. Additional cost for background check could occur for students who live out of state. The costs outlined below are only an estimate and may vary. Additionally, students are required by clinical sites to obtain or complete specific vaccinations or immunizations as part of the program. The details regarding required vaccinations or immunizations will be discussed during the mandatory information session (orientation). Any fees associated with these requirements are not included in the program cost breakdown, as they may vary based on individual student needs. For the most accurate and up-to-date information regarding the total of your program please email the EMS Program Director at [mbelcher@forsythtech.edu](mailto:mbelcher@forsythtech.edu) for further details.

Registration Fees	Amount
Course fee Part 1	\$180.00
Course Fee Part 2	\$180.00
CAPS (All SEF and OE sections)	\$5.00
CETFE (All OE sections)	\$5.00
Malpractice Insurance Part 1	\$18.00
Malpractice Insurance Part 2	\$18.00
EMS Testing	\$90.00
EMCE Pro	\$120.00
EMCE	
NAEMT PHTLS Certification	\$15.00
AHA ACLS Certification	\$8.00
AHA PALS Certification	\$8.00
Background and Drug Screen Base Price	\$101.00
Paramedic Textbook (AAOS)	\$240.00
School Uniform Shirt	\$30.00
EMS Pants	\$50.00
EMS Boots	\$50.00
<b>Total Class Fees</b>	<b>\$1,118.00</b>

## Application Submission

Applications for the Paramedic Academy will open on April 1, 2025, and will end on October 1, 2025, unless otherwise noted. Candidates do not have to have an active Forsyth Tech email to apply for the program.

To complete and submit your application, candidates should click on the following hyperlink:

<https://paramedicapply.forsythtech.edu/>

## Applicant Selection and Notification Process

Please allow 2-3 weeks after the application deadline to receive updates on the status of your application. If you're accepted into the paramedic academy a notification will be sent to the email that you used to apply for the program. After a student is accepted and registered into the academy all further communication regarding the next steps in the selection process will be conducted through the candidate's Forsyth Tech email address.

Once the application is reviewed, candidates will receive instructions on the orientation and how to complete the required entry examination. Candidates who choose not to complete the orientation or examination will have their applications removed from consideration for the program.

Following completion of the orientation and the entry examination, candidates will receive one of the following notifications:

- Candidates will receive an offer of admission to the program.
- Candidates not immediately admitted may be placed on a waitlist and will be contacted if a seat becomes available.
- Candidates who do not meet the selection criteria will receive notification that they have not been selected for admission to the program.

Please ensure you regularly check your Forsyth Tech email for updates and instructions. Failure to follow through with any part of the selection process may result in disqualification.

### **Further Questions**

For any questions regarding the Forsyth Tech EMS program or the paramedic program admissions process, please contact EMS Program Director Michael Belcher at [mbelcher@forsythtech.edu](mailto:mbelcher@forsythtech.edu). ***Candidates should not inquire about additional criteria for acceptance into the paramedic program beyond what is listed in this application.***