2015 Paramedic Program Guide

Admission into the Mercy Regional EMS Training Center (MREMS) paramedic program is highly competitive. MREMS may not be able to accept all applicants that meet the minimum admission and technical standards.

Program description
The paramedic program at the Mercy Regional EMS Training Center (MREMS) is designed for career opportunities with ambulance services, fire departments, hospitals and rescue departments. Paramedic students learn to manage seriously ill and critically injured patients in the out-of-hospital setting.

Upon successful completion of the MREMS paramedic program, students are eligible to sit for the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians-Paramedic (NREMT-P) exam. NREMT-P certification is required for licensure as a paramedic in the State of Wisconsin.

MREMS offers both a full- and part-time paramedic program. The full-time program is 40 hours a week for 29 weeks, Monday through Friday, January through July. The part-time program averages 25 hours a week for 48 weeks on Tuesdays, Thursdays and the first Saturday of every month (late January to December), with additional clinical and field time scheduled September through December.

Curriculum
The MREMS paramedic program provides paramedic education based on the National Standard Curriculum of the U.S. Department of Transportation and 2010 Wisconsin Paramedic Curriculum required by the State of Wisconsin under DHS 110.

Accreditation
The 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 EMS Professionals (CoAEMSP).

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General course objectives
Upon completion of the classroom lectures, demonstration/return demonstration labs, independent readings, hospital-based clinical rotations, supervised field internship, and course exams, the paramedic program graduate will be able to demonstrate competency and mastery in the terminal competencies as outlined in the Program Summative Assessment.

1) Prepare for incident response and EMS operations.
2) Integrate patho-physiological principles and assessment findings to provide appropriate patient care.
3) Demonstrate paramedic skills associated with established standards and procedures for a variety of patient encounters.
4) Communicate effectively with others.
5) Demonstrate professional behavior.
6) Meet state and national competencies listed for paramedic credentialing.

Course components
1) Didactic classroom instruction
   Educational methods employed: Lecture, group-directed discussion, demonstration/return demonstration, skill and simulation labs, varied AV aids and case studies.

2) Clinical rotations
   Students are rotated through emergency departments, ICU, respiratory care, IV therapy (Endo), labor and delivery, laboratory, OR, PACU, pediatrics, psychiatric unit, and assisted living.

3) Student field internship
   This period of supervised experience on an ALS vehicle offers the student a progression of increasing patient care responsibilities that proceed from observing to functioning as a team member to completing the role of team leader.
To successfully complete the course, the student must fulfill all didactic, clinical, and field internship requirements and meet the minimum acceptable standards of mastery/competency in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains as measured by written, verbal, and practical examinations and performance appraisals.

**Admission**
Admission/selection into the program is competitive. To enter the selection process, a completed application packet must first be received. Students will then be ranked based on scoring of their application, performance on a written and/or skills practical test, and a selection committee interview. Priority is given to applicants who are employed and sponsored by a local Wisconsin licensed paramedic ambulance service.

**Application requirements**
1) Must be at least 18 years old.
2) Must be a graduate of a standard four-year high school program or have a general education development (GED) certificate. A copy of the high school diploma or certificate must be included with your application.
3) Must submit copies of all technical college and university transcripts.
4) Must hold a valid license as an emergency medical technician (EMT) issued by the State of Wisconsin. A photocopy of the license must be included with your application.
5) One (1) year of documented experience as an EMT is preferred.
6) Must submit three (3) references. Forms are provided in the application packet for this purpose. Close friends and relatives cannot be used for this purpose. References must be provided from each of the following:
   i. Someone familiar with your EMT skills and experience.
   ii. A person knowledgeable of your character.
   iii. A present or past employer.
7) Must demonstrate EMT knowledge and skills proficient at a level deemed appropriate by successfully completing entry examinations that include written and/or practical sessions.
8) Must submit to a personal interview by our selection committee.
9) Must hold a current BLS Healthcare Provider card issued by the American Heart Association (or American Red Cross equivalent).
10) Must submit a statement outlining your motivation or reasoning for attending the program.
11) Must be able to meet the requirements outlined in the *Mercy Regional EMS Training Center Paramedic Program Technical Standards* document.

**Career information**
MREMS has career planning and information services available through Mercy Health System Human Resources and local EMS Leadership Professionals. Resources include career interest and personality interviewing as well as occupational descriptions, employment outlook, and earnings.
Program cost
The cost for the MREMS paramedic program is $6,250.00. This cost includes the student’s textbooks, uniforms and the MREMS National Registry (NREMT) Practical Exam fee. Payment is due the first day of class. MREMS does not offer financial aid. A payment plan may be established. Tuition is non-refundable. Cost is subject to change without advanced notice.

The student is responsible for the cost of transportation, food, lodging or other miscellaneous expenses, including NREMT registration. The student must also provide his/her own computer with e-mail access, stethoscope, wristwatch and extreme weather gear needed for clinical and field rotations.

Health insurance
MREMS requires students to be covered by health insurance during their time enrolled in the paramedic program. If you need help finding health care insurance coverage, please contact MREMS.

Technical standards
The MREMS paramedic student candidate must meet the technical standards of observation, communication, motor, intellectual and behavioral/social attributes, as listed in the Mercy Regional EMS Training Center Paramedic Program Technical Standards document.

Advanced placement/transfer of credits/credit for experiential learning
It is the policy of MREMS to not offer advanced placement, accept any transfer of any credits from another institution, or provide credit for experiential learning for any paramedic applicant or student.

Contact information

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