

EMS Education FAQ

Is a college degree required to work in EMS?

No. A high school diploma or GED is required, and it is recommended to have good reading, math, and study skills. The EMT and Paramedic programs are post-high school level programs but testing for licensure does not require a degree.

How long does it take to become trained as an EMT or Paramedic?

Most EMT programs operate 1 day or 2 nights each week for about four months. In addition, EMT students must serve hospital and ambulance clinical rotations which are done concurrently with classroom training.

Paramedic training programs last about one year, meeting 1 day or 2 nights per week. During this period, the paramedic student must complete approximately 500 hours of hospital and ambulance clinical time. Some paramedic programs operate on an accelerated basis with eight hours per day and in some cases five days per week. Depending on the schedule, these programs can be completed faster, but the student must devote their free hours to studying and clinicals. The accelerated schedule makes working and going to school at the same time almost impossible. NOTE: Paramedic students must complete EMT training and become licensed before starting paramedic training.

What is the cost of EMT and Paramedic training?

**HVA EMS Education EMT tuition is \$1500 plus textbooks, uniforms, and other required purchases (\$900 estimate).
HVA EMS Education Paramedic tuition is \$6300 plus textbooks, uniforms, and other required purchases (\$1300 estimate).**

Who licenses EMTs and Paramedics?

In Michigan, the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services licenses EMTs and Paramedics. The Department provides written testing and skills evaluation through various testing centers. For more information, [click here](#)

Can I take the National Registry Exam after completing an HVA EMS program?

Yes. We are fully accredited by CAAHEP which means that students who complete our programs are eligible for the National Registry computer-based test and/or practical skills evaluation.


What does "online blended" mean?

Our EMT and Paramedic courses are offered in an online blended (sometimes called "hybrid") format. It means that some material is offered online, and other material is delivered face-to-face. Your readings, assignments, homework, class discussions and quizzes, will be offered online through the J&B online classroom. The online week runs from Monday to Sunday so all online assignments for the week are due by that Sunday evening at 12 midnight, unless otherwise noted. Skills sessions, including some lectures, will require you to be either in class or online for a webinar session. All terminal competency exams, including the final computer-based test, will be in person and at a designated campus.

Do I have to come to the main campus in Ann Arbor? If so, how often?

Yes, you have to come to main campus as part of our online blended courses. Refer to each individual program's on-site requirements for the specific number of on-site visits. These visits are spaced throughout the program.

Can I complete my clinical/EMS rotations near my home?

 It depends. Your course instructor will inform you on the first evening of class where clinical and/or internship opportunities exist.

How do your graduates perform on the National Registry exams?

Our paramedic and EMT graduates have a 90-100% pass rate on their first attempt at the National Registry cognitive exam (the national average is 73% and the State of Michigan 58-64%). See [Our Recent Pass Rates](#).

Do you offer tutoring and academic assistance?

Our program offers individual assistance with tutoring and academic remedial planning for all students who find themselves falling below the minimum academic threshold. Further, our EMT and paramedic programs combined, retain and successfully graduate more than 70% of the hundreds of students who attend our programs annually, based on academic performance.

[Paramedic Program Outcomes](#)

Do you offer student placement after graduation?

Yes. All of our EMS students receive a visit from our corporate recruiter to explain all the opportunities within our parent organization Emergent Health Partners. Emergent Health Partners owns and operates six ambulance services across southern Michigan and employs more than 600 EMTs and Paramedics. See what positions are available [insert link]