

Emergency Services

Are you a calm person in emergencies? Do you make good decisions in stressful situations? Are you interested in assisting patients by administering pre-hospital emergency care? This is another career path they you may want to explore. Emergency medical professional provide pre-hospital medical care. They respond to emergency calls to provide efficient and immediate care to the critically ill and injured and determine the nature and extent of illness or injury to establish priority for required emergency care.

In Alberta there are three tiers of emergency medical professional, such as: Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician - Ambulance (EMT) and Emergency Medical Technologist - Paramedic (EMT-P). In general, their duties include, but are not limited to: provide pre-hospital emergency medical care including controlling hemorrhage, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), oxygen, bandaging and the treatment of trauma patients; assisting in childbirth, management of cardiac, diabetic, allergic, behavioral, and environmental emergencies, and suspected poisonings; assess the extent of injuries or illness to determine appropriate medical treatment.

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EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER (EMR) / EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN - AMBULANCE (EMT) / EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNOLOGIST - PARAMEDIC (EMT-P).

Generic job description:

Emergency medical personnel work both indoors and outdoors, often in stressful circumstances, and may work in extreme weather conditions. This work is physically demanding. Emergency medical personnel are required to lift loads weighing well over 20 kilograms (for example, patients on stretchers). They must observe safety precautions to avoid injury when working with equipment and exposure to potentially hazardous biological agents.

Their work is performed before patients reach a hospital, between health-care facilities and before they are seen by Emergency Department staff. At some sites, much of their time may be spent in ambulances, transporting injured or ill people to hospitals, urgent care centres or other health facilities. In other locations, they provide:

- care to patients in an emergency room setting
- assess the extent of injuries or illness to determine medical treatment
- comfort and reassure patients
- provide pre-hospital emergency medical care including controlling hemorrhage, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), oxygen, bandaging and the treatment of trauma patients

Skills:

- excellent oral and written communication skills
- strong leadership abilities
- sound decision making and critical thinking skills
- a strong desire to help those in need
- the ability to remain firm, reassuring and efficient in moments of crisis
- the ability to work independently and as part of a team

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Qualifications:

In general, applicants must be at least 18 years of age and have obtained a Standard First Aid certificate and CPR certification at the Basic Rescuer Level (C) within the previous year.



In addition, applicants for EMT training must:

- be registered EMRs
- have a high school transcript, and,
- have a valid Class 4 drivers' licence

Applicants for EMT-P training must:

- be registered EMTs, and,
- have a high school diploma