

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

ASSOCIATE DEGREE & CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

2023-2024 CATALOG



DESCRIPTION

The Emergency Medical Services Program (EMS) trains students for Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) certification and for Paramedic licensure. Continuing education courses, including an EMT refresher course, are also offered. Students are taught the fundamental principles and skills required to provide emergency medical care for the sick and injured at the scene of an emergency and/or during transport to a healthcare facility. Our training program prepares the graduate to function as a beginning practitioner according to national standards. Hands-on clinical and field internship experience is part of the training.

ASSOCIATE DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS

An Associate Degree, depending on the focus of study, is designed to prepare students for transfer into upper division course work in a bachelor's degree program, or, to prepare students to enter the workforce in a particular vocational field. To qualify for an Associate's Degree, a student must: (1) complete each major-specific course required for the degree with at least a "C" grade or better, (2) complete all Cuesta College general education, graduation and residency requirements, and (3) achieve an overall grade point average of 2.0 for all courses attempted (major, general education, elective).

A Certificate Program is designed for students who desire specific training to meet an immediate occupational or personal goal, or for promotion or lateral transfer within their existing field of employment. To qualify for a Certificate of Achievement or a Certificate of Specialization, a student must 1) complete all courses required for the Certificate with an overall grade point average of 2.0.

PARAMEDIC PROGRAM ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The Paramedic Program prepares graduates to take the Paramedic National Registry Examination (NREMT) leading to licensure as a Paramedic.

Our goal is to prepare competent entry-level Paramedics in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains with or without exit points at the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and/or Emergency Medical Technician, and/or Emergency Medical Responder levels.

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DEGREES, CERTIFICATES & AWARDS

- Associate in Science (A.S.)
- Certificate of Achievement (C.A.)
- Certificate of Specialization (C.S.)

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

EMT

- Emergency Department Technician in a Hospital
- Emergency Medical Technician on an Ambulance
- Many Other Service Oriented Jobs Often Require EMT Certification, such as: Fire Fighters, Park Rangers, Life Guards and Public Safety Officers

Paramedic

- Education - Instructor, Director, Administrator
- Fire Fighter, Paramedic
- Flight Medic
- Paramedic Contracted to Serve Large Overseas Corporations
- Paramedic on a Cruise Ship
- Paramedic on an Ambulance

CONTACT

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The Cuesta College Paramedic Program initially became accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) and earned approval by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP) on July 25, 2008.

Students interested in applying to the Paramedic Program are strongly urged to consult an academic counselor prior to registering in prerequisite coursework.

All persons who meet Cuesta College's admission requirements, additional pre-paramedic program admission criteria, and submit a timely paramedic program application are eligible for consideration into the program.

The program starts each January.

Entrance requirements are subject to change. For most current information, please refer to the Nursing and Allied Health Division webpage at <https://www.cuesta.edu/academics/divisions/nah/emsdept/paramedic-info/index.html>.

TRANSFER PREPARATION

Courses that fulfill major requirements for an associate degree may differ from those needed to prepare to transfer. Students who plan to transfer to a four-year college or university should schedule an appointment with a Cuesta College counselor to develop a student education plan (SEP) before beginning their program.

TRANSFER RESOURCES:

CSU and UC Articulation Agreements and Majors Search Engine:

www.ASSIST.org

CSU System Information:

www2.calstate.edu

FINANCIAL AID

Paying for the cost of a college education requires a partnership among parents, students and the college. As the cost of higher education continues to rise we want you to know that Cuesta College offers a full array of financial aid programs—grants, work study, scholarships, federal loan programs, and fee waivers. These programs are available to both full-and part-time students who are seeking a degree or certificate. For those who qualify, financial aid is available to help with tuition, fees, books and supplies, food, housing, transportation, and childcare. Please log onto our website for additional information:

www.cuesta.edu/student/student-services/finaid

ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAM**Paramedic** — Associate in Science

Adherence to Cuesta College Paramedic Program Student Policies is required at all times for continued participation and progression in the program. All courses must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” to progress, complete the program, and receive the certificate required to take the NREMT-P examination and apply for state licensure as a Paramedic.

Required Courses (39.5 credits)

BIO 212	Human Biology	3
EMS 210	Paramedic Theory I	17
EMS 211	Paramedic Theory II	5
EMS 211L	Paramedic Skills	1.5
EMS 212	Paramedic Clinical	4
EMS 213	Paramedic Internship	9
Total Credits:		39.5

To qualify for an Associate’s Degree, a student must: (1) complete each major-specific course required for the degree with at least a “C” grade or better, (2) complete all Cuesta College general education, graduation and residency requirements, and (3) achieve an overall grade point average of 2.0 for all courses attempted (major, general education, elective).

[Click Here For Program Student Learning Outcomes](#)

CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS**Paramedic** — Certificate of Achievement

Adherence to Cuesta College Paramedic Program Student Policies is required at all times for continued participation and progression in the program. All courses must be completed with a minimum grade of “C” to progress, complete the program, and receive the certificate required to take the NREMT-P examination and apply for state licensure as a Paramedic.

Required Courses (39.5 credits)

BIO 212	Human Biology	3
EMS 210	Paramedic Theory I	17
EMS 211	Paramedic Theory II	5
EMS 211L	Paramedic Skills	1.5
EMS 212	Paramedic Clinical	4
EMS 213	Paramedic Internship	9
Total Credits:		39.5

[Click Here For Program Student Learning Outcomes](#)

Emergency Medical Technician — Certificate of Specialization

The EMT training program prepares individuals to render prehospital basic life support at the scene of an emergency, during transport of the sick and injured, or during interfacility transfer within an organized EMS system. This course meets or exceeds the requirements of CA EMT training in accordance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2, Article 3 in adherence with the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) National EMS Education Standards (DOT HS 811 077A, January 2009).

CPR training equivalent to the current American Heart Association's Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care at the Healthcare Provider level is a prerequisite for admission to the EMT program.

Required Course (9.5 credits)

EMS 201 Emergency Medical Technician 9.5

Total Credits: **9.5**

[Click Here For Program Student Learning Outcomes](#)

Emergency Medical Technician Refresher — Certificate of Specialization

This course is designed for EMT recertification or for those who have completed an EMT course and are in the process of obtaining certification. Upon completion, students receive a 24-hour Certificate of Specialization as well as a completed CA EMT Skills Verification Form. This course is taught in accordance with the United States Department of Transportation's EMT-Basic Refresher National Standard Curriculum, (DOT HS 808 624, September 1996). The U.S. Department of Transportation's EMT-Basic Refresher National Standard Curriculum can be accessed through the U.S. Department of Transportation's website, <http://www.nhtsa.gov/people/injury/ems/pub/basicref.pdf>

Required Course (1.5 credits)

EMS 102 Emergency Medical Technician-Refresher 1.5

Total Credits: **1.5**

[Click Here For Program Student Learning Outcomes](#)



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