

# NHTI Paramedic Emergency Medicine -- Frequently Asked Questions

## What are the requirements for acceptance into the program?

1. Be at least 18 years old and hold a valid driver's license
2. High school level (or higher) courses in lab-based Biology and Chemistry completed with grades of "C" or higher OR college-level Anatomy & Physiology I and II with grades of "C" or higher.
3. High school level (or higher) Algebra I – completed with a grade of at least "C"
4. Current National Registry or State EMT/AEMT certification
5. Current CPR certification
6. Letter of recommendation from EMS supervisor
7. Documentation of experience as an ambulance-based EMT/AEMT to include at least 100 patient contacts and 25 team-leads
8. Interview with the Department Chair of Paramedic Emergency Medicine

## How many credits is the program?

The program, in its entirety, is 67 credits. However, this does not take into account any college-credits transferred from other institutions. Transferred credits can be used for any non-major classes.

## How much does the program cost?

Program cost will depend upon the total number of credits needed by the student as well as the student's state of residence, military status, and on-campus housing requirements. More information on the per-credit cost can be found on the NHTI [website](#). Please note the per-credit cost does not take into account books, equipment such as tablet-device, uniforms, or laboratory fees.

## How many students are accepted into the program?

The program has a maximum of 15 students per class-year.

## Is there a deadline for applying into the program?

Interviews for the incoming class are held each spring. Students are accepted on a rolling-basis, thus the first 15 applicants with all documentation completed and a successful interview will be accepted into the program. Depending upon available space, students may be accepted into the program at any point before the beginning of freshmen (fall) classes.

## I don't yet have all my prerequisites completed, but I will before the start of classes. Should I attend the spring interview?

Yes. However you cannot be officially accepted into the program until all prerequisites are met.

## I will not have all my prerequisites completed before the start of classes, are there any classes I can take before applying next year?

Yes. Any of the non-major classes may be taken prior to being accepted into the program. It is *highly* recommended (though *not* required) that incoming students take Anatomy & Physiology prior to beginning the program.

## How long is the program and when does it start?

The program is 5 semesters (approximately 18 months) in duration and starts with the fall semester. Classes and clinics occur over:

- Two fall semesters (September through mid-December)
- Two spring semesters (January through mid-May)
- One summer I semester (mid-May through June)

## Can I be in the program as a part-time student?

No. A part-time option is not available.

### **On which days do classes meet?**

- *Freshman Fall*: Paramedic classes are all day Tuesday (8a-5p) + Wednesday (9-11a). If you need A&P I it is typically taken Wednesday 12-5p
- *Freshman Spring*: Paramedic classes are all day Tuesday (8a-4p) + Thursday (8a-6p). If you need A&P II it is typically taken Wednesday 12-5p
- *Hospital Clinic* runs mid-May through the end of June and is Monday through Friday. Shift length varies depending on rotation w/ most being 7a-3p but others being as long as 7a-7p
- *Senior Year*: Paramedic classes are Wednesdays 9a-6p + approximately one day of field clinic (ambulance ride time) per week
- There are other non-major classes that are required. Many of these can be taken in an online format. Please see the [website](#) for the semesters in which these courses should be taken.

### **Do I need to be an EMT to start the program?**

Yes. Per the National Registry of EMTs, “individuals applying for National Paramedic certification must be 18 years of age or older, possess current National Certification at the EMT level or a current state license at the EMT level or higher, and have a current CPR-BLS for Healthcare Providers or equivalent credential.” To this end, the NHTI Paramedic Emergency Medicine program requires that all students have both EMT and CPR certification throughout the duration of the program.

### **Is there any way to waive the required 100 calls and 25 team-leads as an EMT?**

No. The Department Head, PEM Medical Directors, and the PEM Advisory Board are adamant that EMT experience is mandatory to assure a high level of success in the program.

### **Do my EMT patient contacts have to be on an ambulance?**

Yes. The Department Head, PEM Medical Directors, and the PEM Advisory Board are adamant that ambulance experience is mandatory to assure a high level of success in the program. Ambulance-based patient interactions are significantly different than those of in-hospital and non-transport units.

### **I am an experienced military medic. Do I need to have ambulance experience?**

Yes. We thank you for your service, however in order to keep a level playing field we require all students to have ambulance experience.

### **I am an experienced non-EMS provider (military medic, RN, etc.) do I get experiential credit?**

No. We do not waive courses for experience. All courses cover a wide range of patient populations in both medical and traumatic settings with evaluation and treatment modalities geared for EMS providers.

### **Do calls during EMT class or Fire Explorers count toward my 100 required calls?**

No. It is the view of the Department Head, PEM Medical Directors, and the PEM Advisory Board that patient care observation is not the same as being involved in direct patient care.

### **Does it matter if I am an EMT or an AEMT?**

No. It is the finding of the program that EMS level of service is not a determination in overall program success. EMTs may take the AEMT exam at the conclusion of hospital clinic.

### **Are nighttime classes available?**

At this time none of the paramedic courses are available to be taken at night. However, there are options for non-major courses to be taken at night.

### **Are online classes available?**

At this time none of the paramedic courses are available to be taken online. However, there are options for non-major courses (required by the associate degree) to be taken online.