

Student Performance Standards

Students must possess sufficient physical, motor, intellectual, emotional and social/communication skills to provide for patient care and safety, and the utilization of equipment. Performance standards for Emergency Medical Services students (Emergency Medical Technician-Basic and Paramedic) are based on information from the United States Department of Transportation Job Task Analysis.

Physical Demands Aptitudes required for work of this nature are good physical stamina, endurance, and body condition that would not be adversely affected by frequently having to walk, stand, lift, carry, and balance at times, in excess of 125 pounds. Motor coordination is necessary because over uneven terrain, the patient's, the Paramedic's, and other workers' well being must not be jeopardized.

Critical Thinking Critical thinking sufficient for emergency medical judgment;; Independent judgments in a physician's absence; Determine treatment priorities; Make quick decisions.

Interpersonal Interpersonal abilities sufficient to interact with individuals, families and groups from a variety of social, emotional, cultural, and intellectual backgrounds: Life and death situations; Family stress of patients illness; Peer stress from critical incident; Cultural diversity in reactions to illness or injury.

Communication Communication abilities sufficient for interaction with others in verbal and written form: Radio report of patient condition; Comprehensive written reports of patient condition and treatment; Verbal report to other health care providers.

Mobility Physical abilities sufficient to climb, stoop, crouch, kneel, lift 150 lbs., drag, crawl, balance, reach, push, carry, bend, walk, run, shuffle: Work in natural and manmade disasters; Move patients from incident to safety.

Motor Skills Gross and fine motor abilities, finger dexterity, vision and finger and hand movements sufficient to provide safe and efficient emergency care: Tie a knot, bandage; Initiate IVs, Give injections; Pick up small objects; Write with a pen.

Hearing Auditory ability sufficient to monitor and assess health needs; Auscultate breath sounds, heart tones.

Visual Visual ability sufficient to work in dark or dimly lit, bright light and have spatial aptitude and form perception and color discrimination: Reading and writing reports; Visualize mechanism of injury in relation to patient's condition; Describe size and shape of wound; Describe patient's skin color; Determine fine detail in EKG rhythms.

Tactile Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment: Perform palpation. See motor skills.

Environmental Ability to provide patient care in a variety of locations and conditions: Deliver patient care in all weather conditions, in water, mud, roadways, fields, buildings, high and low elevations, in hot or cold air temperatures.