

READING HOSPITAL SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAM



The Emergency Medical Services program offers the following two levels of educational certifications: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and Paramedic Education.

EMT Program Overview

All EMS programs are approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The EMT program prepares students to become first responders in emergency situations. Coursework covers topics such as assessment, treatment of injuries, and proper use of equipment. EMT certification classes run every fall, spring, and summer. Applicants must be 16 years of age to sit for the certification exam. Upon completion of the program, students will be required to take the National Registry EMT Exam.

EMT Application and Admission

A pre-admission exam is required and should be completed after submitting your application and application fee. Contact us at 484-628-0200 to register for an exam session.

Paramedic Education Program Overview

The Paramedic Education program gives students the opportunity to combine their educational and work experience in both the community and the hospital. This combination provides an understanding of continuity of care—from first contact with the patient in the field until discharge from the hospital. The program includes didactic, clinical, and field experience provided by Tower Health in cooperation with more than 29 basic and advanced life support services in Berks County and beyond. Upon graduation, students are qualified to take the National Registry Exam for paramedics. The program runs for approximately eleven months with classes beginning every August.

Paramedic Application and Admission

Qualified applicants are admitted to the program on a rolling basis based on the following:

- Current EMT certification in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- “Recommend with confidence” rating.



- All required transcripts.
- Completion of the most recent version of the Test of Essential Academic Skills (ATI TEAS).

Approval and Accreditation

All EMS programs are approved by the Pennsylvania Department of Health. The Paramedic Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (www.caahep.org) upon the recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP).

Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs

727-210-2350
www.caahep.org

To contact CoAEMSP:
214-703-8445

www.coaemsp.org

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) PROGRAM FAQs

What is Emergency Medical Services (EMS)?

Emergency Medical Services, or EMS, is the field in which Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics provide prehospital emergency medical care.

What clinical experiences are offered in EMS programs?

Clinical experiences are offered in all three levels of the EMS programs (EMT and Paramedic), and include but are not limited to hospital shifts in the Emergency Department, Operating Rooms, ICU, NICU, and prehospital shifts on ambulances and in clinics.

What medical skills does an EMT perform?

The scope of practice for an EMT includes basic life support such as CPR, simple and complex splinting, patient medication assistance, oxygen therapy, drive an ambulance, and AEMT and Paramedic assistance.

What medical skills does a Paramedic perform?

The scope of practice for a Paramedic includes all EMT and AEMT skills in addition to a wide range of medication responsibility, all medication administration routes, advanced airway procedures, and EKG interpretation and treatment.

Will I receive PA certification? What will I need to practice in another state?

Upon graduation from a Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences EMS program, students will be able to sit for the National Registry Certification exam. After passing the National Registry Certification exam, graduates will also receive PA DOH certification allowing students to practice in PA and all 50 states.

What are the application deadlines? EMT Program

The EMT program is offered every spring, summer, and fall. The deadline for admission/pre-admission testing is eight weeks prior to the start of any EMT class.

Paramedic Education Program

The Paramedic Education program admits new classes every August. The deadline for receipt of completed applications is June 1 or when qualified student capacity has been reached.

Do you provide financial resources?

Our Financial Aid Office can advise students how to identify financial resources and funding options. Payment plans are available. For information on tuition and fees, go to <https://reading.towerhealth.org/health-sciences/financial-information/>

How do I get started?

We welcome visits through formal events and personal appointments. To register for an event or to schedule an appointment with an admissions representative, please call 484-628-0100 or email: RHSHS@towerhealth.org Directions to our School are located at <https://reading.towerhealth.org/app/files/public/5c84de45-afc1-453c-9935-c725101cb5e6/sohs-campus-map-brochure.pdf>

Non-Discrimination Statement

Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences (RHSHS) is committed to providing a safe and healthy educational environment for all individuals. RHSHS does not discriminate in any education program or activity that it operate including in admission and employment. RHSHS follows federal state and local regulations including current Title IX requirements. Discrimination based on sex, pregnancy or related conditions, age, race, color, national origin, religion, creed, marital status, disability, economic means, or veteran status is prohibited.

For more information, contact

Reading Hospital School of Health Sciences Admissions
Office
P.O. Box 16052
Reading, PA 19612-6052
484-628-0100
RHSHS@towerhealth.org
www.RHSchoolofHealthSciences.org