

Paramedic Program

Application Booklet

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Indian River State College PARAMEDIC CERTIFICATE

THE PARAMEDIC

The IRSC Paramedic Certificate program follows the National EMS Education Standards. The program is also in compliance with Florida Statute 401 and F.A.C. 64J-1 of the Florida Department of Health.

The goal of the Paramedic program is to “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.”

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

Note that this is a selective admission program. All requirements must be complete for application consideration. Necessary forms can be found in the back of this booklet.

- _____ 1. Complete the online Indian River State College *Application for the Paramedic Program* at www.irsc.edu and pay the \$30 application fee. Fees are nonrefundable.
- _____ 2. Send official sealed transcripts from the high school you graduated from and all post-secondary (college and university) institutions that you have attended to the Office of Student Records.
- _____ 3. Read the EMT & Paramedic Core Performance Standards (page 6).
- _____ 4. Read the Program Completion section (page 4).
- _____ 5. Submit, as a single package, the Paramedic Application Cover Sheet (form can be found in the back of this book), including:
 - a. A copy of current State of Florida EMT certification. State of Florida EMT certification must be maintained for the entire program. Failure to maintain EMT certification will result in immediate withdrawal from the program.
 - b. A copy of current American Heart Association Basic Life Support (BLS) Provider CPR card. Card should be valid for the length of the program. Failure to maintain a current CPR card will result in immediate withdrawal from the program.
- _____ 6. 2.0 IRSC and College cumulative GPA.

Note: Do not proceed with drug/background screening, physical or health insurance until notified.

INTRODUCTION

The IRSC Paramedic program is offered through the Health Science Division. All applicants enter this program through a Selective Admissions process. Contact Student Services at any IRSC campus or the Health Science Office at 772-462-7550 , or toll-free at 866-792-4772 x7550 , for additional information.

PROCESS FOR APPLYING ONLINE

1. Read the Paramedic Application Booklet.
2. Complete and submit the IRSC Application for the Paramedic program (\$30 fee; keep copy of your receipt.)

Note: If at any time during the application process you have a change in personal

ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

Paramedic applicants are accepted on a competitive basis pending successful completion of checklist items on page 1 by the application deadline. Students will then be notified via the email address provided in the Health Science Application to complete a drug screen, criminal background check, physical examination, immunization record and health insurance for final acceptance.

CPR CERTIFICATION

All Paramedic applicants must be certified in American Heart Association BLS Provider CPR. The card should be valid through the end of the Paramedic program. The applicant will not be accepted without a valid CPR card. Failure to maintain a current CPR card will result in immediate withdrawal from the program.

DRUG SCREENING & CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

Refer to the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu Click **Programs**, select **Meta Major, Health Science Meta Major**. Go to **Paramedic**, select **Background Check and Drug Screening Requirements**.

HEALTH/MEDICAL RECORD

A completed medical health form must also be submitted and approved by the Program Director. This health record will contain results from a physical examination and laboratory tests including immunization records. The form is located on the IRSC website at www.irsc.edu Click **Programs** Select **Health Science Meta Major**. Go to **Paramedic**, select **Health Science Physical Examination and Immunization Form**

Applicants who do not meet the standards of good physical and mental health, as required by clinical facilities for safe patient care, may reapply and be considered for application to a Health Science program after resolution of the health problem. An updated health record, verified by a licensed physician, physician's assistant or an ARNP must be submitted.

STUDENT DRUG SCREEN, BACKGROUND CHECK, AND MEDICAL RECORDS

When submitted, these records will become the property of the College and will not be available for copying or for use to meet the requirements of outside employers. Students who are out of the program for six months or more must submit new records.

NONACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM

Applicants who are not accepted into the program will be notified by RiverMail. If you would like information on how to strengthen your application, call the Office of the Dean of Health Science 772-462-7550

APPLICATION REVIEW

Students are selected on a competitive basis, and final consideration for admission into the Paramedic program will be based on the following criteria:

1. Must be 18 years old or older.
2. 2.0 IRSC and College cumulative GPA.
3. Completion of admission/program requirements as listed on program checklist by deadline.
4. Treasure Coast Public Safety Agency Employees

EMT & PARAMEDIC CORE PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Cognitive: Candidates must be able to measure, calculate, reason, analyze, integrate, and synthesize in a timely fashion. Candidates must comprehend three-dimensional relationships and understand the special relationships of structures. They must have a

Description of Tasks

1. Receives call from dispatcher, responds appropriately to emergency calls, reads maps, may drive ambulance to emergency site, uses most expeditious route and observes traffic ordinances and regulations.
2. Determines nature and extent of illness or injury, takes pulse, blood pressure, visually observes changes in skin color, auscultates breath sounds, makes determination regarding patient status, establishes priority for emergency care, renders appropriate emergency care (based on competency level); may administer intravenous drugs or fluid replacement as directed by physician.
3. May use equipment (based on competency level) such as but not limited to, defibrillator, electrocardiograph, performs endotracheal intubation to open airway and ventilate patient.
4. Assists in lifting, carrying, and transporting patient to ambulance and on to a medical facility.
5. Reassures patients and bystanders, avoids mishandling patient and undue haste, and searches for medical identification emblem to aid in care.
6. Extricates patient from entrapment, assesses extent of injury, uses prescribed techniques and appliances, radios dispatcher for additional assistance or services, provides light rescue service if required, provides additional emergency care following established protocols.
7. Complies with regulations in handling deceased, notifies authorities, and arranges for protection of property and evidence at scene.
8. Determines appropriate facility to which patient will be transported, reports nature and extent of injuries or illness to the facility, asks for direction from hospital physician or emergency department.
9. Observes patient en route and administers care as directed by physician or emergency department or according to published protocol.
10. Identifies diagnostic signs that require communication with facility.
11. Moves the patient into the emergency facility from the ambulance
12. Reports verbally and in writing concerning observations about the patient, patient care at the scene, patient care in route to facility and provides assistance to emergency department staff as required.
13. Maintains familiarity with all specialized equipment.
14. Replaces supplies, sends used supplies for sterilization, checks all equipment for future readiness, maintains ambulance in operable condition, ensures ambulance cleanliness and orderliness of equipment and supplies, decontaminates vehicle interior, determines vehicle readiness by checking oil, gasoline, water in battery and radiator and tire pressure.

Accessibility Statement

In compliance with the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Section 504, and the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, professional disability specialists and support staff at the Student Accessibility Services (SAS) facilitate a comprehensive range of academic support services and accommodations for qualified students with disabilities.

IRSC offers many disability resources at one campus labs. The SAS works with online students to ensure accessibility. A quick link is located to the SAS in the Institutional Resources section in the course control panel. Students who wish to request an accommodation for a documented disability should contact the SAS immediately at 772-462-7809 or 772-462-7396.

Reasonable Accommodations

The Americans with Disabilities Act does not exempt the student from these Core Performance Standards. These standards are viewed as essential to the job. However, whenever possible, reasonable accommodations will be made to students with disabilities. The Indian River State College EMS Program uses the rules of the Florida Department of Health along with the National Registry of EMT's, as a template with regards to what accommodations will be provided. Students must work with the SAS staff in conjunction with the EMS Program Director and instructor of record in order to be considered for accommodation. It is the student's responsibility to contact the Student Accessibility Services office.

The following is a sample list of accommodations that are not allowed in the EMS Program because they are not in compliance with the essential job functions of an EMT or paramedic as outlined in the Core Performance Standards. These include, but are not limited to:

- 1. Students are not allowed additional time for skills with specific time frames.**
 - Obviously, patients would suffer due to life threatening conditions in emergency situations if treatment were delayed.
- 2. Students are not allowed unlimited time to complete a written or computer exams or quizzes.**
 - This request is not considered reasonable because a candidate should be able to complete an exam or quiz within a finite amount of time.
 - Exams and quizzes are designed, at least in part, to measure the ability to quickly recall information.
 - Students will be allowed a maximum of time and one-half to complete written or computer exams or quizzes.
- 3. Students are not allowed to have written or computer exams given by an oral reader.**

4. **Students are not provided a written or computer exam with a reading level of less than grade nine.**
 - The EMS profession requires a reading level of at least grade eight to work safely and efficiently.
5. **Students must answer all written or computer test questions as written. No explanation of the question can be provided by the test proctor or any other individual.**
 - Additional descriptions of test questions would not be a reasonable accommodation because reading and understanding written English is an essential part of EMS communication.
 - Students must be able to understand and converse in medical terms appropriate to the profession.
6. **Students are not allowed to use calculators.**
 - Students must be able to perform the calculations required for patient assessment and care even if assistive technology was not available.

LATEX ADVISORY – Latex-based products are used in all health care facilities.



**PARAMEDIC
APPLICATION COVER SHEET**

STUDENT NAME _____ Student ID _____

I have attached all of the following items: (mark off items submitted with a check mark)

_____ CPR Card ONLY American Heart Association Health Care Provider Level
will be accepted (Must be valid throughout the program).

_____ Current State of Florida EMT Certification (must be kept valid throughout
the program)

Clearly print your name and student ID on each piece of paper submitted. All
documentation must be submitted in order with this cover page.