



Explore a Career as an EMT OR PARAMEDIC

Target Occupation Profile

What do Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics do?

An emergency medical technician (also called an EMT or a paramedic) is a healthcare professional who provides emergency treatment, including advanced life support, to patients in emergency situations. An EMT/paramedic assesses the urgent medical needs of a patient and stabilizes their condition until doctors can administer more specific and extensive treatment. When transporting a patient in an ambulance, one EMT or paramedic may drive the ambulance while another monitors the patient's vital signs and gives additional care. They are able to use life-saving medications and equipment. Many emergency medical technicians and paramedics work on ambulances, emergency response teams, hospital emergency rooms and remote workplaces such as oil rigs. They may also transport patients from one medical facility to another.

Training & Educational Opportunities

An EMT or paramedic is required to complete an approved training program before taking the licensing exam. To become licensed, certification is provided by the Emergency Medical Services division of the Illinois Department of Public Health. A state test is also required, as is cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification.

As an Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic you will:

- Assess a patient's condition and determine a course of treatment
- Document medical care given to patients
- Inventory, replace and clean supplies and equipment
- Report observations and treatment to physicians, nurses, etc.
- Respond to 911 calls for emergency medical care
- Transport patients safely in an ambulance

Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics are in demand in Cook County!

Cook County employment of EMTs and Paramedics is expected to increase by 2020. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics recognizes the job outlook for this career as growing much faster than average.

Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic

Training Providers

There are many training providers available in Cook County to supply you with the training you need for a career as an EMT or paramedic.

To access a list of training providers for this occupation and many more, please visit Illinoisworknet.com and select the 'Training and Credentials' menu option to view 'WIOA Approved Training Programs.'



Types of Employers

There are many types of employers looking to hire EMTs and paramedics in Cook County, including:

- Air ambulance services
- Government agencies
- Ground ambulance services
- Hospitals
- Medical services companies

Wages & Openings

Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic Employment Data for Cook County

Average Starting Hourly Wage	\$10.34
Average Hourly Wage With Experience	\$26.17
Average Annual Job Openings Cook County	67
Average Annual Job Openings Chicago Metro	261

*Source: Emsi, 2017.2

Opportunities

After earning your certificate as an EMT or paramedic, you will have many opportunities for advancement. Some opportunities include:

- Licensed Practical Nurse
- Paramedic Operations Coordinator
- Physician Assistant
- Registered Nurse



Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
workforceboard.org

312.603.0200



CHICAGO COOK
WORKFORCE PARTNERSHIP

A proud partner of the AmericanJobCenter® network

