



2026-2027

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES STUDENT HANDBOOK
Associate of Applied Science Emergency Medical Services- Paramedicine Degree
Paramedic Certificate
Emergency Medical Technician-Basic
Emergency Medical Technician-Advanced



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Introduction

This EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Program Student Handbook is intended to supplement the policies, rules, and regulations applicable to students attending NWC and as provided for in the Northwest College Student Handbook. Differences exist between the Northwest College Student Handbook, and the EMS Student Handbook relate to national and state standards of practice, hospital/facility policies and public safety. The provisions set forth in this handbook shall supersede previous versions of the NWC EMS Student Handbook.

Northwest College and the Health Professions Division reserve the right to change without notice, any of the material, information, requirements, regulations, or costs published in this handbook. If revisions or additions to the EMS Handbook are required, they become effective immediately and students are notified in written form in a timely manner through Moodle.

It is the student's responsibility to carefully read the entire EMS Handbook and comply with all policies and handbook procedures. Students are required to sign a statement acknowledging receipt and awareness of the information found in this Handbook. Students are responsible for accessing their EMS Handbook on the EMS website for the most up-to-date information.

The Northwest College Associate of Applied Science Degree in EMS-Paramedicine Program is approved by:



Wyoming Department of Health
Office of Emergency Medical
Services 6101 Yellowstone
Road Suite 400
Cheyenne, WY 82002
307-777-7955
<https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/ems/>

The Associate of Applied Degree in EMS-Paramedicine Program is accredited by CAAHEP through the Committee on Accreditation of EMS Programs.

1301 Lakeview Parkway
Suite 111-312
Rowlett, TX 75088
214-703-8445



**Commission on Accreditation of
Allied Health Education Programs**



Northwest College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, age, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, genetic information or veteran status in its programs and activities. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer and Institution (EOE/EOI). Student inquiries concerning disability services shall be directed to the Disability Support Services Coordinator, Student Success Center, 231 W 6th ST BLDG 4, Powell, WY 82435-1860; 307.754.6227. All other compliance inquiries shall be directed to the Compliance Officer, Orendorff Building, 231 W 6th ST BLDG 1, Powell, WY 82435-1895; 307.754.6098, or the Office of Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Cesar E. Chavez Memorial Building, 1244 Speer Blvd. #310, Denver, CO 80204-3582; 303.844.5695; FAX: 303.844.4303; TDD: 800.877.8339; OCR.Denver@ed.gov. Title IX inquiries: Title IX Coordinator, Orendorff Building, 231 W 6th ST BLDG 1, Powell, WY 82435-1895; 307.754.6102; Title9@nwc.edu.

I. EMS Program Mission & Vision Statement

Mission:

The NWC EMS Program's mission is to prepare competent entry-level Paramedics in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains.

Vision:

The NWC EMS Program is focused on enhancing clinical judgment, skill, development, and fostering professional behavior that reflects evidence-based practice, while providing a seamless pathway for education

and career mobility.

II. EMS Program Philosophy

- We believe in the intrinsic value and worth of every person.
- We believe that health is a state of homeostasis influenced by forces impacting on the person.
- EMS is a practice-oriented discipline that uses evidence-based knowledge derived from the biological, physical, and behavioral sciences to provide safe and humanistic care to people, families, groups, and communities.
- The art and science of EMS is the nucleus of the interdisciplinary health care system.
- We believe the goal of EMS is to use clinical judgment to promote and maintain health, prevent disease and disability, care for, and rehabilitate the sick, and support the dying. EMS education must have a strong clinical focus and allow opportunities to apply the theoretical component of EMS.
- Learning is a dynamic lifelong process, occurring in the cognitive, psychomotor, and affective domains. Learning is the joint responsibility of the educator and the learner with each assuming the responsibility for learning and continued self-development.
- The role of the educator is to facilitate learning and leadership by providing an environment wherein students can establish goals, examine various means of attaining them, and evaluate the course of actions selected. Paramedics, EMSS, and educators within these programs have a responsibility for professionalism and mentoring others.
- Paramedics and EMTs are a role model for clients, families, and communities in terms of practicing appropriate health behaviors.

III. EMS Program Conceptual Framework

The curriculum is guided by the Standards and Guidelines set forth by the Committee on Accreditation for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP), standards in the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards, and the professional standards and scope of practice for licensed Emergency Medical Services providers as directed by the Wyoming State Department of Health-Office of Emergency Medical Services.

The curriculum is organized with eight (8) core concepts that are defined and threaded through each course to provide the foundation to prepare students as EMS providers. The progressive simple to complex development of these concepts leads to achievement of leveled student learning outcomes. Each EMS Education Course Student Learning Outcomes, which identifies the expectations of each EMS Education student from emergency medical technician to paramedic, is mapped per EMS program student learning outcome and each course the student takes. The chart below identifies each learning outcome. EMS and Advanced EMS outcomes are noted as the student progresses prior to entry into the Paramedic program.

The progression from one course to another, if appropriate, is noted in the third row of the graph demonstrating the growth of the paramedic student over the two-year progression of courses. There are some courses in which the paramedic student enters the program with the expected outcome already met, which is demonstrated by review and testing of the student rather than further progression in Bloom's taxonomy.

IV. NWC EMS Curriculum Core Concepts & Outcomes

Program Learning Outcomes: (Students will...)	Rotation Term¹:	Mapped Courses²:
1. Foundational Knowledge and Professionalism Integrates deep knowledge of the EMS system , legal/ethical issues, and public health/epidemiology (including injury prevention). Role models professional behaviors (like integrity, empathy, and lifelong learning) and ensures safety for self, colleagues, and the public during all operations.	I	EMS 2600
2. Human Anatomy, Physiology, and Pathophysiology Integrates comprehensive knowledge of the anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology of all major human systems and how they change across the life span to understand the mechanisms of illness and injury.	I	EMS 2700
3. Clinical Assessment and Field Diagnosis Performs a comprehensive history and physical examination , integrating assessment findings with epidemiology and pathophysiology to formulate a definitive field diagnosis (including differential diagnoses) and perform health screenings.	II	EMS 2600
4. Airway, Respiration, and Circulation Management Applies integrated knowledge of anatomy and pathophysiology to develop and implement a treatment plan ensuring a patent airway, adequate mechanical ventilation, and respiration for all ages, and manages shock and cardiac arrest/peri-arrest states .	II	EMS 2600
5. Medical and Trauma Patient Management Integrates comprehensive assessment and foundational knowledge to formulate a field impression and implement a definitive treatment/disposition plan for patients with both medical complaints and acute injuries .	III	EMS 2700
6. Pharmacology and Advanced Interventions Integrates extensive pharmacology knowledge to formulate a treatment plan and safely and effectively perform all psychomotor skills and interventions within the scope of practice and then evaluates and modifies the treatment plan based on effectiveness.	III	EMS 2700
7. Special Populations Care Integrates assessment findings, pathophysiology, and knowledge of psychosocial needs to formulate a field impression and implement an appropriate treatment plan for patients with special needs across all stages of development.	IV	EMS 2800
8. Communication and Teamwork Effectively uses appropriate medical terminology in written and oral communication, communicates in a non-discriminatory and culturally sensitive manner, and functions as a cohesive team member (while gaining experience as a team leader), and accurately reports and documents all assessment findings, interventions, and clinical decision-making.	IV	EMS 2895

¹ **Rotation Term** is the time in the four-year assessment rotation (i.e., I, II, III, or IV) in which an outcome is scheduled to be reported on.

² **Mapped Courses** are program courses (required or electives) which address the listed program learning outcome.

V. Measures of Program Effectiveness

The Northwest College EMS Program uses the following criteria as measures of the effectiveness of the program:

Meets the Standards of the College, Regulatory and Accrediting Agencies

The Associate of Applied Degree in EMS-Paramedicine/ Paramedic Technical Certificate program will continue to meet the standards of

- 1) Northwest College
- 2) Wyoming State Department of Health-Office of EMS
- 3) Committee on Accreditation of EMS Programs (CoAEMSP)
- 4) Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)

Program Completion Rates

Associate of Applied Science Degree in EMS-Paramedicine Program:

Eighty percent (80%) of the students who begin the AAS will satisfactorily complete the program within three years with a 'C' or better.

Emergency Medical Technician & Advanced EMS Students:

Eighty percent (80%) of the students will satisfactorily complete the program within two semesters with a 'C' or better.

Licensure Rates of Graduates

The licensure pass rate for first time test-takers will be at least 80% for all EMS, AEMS, and Paramedic students.

Employment of Graduates

Ninety percent (90%) of newly certified paramedic graduates seeking employment will be employed within one year after graduation.

VI. Code of Ethics for EMS Practitioners

Professional status as an Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Practitioner is maintained and enriched by the willingness of the individual practitioner to accept and fulfill obligations to society, other medical professionals, and the EMS profession. As an EMS practitioner, I solemnly pledge myself to the following code of professional ethics:

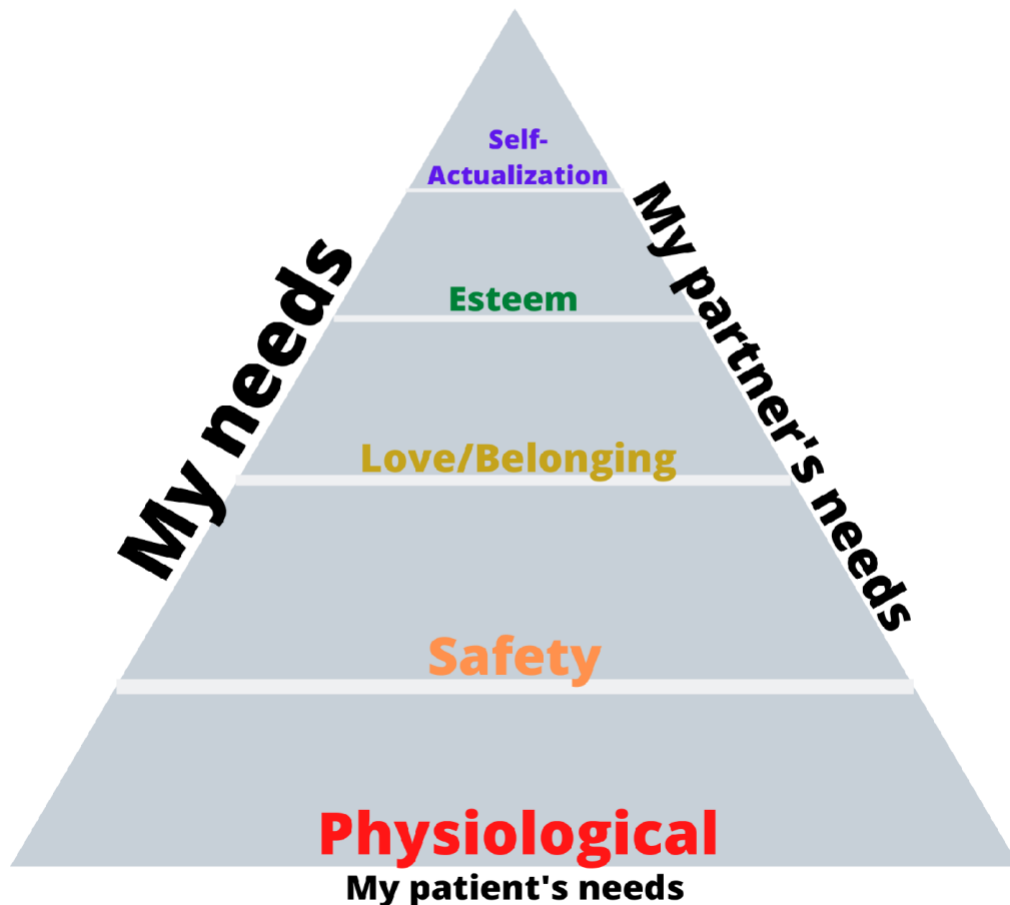
- To conserve life, alleviate suffering, promote health, do no harm, and encourage the quality and equal availability of emergency medical care.
- To provide services based on human need, with compassion and respect for human dignity, unrestricted by consideration of nationality, race, creed, color, or status; to not judge the merits of the patient's request for service, nor allow the patient's socioeconomic status to influence our demeanor or the care that we provide.
- To not use professional knowledge and skills in any enterprise is detrimental to the public's well-being.
- To respect and hold in confidence all information of a confidential nature obtained in the course of professional service unless required by law to divulge such information.
- To use social media in a responsible and professional manner that does not discredit, dishonor, or embarrass an EMS organization, co-workers, other health care practitioners, patients, individuals, or the community at large.

- To maintain professional competence, striving always for clinical excellence in the delivery of patient care.
- To assume responsibility in upholding standards of professional practice and education.
- To assume responsibility for individual professional actions and judgment, both in dependent and independent emergency functions, and to know and uphold the laws which affect the practice of EMS.
- To be aware of and participate in matters of legislation and regulation affecting EMS.
- To work cooperatively with EMS associates and other allied healthcare professionals in the best interest of our patients.
- To refuse participation in unethical procedures and assume the responsibility to expose incompetence or unethical conduct of others to the appropriate authority in a proper and professional manner.

*Originally written by: Charles B. Gillespie, M.D., and adopted by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, 1978.
Revised and adopted by the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians, June 14, 2013.*

VII. Maslow's Hierarchy of Human Needs

MASLOW'S HIERARCHY FOR EMS



VIII. Program of Study

All core EMS courses are sequential, and students must successfully complete all core EMS courses with a "B-" (80%) or higher within each semester to progress to the next semester. Non-paramedic core courses are expected to be completed at a "C" (74%) or higher. All courses required for graduation from the EMS Program must be completed with a 2.0 or better. For course descriptions, visit the '[College Catalog](#)' link on the Northwest College website.

Associate of Applied Science in Paramedic

The AAS degree in Emergency Medical Services- Paramedicine program includes 73 credit hours that comprehensively prepares the Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians to advance to the next level of skill and career development to become a paramedic. The program is delivered in a traditional classroom setting, with didactic content and skill practice labs that occur face-to face in a block-fashion at the NWC main campus and Cody Center, and clinical experiences in emergency settings that are scattered across the NWC area. The Paramedic program meets the requirement for candidates to be able to sit for the national exam to become a paramedic.

This program provides the pre-requisites required to continue for a Bachelor of Science, Community Paramedic, or potentially bridge to an RN program. In addition, at the end of the program, paramedic graduates will have their certification in Advanced Wilderness Life Support to function as a wilderness paramedic and able to function proficiently in expanded roles available in critical care areas such as the Emergency Room. Pre-requisites are a current unencumbered AEMS license and successful entrance exam score and panel interview.

Associates of Applied Science in Paramedic		
Northwest College Academic Map		
<i>Semester</i>	<i>Course Title</i>	<i>Credit Hours</i>
HLSC-1101	Allied Health 1st Year Seminar	3
Summer 2024		
BIOL-1010	General Biology I	4
MATH-1000	Problem Solving	3
ENGL-1010	English 1: Intro to Composition	3
EMS-2600	Paramedic 1- Intro to Paramedic	8
		18
Fall 2024		
ZOO-2010	Anatomy & Physiology 1	4
EMS-2700	Paramedic 2-Medical Emergencies	13
		17

Spring 2025		
ZOO-2020	Anatomy & Physiology 2	4
EMS-2800	Paramedic 3-Trauma Emergencies	14
		18
Summer 2025		
COMM-1030 OR COMM-2012	Interpersonal Communication OR Public Speaking	3
POLS-1000 OR HIST-1221	American & Wyoming Government OR The United States from 1865	3
PSYC-1000	General Psychology	3
EMS-2895	Paramedic Capstone	8
		17
Total Credit Hours		73

- Course Type Key:
- FYS = First Year Seminar,
- GOV = U.S. and Wyoming Constitutions,
- CM = Communications,
- QR = Quantitative Reasoning,
- PNW = Physical and Natural World,
- HC = Human Condition,
- CTY = Creativity,
- MR = Major Requirement,
- ME = Major Elective,
- GE = General Elective
- Career Information: Please visit nwc.edu/advising/careers/ for more information.
- ***Remedial education courses may result in additional semesters of study.*

*** A certificate only option will also be offered concurrent with the AAS cohort.**

IX. EMS Program Approximated Costs

Associate Degree EMS Program APPROXIMATE BREAKDOWN OF COSTS

Approximate Pre-Entrance Costs: \$ 265.00

(Background check, drug test, physical exam, and immunizations)

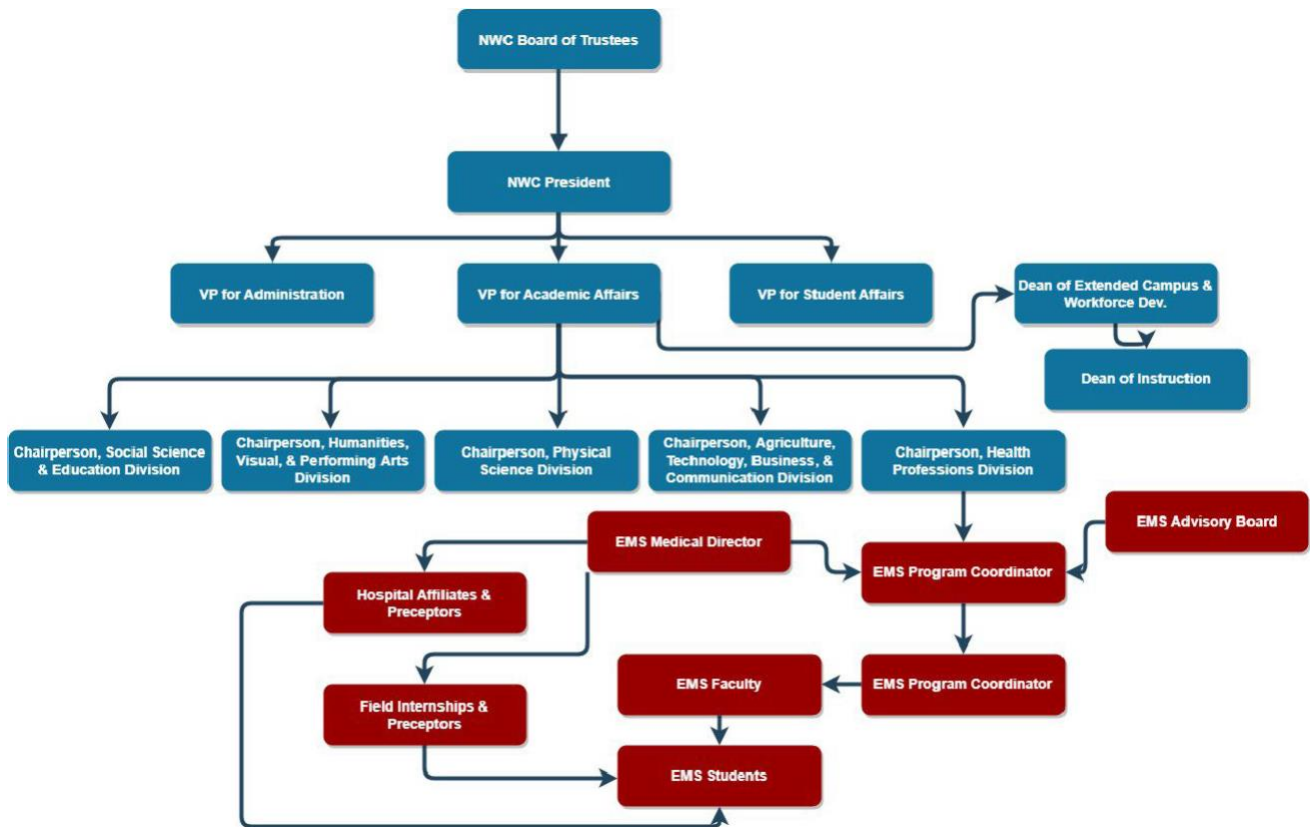
FIRST YEAR		SECOND YEAR	
Uniforms/Equipment			
2 Polos (each level requires a specific shirt)	\$ 70.00		
Field Guide for EMS-A	\$ 20.00		
Black Shoes	\$ 65.00		
Hemostat	\$ 6.00		
Bandage Scissors	\$ 6.00		
Stethoscope for EMS-B	\$ 80.00		
Hats, Work shirts	\$ 100.00		
TOTAL	\$ 377.00		
Tuition/Fees/Books		Tuition/Fees/Books	
Course Lab Fees	\$ 1700.00	Course Lab Fees	\$ 662.50
Student Injury Insurance	\$ 72.00	Student Injury Insurance	\$ 72.00
College Tuition & Fees (In-State Resident)	\$ 2148.00	College Tuition & Fees (In-State Resident)	\$2187.00
Books	\$ 489.00		
Platinum Education	\$109.00		
TOTAL	\$ 4518.00	TOTAL	\$ 2,859.00
Misc. Costs		Misc. Costs	
Travel/Lodging* Clinical Experiences	\$ 700.00	Travel/Lodging*	\$ 1,600.00
Optional Books	\$ 170.00	(*To/from clinicals for 2 semesters)	
TOTAL	\$ 870.00	TOTAL	\$ 1,600.00
Room/Board	\$ 6100.00**	Room/Board	\$ 6100.00**
APPROXIMATE COST 1ST YEAR		APPROXIMATE COST 2ND YEAR	
Without Room/Board	\$ 5,765.00	Without Room/Board	\$ 4,459.00
With Room/Board	\$ 11,865.00	With Room/Board	\$ 10,559.00

APPROXIMATE COST BOTH YEARS	
Without Room/Board	\$ 10,224.00
With Room/Board	\$ 22,424.00

**You must provide your own transportation between the clinical facilities including, but not limited to: Powell, Cody, Casper, and Cheyenne. In addition, you will have to plan for housing and food during some clinical experiences occurring outside the local area. 4th semester you will be responsible for the cost of travel to and from Oklahoma City as well as food and lodging while there for a week.*

*** Room & Board cost varies depending on room selection and meal plan. Amount shown is for a Super Single room, and the Trapper260 meal plan.*

X. NWC Administrative Organization Chart with EMS Program



POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

I. Admission Process

Students who are interested in becoming an EMT or Paramedic may apply each semester through the academic portal by searching for an appropriate level of EMS course and enrolling on-line. Students who are interested in enrolling in the Paramedic program must apply between Dec 1 & March 31 each year for admission to the NWC Paramedic program that begins each summer. While the goal is to begin a new cohort annually, the program may elect to delay a new cohort start if there are not enough qualified applicants for that cohort cycle. If the start is delayed, a new cohort will begin bi-annually. The application process and details for the student selection process are outlined in the application information available on-line at www.nwclhs.com/paramedic or in the EMS Department. Scores on the entrance exam, the student's written essay of goal statement, rationale for applying to the Paramedic program, one letter of recommendation, and EMS experience as judged by the student's resume are required for ranking applications for acceptance into the NWC Paramedic Program.

Applications are reviewed by the EMS Education Program Director, Chair of Health Professions Division, and faculty of the EMS Program after the submission deadline. Applications that are incomplete or submitted past the application deadline will not be considered. Initial review of applications includes verifying Advanced EMS (or other appropriate) licensure and ranking students by their scores on the Paramedic Entrance Exam. Preliminary review will also be performed on the applicant's resume to determine years of service in EMS, which will be noted for the board. Following initial review, the applications are put forth to the Paramedic Program Advisory Board for deliberation as to whom will be accepted into the program.

As part of a two-tiered application process, all students offered a place in the Paramedic Program are required to have a background check, drug screening, and meet technical and physical requirements, and immunization requirements prior to final entry into the program. In addition, all paramedic students must be prepared for random drug screening while in the program.

Please see application information on the EMS website for the most up-to-date application information, portal for on-line application, and connect with an EMS advisor for any questions.

Associate of Applied Science Degree in Paramedicine/ Paramedic Technical Certificate

A completed application must be submitted on-line within the EMS website on-line application portal by the First of November to be considered for admission to the EMS Program.

Student Selection Process

1. Current certification as EMT or AEMT.
 - a. Those possessing an EMS-Intermediate license may be admitted to the program as well.

2. Students have completed high school with a diploma or graduation equivalent (GED).
 3. Students have completed the entrance exam and achieved a satisfactory score equal to or greater than the national cut score.
 4. Students have submitted a complete online application by the deadline.
 5. Students have submitted written essays of professional goals and rationale for Paramedic Program application.
 6. Students have submitted one letter of reference.
 7. Students have submitted a resume highlighting work and educational experience.
- Students who have satisfactorily completed all the numbered items above will be ranked for consideration towards admission into the program.

Students completing the EMS Education EMS, AEMS, or Paramedic program are eligible to sit for their NREMS exam. Upon passing, graduates are issued a license to practice in Wyoming. Once licensed in Wyoming, students may apply for licensure in other states based on reciprocity through the NREMS. Please see the licensure disclosure statement on our website and the appropriate state regulatory agency for EMS licensure by examination in other states.

Under our cost of attendance in the handbook: *Students must be willing and able to be physically present on NWC Powell campus and in the NWC service area to participate in the required clinical assignments. Students must provide their own transportation to the NWC campus in Powell for labs and simulation and between the clinical facilities including, but not limited to: Powell, Casper, Lovell, and Cody, WY, Big Horn County, MT, and Oklahoma City, OK for Paramedic Capstone.

** Room & Board cost varies depending on room selection and meal plan. The amount shown is for a Double Room with a Trapper Meal Plan.

Transfer Students or Re-entry Students:

Students who are requesting entry from a previous NWC Paramedic cohort, or students who have completed EMS coursework at another college or university, will be evaluated for either the beginning or midpoint entry for the program. Previously enrolled students must apply for reentry within 12-months of their exit from the program. The applicant must notify the EMS Education Program Director and/or the Division Chair of the Health Professions Division of their intent to enter, or re-enter, the program and bring official transcripts for evaluation. If it is determined that the most appropriate point of entry is the beginning, students will be required to meet the admission requirements and ranked alongside the applicant pool of potential incoming first-year students. If the EMS Education Program Director and/or Chair of the Health Professions Division determines student is appropriate for mid-point entry, and seats are available, potential students will need to meet the following criteria for mid-point entry:

A completed online application must be received in the EMS Department by the First of November in order to be considered for admission to the EMS Program as initial entry or mid-point entry.

1. A minimum grade of a 'C' or better is required in all program-related course work and a minimum 2.5 cumulative GPA on EMS program of study co-requisite courses must be reflected in official transcripts.
2. Satisfactory scores on entrance exams equal to the level of entry as compared to the scores of previous cohorts and their ultimate success in the program.
3. Enrollment and/or completion of all courses equal to 3rd semester Paramedic students.
4. EMS Skills Check-off scheduled during first few days of class in fall: Graded "Satisfactory"/ "Unsatisfactory." If "Unsatisfactory," process for re-testing will follow handbook policy as outlined in the section entitled "Skill Demonstration."

If student does not meet criteria 1-4, or evaluation of transcripts do not indicate academic preparation for midpoint entry, discussion with the Coordinator of EMS and/or the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences will ensue regarding student's qualifications and ability to apply to enter

as a beginning student in the first semester of the AAS Paramedic program.

II. Evaluation, Progression, Dismissal & Readmission

Regular On-going Evaluation for Progression

Students are evaluated regularly and in an on-going manner throughout their EMS education by a process of formal examination and quizzes, assignments, observation in the clinical laboratory, simulation, and clinical evaluations completed by the student and the clinical instructor in relation to their progress toward meeting student learning outcomes.

Clinical learning experiences: The EMS preceptor, in communication with NWC EMS faculty, will be responsible for evaluating whether the student is meeting the learning outcomes and adhering to the policies and procedures of the EMS Student Handbook. The preceptor, in conjunction with the EMS Education Program Director and the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences shall do so by the following:

1. Complete Platinum Education Preceptor training program if the preceptor will oversee the paramedic capstone experience. Otherwise, preceptors will be onboarded to program expectations and the progress of the student via the preceptor packet. The student progress will be defined for each semester the student is in with clinical objectives and the skills the student is permitted to perform in the field as they grow in their education.
2. Direct interaction with and supervision of the students in the clinical area related to clinical activities, including simulation.
3. Participation in collaborative conversations with other preceptors or EMS program faculty to support student success.
4. Ensuring that each student in the clinical section completes a self-evaluation.
5. Conduct periodic meetings as needed with students to discuss evaluations and collaboratively develop a plan for needed changes.
6. Review Preceptor and Ancillary Staff feedback.
7. Midterm and End-of-Semester Evaluations.
8. Providing feedback to students regarding student skill performance or need for remediation.

Classroom and laboratory learning experiences: The EMS faculty will be responsible for evaluating whether the student is meeting the learning outcomes and adhering to the policies and procedures of the EMS Student Handbook. The faculty, in conjunction with the EMS Education Program Director and the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences, shall do so by the following:

1. Direct interaction with and supervision of the students in the classroom areas related to activities, assignments, quizzes, assessments, etc.
2. Ensuring that each student is provided with timely feedback on activities, assignments, quizzes, assessments etc.
3. Conduct periodic meetings as needed with students to discuss evaluations, progress toward student learning outcomes, and develop a plan for improvement if needed.
4. Keep copies of student and faculty assessments and communications to help the program and students to document student progress and areas for needed growth.
5. Midterm and End-of-Semester Evaluations.
6. Skill lab check-off evaluation.
7. High Stakes exams evaluations

Semester Evaluation

Students are required to achieve an 80% overall final course average in each EMS course. Regular conversation on student progress will take place among all paramedic faculty using a shared, secure document where each member can update their observations. A review of this document will take place as needed to ensure any problem areas the student may have will continue to be addressed as needed. Lesson plans, including lab scenarios, will be modified from this communication to ensure student objectives are being met appropriately. Each student will be evaluated on their current progress toward the 80% overall course average, and each student learning outcome, on a midterm and end of semester basis by the Northwest College EMS Program faculty. Students will be informed in writing of the student's status and are required to sign the evaluations after reviewing them. Copies of evaluations are maintained in the student's file. At midterm and final exam time, students meet with instructors to discuss their expected level of achievement and their performance toward that goal. Students who have achieved the final passing course grade, yet have unmet student learning outcomes, discuss plans for improvement with their instructor and bring documentation relating to the outlined plan to the next semester instructors for further discussion. Further unmet student learning outcomes may involve conversations with the EMS Education Program Director and/or the Chair of the Health Professions Division.

Capstone Evaluation

For a student to enter capstone, all skill or patient experience requirements as defined by the Student Minimum Competency must be completed. Once completed, and the student finds themselves in their 4th semester enrolled in EMS 2895, the student may begin working toward achieving 20 team leads to finish their capstone experience. The program requires that the student achieves 20 team leads sequentially (1... 2...3) rather than summed. Thus, a student must be aware if they fail to achieve a team lead on their 11th team lead attempt (they have achieved 10 team leads prior). If the 12th team lead attempt is also a failure (as determined by their preceptor), the student will return to 0 to complete the count to 20. Of the 20 team leads, one BLS call may be counted. If a student incurs other BLS calls during their team lead accumulation, it does not count against them but will not count toward their 20-team lead requirement.

As Needed Evaluation

Faculty will meet with students with identified concerns to address areas of unmet learning outcomes or unmet expectations of behaviors as outlined in the EMS Student Handbook on an as needed basis. The students and faculty collaboratively develop a plan for improvement that addresses the areas needing improvement to support student success. The NWC EMS Program faculty, EMS Education Program Director, and Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences will follow the protocol outlined below:

1. **Problematic/disciplinary behavior documented.** Problematic behavior will be documented in writing by faculty, discussed with students, and placed in the student's academic file. The student, EMS Education Program Director and Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences will receive a copy of this written documentation.
2. **Problematic/disciplinary behavior resulting in a Warning Letter, contract, and possible probation.** If a pattern of problematic behavior or a single, serious lapse in meeting the expectations outlined in the EMS Student Handbook becomes evident, the steps below will be followed:
 - a. Warning Letter:
Warning Letter outlining the student's continuation of problematic behavior or lapses in meeting the expectations outlined in the EMS Student Handbook. The letter will be composed by the EMS Education Program Director in conjunction with the faculty member initiating the Warning Letter.
 - b. Student is given Warning Letter and Contract:
The Program Coordinator, in collaboration with the EMS faculty, will prepare an individual student contract identifying what needs to be demonstrated to meet the learning outcomes and/or expectations outlined in the EMS Student Handbook and a period. The student and

EMS Education Program Director will review the Warning Letter and Contract. After the student reads and/or comments and signs the Warning Letter and contract, a copy of the contract is placed in the student's academic file and provided to the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences.

c. Probationary Status & Contract:

Upon collaboration with the NWC EMS Program faculty and EMS Education Program Director, the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences may determine that the behavior of the student warrants placement on probation. If placed on probation, the student will be notified of their probationary status and will remain on probation throughout the duration of the program. Students may petition the faculty for removal from probation one semester from the point of the initial probation. For example, if the student were put on probation in the 4th week of the Spring semester, the student could petition for removal of probation after the 4th week of the subsequent Fall semester. If successful, the probationary status will be removed. If the petition is unsuccessful, the probationary status remains for the remainder of the program. While on probation, if the student has further unmet learner outcomes or failure to meet expectations outlined in the EMS Student Handbook, a meeting with the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences will be scheduled to discuss progression or dismissal from the program.

d. Monthly Progress: The EMS Education Program Director will collaborate with EMS faculty to determine student's performance/progress toward the goals outlined in the contract. Students will meet at the beginning, middle, and end of the semester with the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences designee to receive verbal feedback and written documentation of their progress toward meeting the written plan outlined in the contract. If the student does not uphold the expectations within the contract, a meeting with the Chair of the Health Professions Division. will be scheduled to discuss progression or dismissal from the program.

Student Suspension

Students who fail to comply with NWC EMS Program standards, policies and procedures will be contacted by faculty, EMS Education Program Director, and/or the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences to meet formally to address issues of non-compliance. If the student fails to respond to requests to meet with the faculty and/or EMS Education Program Director and/or Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences, the student will be placed on suspension from EMS Program until the student has taken the proper and necessary steps to meet with the faculty and/or Director and resolve all issues of concern.

Students placed on suspension will not be allowed to attend EMS classes, clinical learning experiences or other EMS Program activities until the issues are resolved. Examples of behaviors that can result in suspension include but are not limited to:

- Failure to comply with the NWC and/or EMS Student Handbook policies and procedures.
- Students who present an immediate danger to themselves, clinical clients/facility staff, or other students while in the classroom, clinical or lab setting.

Withdrawal

Should it become necessary for the student to withdraw from the program at any given point, the withdrawal procedures below must be completed.

- Withdrawal from the EMS program must be done via signed written letter addressed to the EMS Education Program Director detailing reasons for withdrawal.
- The student will be administratively withdrawn from the EMS program; however, students will need go through the process of withdrawal from EMS courses and take care of financial aid/business office obligations.
- For withdrawal from EMS courses outside the withdrawal time, students will need to contact the Registrar's office for withdrawal through the [Student Appeals Process outlined in the NWC](#)

[Student Handbook.](#)

- Formal notification to the EMS department is required if the student plans to seek readmission to the EMS Program.

PROGRESSION

All EMS courses are sequential. Students must successfully complete all EMS courses with a final course average of 80% or higher and general education courses within the AAS program of study with a 'C' or higher each semester. Each semester's non-paramedic-level courses and EMS courses must be sequentially completed according to the academic plan to progress to the next semester.

Students who fail a non-EMS course, thus falling out of sequence with their academic plan, must immediately contact their advisor to determine their ability to remain in the EMS program.

Failure to successfully complete 80 % (B- or above) any EMS course within sequence within each semester renders the student ineligible to progress to the next semester.

An "S" (Satisfactory) is required for clinical skill check offs. If the student is unable to satisfactorily complete the required skill check-off after the third attempt, a meeting will be scheduled with the Lead Instructor and/or the EMS Education Program Director for possible dismissal from the program.

DISMISSAL

Students exhibiting behaviors/actions outside the expectations outlined in the NWC EMS Student Handbook will result in the initiation of the 'As Needed Evaluation' protocol. If it is determined during the investigation that the breach is severe in nature or that multiple dismissible offenses have occurred, the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences may choose to dismiss the student from the program immediately without continuing the 'As Needed Evaluation' protocol.

Dismissal from the NWC EMS Program does not impact classes outside of the EMS curriculum, unless there has been a breach of Northwest College Student Handbook policy. Dismissible offenses include but are not limited to the following:

1. Unprofessional attitude, conduct and/or behavior as outlined in the EMS Student Handbook.
2. Violation of Northwest College Student Handbook policy and procedures.
3. Violation of state or national standards of practice or actions outside the legal or ethical framework outlined by the NAEMS Code of Ethics.
4. Violation of facility or EMS Student Handbook policies that jeopardize facility relationships and/or penalize the NWC EMS Program from future facility experiences and opportunities.
5. Violation of the substance abuse policy resulting in positive screening result that is validated by medical professional documentation.
6. Federal HIPAA Violations
 - a. Tier one: unintentional violations will result in verbal and written reprimand with probation for the remainder of the program.
 - b. Tier two: intentional access will result in dismissal from the EMS Program without readmission option.
7. Failing to meet leveled-learning outcomes, including clinical outcomes, in all EMS courses indicated by a final course average of 'B-' (80%).
8. Clinical outcomes unmet secondary to unvaccinated status will not be excused and will result in a failing grade for the EMS-level course.
9. Passing all areas of evaluation – Platinum Ed testing, Clinical, Lab, Homework, and Exams – is required for an overall passing grade within an EMS-level course. For example, if a student clinical grade with all other areas of evaluation passed, the student will still have failed the EMS- level

course.

10. Passing all high stakes exams is a requirement for a passing grade within an EMS-level course.
11. Failing to obtain a “B-,” or 80% or higher, in core EMS courses after two attempts will result in dismissal without the option of re-entry.
12. Failing to complete coursework within the designated deadline will result in the conversion of ‘I’ (Incomplete) grade to ‘F’ for final grade. This deadline will be set prior to the start of the next semester for the student hoping to continue to progress in the EMS program sequence.
13. Behavior or action outside safe EMS practice as noted in the clinical and professionalism directives that jeopardize the safety of patients, staff, or classmates. The unsafe behavior may be from isolated, related, or unrelated incidents, intentional or unintentional, resulting in harm or no harm to the client, facility/NWC staff, classmate, or faculty member.
14. Failing to obtain a “C,” or 75% or higher, in a non-paramedic plan of study course required for the EMS Program degree after three (3) attempts results in dismissal without the option for readmission.
15. Failure to comply with directives set forth by a preceptor in-field or in-hospital will result in dismissal. This may include the unsupervised administration of medications or procedures or violating the order a preceptor has given regarding care of the patient.
16. Failure to improve noted negative behavior as testified by preceptor evaluation will result in a failing grade in the clinical portion of the course, thus overall.
17. Violation(s) of Academic dishonesty policy or plagiarism as defined by Northwest College.
18. Consistent failure to comply with the policies and procedures set forth by NWC and/or the EMS Department or additional violations while in probationary status.

Re-entry following dismissal may be considered if evidence is presented that reflects that the problem or problems related to the dismissal have been or are being resolved. Re-entry may be denied based on past academic performance, past clinical performance, and/or the nature of the reason for dismissal. The decision to readmit a student to the EMS Program will be made by the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences in collaboration with evidence presented by the EMS Education Program Director and EMS faculty.

Student Due Process

The Northwest College EMS Department ensures student due process by adhering to the Northwest College [grievance and appeals process](#) outlined in the Northwest College Student Handbook. To initiate a grievance or appeal, students are expected to follow the following chain of command to resolve all concerns and issues:

1. The student will first go to the instructor(s) directly involved with the concern.
2. If the issue is not resolved, the student can choose to discuss the issue with the EMS Education Program Director, followed by the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences.
3. If the issue is not resolved with the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences, the student can choose to discuss the issue with the Dean of Student Learning.
4. If the issue is not resolved, the student can choose to discuss the issue with the Vice President of Academic Affairs.
5. If the issue is not resolved, follow formal Northwest College appeals process as outlined in the NWC Student Handbook.

Completion Requirements/Graduation

Students of NWC’s EMS Program are eligible for graduation upon successful completion of the program as evidenced by receiving a “C” or above in all academic courses (non-EMS), a “B-“ in all EMS core courses and by completing any additional requirements requested by NWC.

Completion of NWC specific degree requirements (in good standing) permits a student to graduate from NWC and receive the appropriate degree/certificate which conforms to Wyoming State Board of EMS and Wyoming

Community College Commission requirements. Licensure requirements in clinicals and overall grade requirements for the program will be upheld for question of licensure.

Upon receipt of their degree, students will be eligible to take the National Registry Examination. A passing score on the NREMS written examination awards the candidate the appropriate title earned (i.e., EMS, AEMS, or Paramedic). A candidate may not practice with this title until he/she applies for state licensure and is awarded a license. Further, a candidate must be affiliated with a service and overseen by a medical director for their licensure to be considered valid.

Military Service While Enrolled

NWC's EMS program strives to serve those who are serving in the military while they are enrolled in our program. It is understood this may include long absences while either deployed or training. A student must notify the program coordinator as soon as they learn of this commitment to evaluate the possibility of continued enrollment while away. If a plan can be devised to ensure the student will exit the program at the same comprehension level as their peers, it will be sent to the medical director, program director, and Chair of the Health Professions Division, for approval. This comprehension level will be determined by the student's ability to achieve passing grades in all areas of evaluation and achieve a score greater than or equal to the national cut score on high stakes examinations. Pending approval of the program coordinator, medical director, and Chair, the student may plan to re-enter the program upon their return. If a plan of action cannot be accommodated, the student may be assigned an incomplete and return to that point in the program upon their return.

III. Student Services & General Information

STUDENT SERVICES

EMS Students are encouraged to access a variety of [Student Services](#) via the Northwest College website.

Accident and Health Insurance

Students are strongly advised to purchase and carry their own personal health insurance.

Library and Reference

Students are urged to use the NWC Hinckley Library facilities and on-line databases. Click on the [Hinckley Library](#) on the NWC website to find library hours, policies, and instructions for access of library resources. A library is available at the Cody center with select volumes for the EMS student. If further volumes are required for student success, a student may present the request for the resource to the EMS Education Program Director. If approved, it will be placed in the Cody Center Library. Librarians are linked into each EMS course for easy student access. Transcripts will not be sent if there are outstanding library fines/fees.

EMS Computer Lab

The EMS Education Department in Powell and at the Cody Annex houses computers explicitly for EMS, Allied Health, and Nursing student use. Students are expected to respect the 'no food and lids on drinks policy drink' and to keep the computer lab neat and orderly. EMS students may use the computer lab during any of the times available on the posted 'lab schedule' outside the computer lab entry door.

No children are allowed in the EMS computer lab during or after regular working hours without obtaining permission in advance from the EMS Education Program Director or the Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences. Students are expected to be courteous to other users by using their own personal headphones and keeping the noise level down. Headphones are available for check out from the EMS instructors. For computer problems encountered in the computer lab during the regular workday, contact an NWC EMS Program faculty if available. If unavailable, follow protocol outlined on the [Computing Services](#) website.

Student Activities and Organizations

NWC provides extensive opportunities for participation in activities and student organizations. Students are encouraged to become involved with at least one organization or activity on campus. Visit the NWC [‘Student Life’](#) website for more information.

Student Participation:

Each month the EMS Education Program Director will meet with each cohort to facilitate communication. The EMS Education Program Director Sciences will obtain feedback from students, respond to students’ comments, and use the information to inform program decisions, problem solve, and work alongside faculty to foster open communication among all students.

Each academic year, each student cohort will be asked to select a class representative to attend the EMS Advisory Board meeting held bi-annually. The role of the representative is to share information about the cohort relating to clinical, lab, and classroom activities and answer questions that any board member has during the meeting.

Financial Aid

Students at NWC may obtain scholarships and financial aid according to need and ability as determined by NWC or by the guidelines of the granting agency. Forms and inquiries concerning this aid may be obtained from the Director of Financial Aid at NWC. Northwest College is in compliance with Higher Education Re-authorization Act Title IV eligibility and certification requirements are maintained. For more information visit [‘Financial Aid’](#) on the NWC website.

Tuition and Fees

The costs for attending Northwest College are located on the [‘Admissions’](#) section of the NWC website. Students in the EMS Program will incur additional expenses for travel, lodging, equipment, supplies, and course fees. Approximate costs of the NWC EMS Program are outlined in the EMS Student Handbook and on the EMS website.

Students are encouraged to apply for available scholarships and are responsible for making the appropriate financial arrangements with the financial aid and business office. Official transcripts will not be sent from NWC until all financial obligations have been paid.

Academic Code of Conduct

Students are responsible for adhering to the [NWC Academic Code of Conduct](#). Violations in the academic integrity will follow the procedure outlined in the NWC Student Handbook.

Academic Advisement

All EMS students must be assigned an EMS advisor. Whenever possible the student will have the same advisor throughout the four semesters in the EMS Program. Students can request a change of advisor from the [Academic and Career Advising Center](#). All students are **required** to attend an advising session each semester while in the EMS program to ensure that:

- Students are in sequence with required courses.
- Grades for required courses are satisfactory; “S” or “B-” 80% or higher.
- Students are meeting program requirements for progression and continuation in the program.

Academic Calendar

The NWC [Academic Calendar](#) is available on the college website.

Student Health Services

Student health services are not available on the campus of NWC. Please refer to NWC [Student Health & Safety](#) for more information regarding this service.

Counseling and Testing Services

The EMS faculty does not provide personal counseling. This service is available by appointment at the NWC Cody Center. The SSC has professionally licensed counselors who can provide personal, career, and crisis intervention counseling in a confidential atmosphere to any student requesting it. To find out how to schedule an appointment or find out more information, visit the NWC [Student Success Center](#).

Students with Disabilities

Northwest College is dedicated to removing barriers and opening access for students with disabilities in compliance with ADAAA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. It is the student's responsibility to make an appointment with the Disability Support Services (DSS) Coordinator to provide documentation about a disability (whether it is psychiatric, learning, mobility, health related or sensory) and to inquire about accommodations for courses each semester. To contact the DSS Coordinator, call 754-6135 or stop by the Student Success Center located in the lower level of Colter Hall. Students can also visit the NWC [Disability Support](#) website for more information.

Computer Services

[Computing Services](#) information is available via the website with additional information and links for assistance.

GENERAL POLICIES

Employment Policy

Work and "being on call" are not considered an excuse for tardiness or absences. Students may not leave clinical, lab, or class to go to work. Students may not accept "on-call" duties while attending any learning experience. The student's departure to go to work or leave for "on-call" will be considered as 'unexcused absence' and will follow policy as such. On-call is defined as the requirement to respond to an emergency and/or non-emergency transfer through the use of a pager, text message, or phone call. No ambulance will be brought to the center with the intention of local emergency response while class is in session.

Students should not schedule appointments or plan to leave any learning experience early unless prior special permission is obtained from the instructor, EMS Education Program Director and/or Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences.

For the sake of client safety, a student cannot work a shift or "take call" just prior to the assigned clinical time. If the instructor determines that the student is excessively fatigued and cannot perform safely, the student will be sent home, and it will be considered an unexcused clinical absence.

Should it become evident that excessive work hours interfere with classroom and/or clinical performance, the student will be counseled initially by the faculty member(s) who are concerned. Further referral to the EMS Education Program Director or Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences will continue if concerns persist.

Refund Policy

Students who leave the program prior to completion will receive a refund of tuition according to the refund schedule as shown in the Northwest College Catalog.

Student Use of Telephones (calls/texting/cameras)

While participating in a field experience, there will be downtime between calls during which you may use your phone as needed. This is not to be in excess and should only be used after station chores, studying, and other activities have been completed. When on a call, you may only use your phone to call the physician. No exceptions. Taking pictures, posting on social media, or sharing any details about the call are a violation of HIPPA and will result in immediate expulsion from the program.

Tobacco

Smoking, e-cigarettes (vaping), or any other form of tobacco use is not allowed in any buildings on the Cody or Powell campus or at clinical facilities.

Change of Name and Address

The student is responsible for notifying the EMS office and the records office at the college of any changes in contact information for the duration of the program and immediately after graduation.

Computer Requirements

Because of the blended nature of the NWC Paramedic Program coursework, it is essential that students have a properly functioning computer that has internet capabilities and the NWC recommended minimum hardware requirements. Students have multiple opportunities to utilize computer labs on campus and are provided with information relating to the computer resources on campus. Students are responsible for maintaining proper function of student's own personal computer and are provided with information to trouble-shoot problems through the NWC Information Technology department. Electronic/computer failure of a personal nature does not exempt students from assignment due dates, course work requirements, or examination deadlines.

Family Members on Campus

The EMS Program follows the [Northwest College Student Handbook policy](#) which discourages the extended presence of children or other family members in the learning and working environment on the campus. This includes the EMS labs, simulation lab, computer lab, medication administration area, debriefing area, or classrooms. Exceptions will be made at the discretion of the Program Director.

IV. Student Health & Safety Responsibilities

Students must have the cognitive and physical ability to meet course outcomes and to render EMS care with reasonable skill and safety to clients and self. It is the student's responsibility to advise the faculty of pregnancy, allergy, any acute or chronic health conditions, infectious diseases or any such conditions that may interfere with academic or clinical progress. The faculty reserves the right to restrict the student's clinical practice when a health-related problem or potential problem exists. Students must adhere to the health and safety rules and regulations of assigned clinical agencies.

In the event of extended interruption of classroom or clinical activities due to hospitalization or health related circumstances, the student will be required to provide a written statement from a qualified health care provider regarding any restrictions or required accommodation before being allowed to resume classroom and clinical activities.

Immunizations & CPR Requirements

As a provision of the clinical education contract with the clinical facilities, current immunization documentation and CPR Certification are mandatory. Immunizations & CPR certification must remain current throughout the program. Failure to remain current and provide documentation reflecting compliance results in an

inability to attend clinical experiences. Student absences because of non-compliance will be considered unexcused and subject to the absence policy. While all good faith attempts will be made to place the student appropriately, if they are not successful in completing their hours secondary to this, it will mean failure from the program.

Substance Abuse Policy

EMS students must be free of chemical impairment during participation in any part of the NWC EMS Program including classroom, laboratory, and clinical settings.

The NWC EMS Program faculty defines the chemically impaired student as a person who, while in an academic or clinical setting, is under the influence of, has abused, either separately or in combination: alcohol, illegal drugs, over-the-counter drugs, inhalants, or synthetic designer drugs. Abuse of the substances includes episodic misuse or chronic use that has produced psychological and/or physical symptoms. The EMS faculty will intervene with the chemically impaired student in the established procedure.

NORTHWEST COLLEGE TECHNICAL STANDARDS

The purpose of the EMS Program is to educate students to meet the program outcomes and to ensure that no graduate will pose a danger to the patient. EMS students will receive both classroom and clinical instruction in multiple EMS skill areas and will be required to demonstrate competency in each area.

The student must be able to demonstrate, with or without reasonable accommodation, physical, cognitive, and behavioral abilities required for satisfactory completion of all aspects of the program curriculum and clinical agency requirements. Any applicant who has met the necessary academic prerequisites and can, with or without reasonable accommodation, meet and/or perform the EMS Program Technical Standards will be accepted for admission.

Prior to entrance and for the duration of the program students must be free from communicable diseases, infection, psychological disorders and other conditions that present a threat to, or negatively impact the safety and wellbeing of faculty, other students, patients, or would prevent the successful performance of the responsibilities and tasks required in the NWC EMS Program.

Prior to entrance individuals will be asked to verify that they can meet the following EMS Program Technical Standards with or without accommodation(s) and complete a pre-entrance physical examination form verified by a health care provider.

Please carefully read the EMS Program Technical Standards.

Functional Ability	Standard	Examples of Required Activities
Gross Motor Skills	Gross motor skills are sufficient to provide the full range of safe and effective patient care activities.	Move within confined spaces such as treatment room or operating suite. Assist with turning and lifting patients. Administer CPR.

Fine Motor Skills	Fine motor skills sufficient to perform manual psychomotor skills	Pick up and grasp small objects with fingers such as insulin syringe and pills. Perform tracheotomy suctioning, insert urinary catheter.
Physical Endurance	Physical stamina sufficient to remain continuously on task for up to 12-hour clinical shift while standing, sitting, moving, lifting, and bending to perform patient care activities	Walk/stand for extended periods of time, turn, position, and transfer patients. Manually resuscitate patients in emergency situations.
Physical Strength	Physical strength sufficient to perform full range of required patient care activities	Push and pull 50 pounds. Lift/move heavy objects from 35 – 50 pounds.
Mobility	Physical ability sufficient to move from room to room and maneuver in small spaces; full range of motion to twist/bend, stoop/squat, reach above shoulders and below waist and move quickly; manual and finger dexterity; and hand-eye coordination to perform EMS activities	Move around in work areas and treatment areas. Position oneself in the environment to render care without obstructing the position of other team members or equipment
Hearing	Auditory ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of patient health care needs.	Hear normal speaking level sounds. Hear auscultatory sounds. Hear auditory alarms (monitors, fire alarms, call bells).

		Hearing cries for help.
Visual	Normal or corrected visual ability sufficient for accurate observation and performance of EMS care.	See objects up to 20 feet away. Visual acuity to read calibrations on 1 ml syringe. Assess skin color (cyanosis, pallor).
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical monitoring and assessment of health care needs.	Feel vibrations (pulses). Detect temperature changes. Palpate veins for cannulation.
Smell	Olfactory ability sufficient to detect significant environmental and patient odors	Detect odors from patients (foul smelling drainage, alcohol breath). Detect smoke.
Communication	Oral communication skills sufficient to communicate in English with accuracy, clarity, and efficiency with patients, their families, and other members of the health care team, including non-verbal communication, such as interpretation of facial expressions, affect, and body language. Demonstrate the development of mature, sensitive, and effective relationships with patients and their families, supervisors, and co-workers.	Give verbal directions to or follow verbal directions from other members of the healthcare team and participate in health care team discussions of patient care. Elicit and record information about health history, current state of health and responses to treatment from patients or family members. Convey information to patients and others as necessary to teach, direct and counsel individuals in an accurate, effective, and timely manner. Recognize and report critical patient information to other caregivers.
Conceptual/Spatial Abilities	Conceptual/spatial ability is sufficient to comprehend three-dimensional and spatial relationships.	Comprehend spatial relationships to properly administer injections, start intravenous lines, assess wounds of varying depths and recognize normal/abnormal anatomy.
Emotional/ Behavioral & Professional Attitudes and Interpersonal Skills	Demonstrate honesty, integrity and ethical behavior including adherence to the professional EMS code of conduct. Present professional appearance and demeanor, compassion, concern for others, interest for the welfare of others. Demonstrate emotional stability and appropriate behavior sufficient to assume responsibility/ accountability for actions.	Establish rapport with patients, instructors, and colleagues. Respect and care for people whose appearance, condition, beliefs, and values may conflict with their own. Deliver EMS care regardless of patient's race, ethnicity, age, gender, religion, sexual orientation, or diagnosis. Conduct themselves in a composed, respectful manner

	Emotional health required to utilize their intellectual abilities fully, exercise good judgment, complete all responsibilities attendant to the EMS diagnosis and care of patients promptly, and safely. Must be able to adapt to changing environments, to display flexibility, and to learn to function in the face of uncertainties inherent in the clinical problems of many patients.	in all situations and with all people. Work with teams and workgroups. Establish and maintain therapeutic boundaries. Demonstrate emotional skills to remain calm and maintain professional decorum in an emergency/stressful situation. Demonstrate prompt and safe completion of all patient care responsibilities. Adapt rapidly to changing environment/stress. Exhibit ethical behaviors and exercise good judgment. Self-aware and able to determine when support or assistance is needed to care for a client properly and safely.
Cognitive/ Quantitative Abilities	Reading comprehension skills and mathematical ability sufficient to understand written documents in English and solve problems involving measurement, calculation, reasoning, analysis, and synthesis. Follow instructions and safety protocols.	Calculate appropriate medication dosage given specific patient parameters. Analyze and synthesize data and develop an appropriate plan of care. Collect data, prioritize needs, and anticipate reactions. Transfer knowledge from one situation to another. Accurately process information on medication containers, physicians' orders, monitor and equipment calibrations, printed documents, flow sheets, graphic sheets, medication administration records, other medical records and policy and procedure manuals.
Clinical Reasoning	Ability to reason over time about a patient's changing condition and/or changes in the clinician's understanding.	Evaluate patient or instrument responses, synthesize data, draw sound conclusions.
Flexibility	Adapt to EMS Department course scheduling policy.	Available to work the hours of an assigned schedule which could include any shift and day of the week.

After entering the EMS Program, the student is responsible for notifying their EMS instructor of conditions that impact the student's ability to meet the EMS Program Technical Standards. Any change in the student's ability to meet and/or perform the EMS Program Technical Standards would require the student to provide appropriate documentation (as identified by the EMS Program) that they once again meet Technical Standards.

Reasonable Accommodations

Applicants who disclose a disability are considered for admission if they are otherwise qualified so long as such accommodation does not significantly alter the essential requirements of the curriculum and the educational program or significantly affect the safety of patient care or others. When applicants or students disclose a disability, the provision of reasonable accommodation will be considered to assist these individuals in meeting these required technical standards.

Reasonable accommodation will be made to facilitate successful completion of the EMS curriculum and preparation for the national registry examination. Students interested in determining accommodations may contact Kim Fletcher, Disabilities Coordinator at the Northwest College Student Success Services, 307- 754-6135 Kim.Fletcher@nwc.edu. Whether or not the requested accommodation is reasonable will be determined on a case-by-case basis.

V. Academic Policy & Professional Guidelines

GRADING POLICY FOR THE EMS PROGRAM

The NWC EMS Program follows the letter-grading criterion as outlined in the Northwest College catalog. A minimum grade of 3.0 (B) is required in each EMS course and a minimum grade of 2.0 (C) in each AAS academic plan course requirement to progress in the program and graduate with an AAS degree. The grading scale, as published by Northwest College and adapted by this EMS Program, is as follows:

Grading Scale

A	= 95 - 100%	4.0 points
A-	= 90 - 94%	3.7 points
B+	= 87 - 89%	3.3 points
B	= 84 - 86%	3.0 points
B-	= 80 - 83%	2.7 points
C+	= 77 - 79%	2.3 points
C	= 74 - 76%	2.0 points
C-	= 71 - 73%	1.7 points
D+	= 68 - 70%	1.3 points
D	= 65 - 67%	1.0 point
D-	= 61 - 65%	0.7 point
F	= Below 60%	0.0 point
U	= Unsatisfactory	0.0 point
S	= Satisfactory	0.0 point
W	= Withdrawn	0.0 point
WI	= Administrative Withdraw	0.0 point
I	= Incomplete	0.0 point

Course Sequence Requirements

Students must successfully complete all EMS courses in sequence, per the AAS Paramedic Program of Study, with an "S", "Satisfactory", "B-" or 80% or higher within each semester to progress to the next semester. All

courses required for graduation from the EMS Program must be completed with a “B-“ (80%) in all EMS core courses and a “C” (74%). **Students who are out of sequence are required to meet with their advisor immediately to determine options for program progression or if dismissal and re-entry are required.**

ASSIGNMENTS AND GRADING

Many class assignments and learning resources are required to be submitted or viewed electronically; therefore, it is essential that students have a properly functioning computer that has internet capabilities and the NWC recommended minimum hardware requirements. These are listed in the computer requirements under the General Policies section of the handbook.

Although personal electronic/computer failure does not exempt students from assignment due dates, course work requirements, or examination deadlines, technical difficulties encountered by the student because of the NWC LMS (Learning Management Systems) problems or technical challenges with other vendors providing websites containing student assignments will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the faculty.

Classroom and/or Clinical/Lab/SIM Assignment Grading

To be eligible to receive full credit for assignments, the assignment must follow guidelines for completing the assignment. Assignments are to be submitted to the instructor of the course on the date and time specified to receive full credit. Extenuating circumstances for late assignments may be considered on an individual basis.

Exams

Course exams will be online and proctored. Students are aware of testing times prior to the beginning of each semester. The exams are calculated as part of the overall course grade according to the course syllabus.

Students are expected to take an exam on the day and location as scheduled. Students may not make up a missed exam unless prior arrangements are made with instructor. Any missed exam without prior instructor approval cannot be made-up and will receive a score of zero. Students who are tardy to the exam will not be allowed to take the exam and will receive a zero.

High Stakes Exams

There will be exams referred to as ‘high stakes exams’ that are held at various points throughout the progression of learning within the EMS program. These exams hold significant weight toward the student’s final grade and can constitute failure of the course if the student fails to pass the exam. They are considered an area of evaluation within the overall grade and must individually be passed for the student to progress on in the plan of study. These exams will be declared in the syllabi and students will be reminded of the timeframe in which these exams will be held. High stakes exams are utilized to evaluate the student’s progression in the three areas of examination: affective, cognitive, and psychomotor. If a student fails to pass a high stakes exam, they will be given one more opportunity to pass the exam prior to semester’s end. If the student fails the exam twice, the failing grade will be input into the student’s total grade calculation, and the student will have been considered unsuccessful in achieving the required metrics for the course. Failure to achieve an 80% in the EMS core class means failure of that course for the semester and dismissal from the program.

Psychomotor High Stakes Exams Grading

EMS skills are introduced throughout the NWC EMS Program through lab experiences. Instructors will inform students of the procedure for skill evaluation and the time allowed for completion. Time will be formally established for students to practice skills and remediate with instructors. Informal skill practice in the lab may be scheduled through an instructor. Instructor or designee must be present with students if the lab is used for skills practice.

Skills checklists will be provided for the student by the instructors. Checklists will indicate critical areas. Students cannot satisfactorily complete a skill demonstration if a critical area is omitted. Instructor discretion will be used to determine ‘Satisfactory’ completion of a skill demonstration when multiple non-critical elements are

omitted, the student is disorganized or not prepared, exceeds time limits and/or other patient safety concerns arise.

Students who do not achieve a 'Satisfactory' score upon completion of the skill on the first attempt must remediate and schedule a repeat demonstration with a different instructor. The repeat demonstration will be evaluated in the same way as the first attempt. If, on the repeat demonstration, the student does not achieve 'Satisfactory' completion, a different instructor will evaluate the student's third attempt, using the same process of evaluation. If, on the third attempt, the student does not 'Satisfactorily' complete the skill, the faculty will give a recommendation to the EMS Education Program Director for remaining in program with remediation or dismissal. The Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences will make the final determination.

Skills Demonstration Procedure

1. Students will report for the demonstration wearing NWC Paramedic or EMS student uniform and following other dress code requirements.
2. Students will arrive on time and prepared for the scheduled demonstration.
3. Instructors will observe skill demonstrations and evaluate students using the skills checklist provided.
4. Use of checklists, notes, cues, or peer-direction will be at the discretion of the instructor.
5. After the allotted time has passed, the skill will be stopped, and the student will receive the grade earned up to that point.

Cognitive High Stakes Exam Policies

The cognitive high stakes exams are meant to test your aptitude for a particular subject. You are expected to score at or above the preset cut score for the exam. Two proctors will be present for these exams. If you fail to achieve the cut score, you will be given a second opportunity to achieve it. If you fail the exam twice, recommendation for dismissal of the program will be given to the EMS Department Coordinator. Cut scores per each exam vary and will be announced prior to taking the exam. Exams will be held in Platinum Education EMS Testing or as a hands-on skills assessment.

Affective High Stakes Exam Policies

Being a paramedic is not all-inclusive of your ability to perform skills or to score well on cognitive testing. Rather, a large part of being a successful paramedic depends on your ability to function in a high stress environment and to always treat patients or peers with respect. How you act is just as, if not more, important than what you do. As part of your growing into an entry-level paramedic, we expect you to learn how to act as a professional paramedic and will help mold you along the way. While you are expected to act accordingly during any experience, there will be high stakes examinations centered around your ability to function in purposefully stressful, challenging environments. Instructors will be poised to elicit an emotional response from you and observe how you react to it. Affective testing will take place at minimum twice a semester by instructors but takes place continually in the field/clinical site by your preceptors. If you react inappropriately to a high stakes examination, you will be counseled on your behavior and given an opportunity to retest at another time with a different scenario. If a second failure is incurred, recommendation for dismissal will be given to the EMS Department Coordinator for consideration.

Testing Guidelines

1. Students are not allowed to have any electronic storage devices in their possession during an exam or exam question review. This includes but it is NOT limited to cell phones, iPads, or advanced capability watches such as an Apple watch. Students will be asked to remove/store all electronic devices outside the testing area.
2. Faculty will provide calculators if questions require calculation.
3. Whiteboards or paper will be provided to students by the instructor and must be returned at the end of the exam. No other paper, pens, or writing devices/equipment will be allowed during exams.
4. Downloading or reproducing any exam or any part of an exam is considered academic

- dishonesty and will be subject to disciplinary action.
5. Entering any area on Moodle other than the actual exam or program, window, etc. on your testing computer during or after the exam is considered academic dishonesty and will be subject to disciplinary action.
 6. No hats, caps, or hoodies worn on the head are allowed to be worn during testing.
 7. After completing their exams, students are permitted to review their responses for up to 10 minutes to help identify areas that may require remediation. Once students exit the exam area or the test session concludes, access to the questions will no longer be available. Faculty will subsequently analyze the exam statistics to correct any errors and adjust grades as necessary. To discuss study resources and reinforce understanding of the material, students may schedule an appointment with their instructor; however, specific questions and answers from the exam remain non-negotiable.
 8. Students must leave the testing room immediately after reviewing the exam. You may not re-enter the computer lab until the testing period has ended.
 9. Brain dumping is considered academic dishonesty and will be subject to disciplinary action. Brain dumping refers to congregating after the exam to attempt to reconstruct the exam with other examinees OR writing out as much information as you can remember on the whiteboard prior to or when the exam begins.
 10. When testing, all items are to be stored in locker or classroom.

Homework & Group Assignment Policy

From the date that grades are posted in Platinum Education, students will have seven (7) days to make an appointment with their instructor to discuss scoring homework assignments. After the deadline has passed, scoring will not be adjusted. For group assignments, all members of the group are required to turn in the required forms as outlined in the course syllabus for any of the members to receive a score. Failure to follow the group assignment guidelines results in a zero for each group member. Late submissions will follow the assignment grading policy. Students will use a combination of EMS Testing, JB Learning, and FOAM Frat for all homework assignments.

Platinum Planner/ EMS Testing Requirement

The Northwest College EMS Department utilizes Platinum Education as required content that supplements the curriculum. Students will be encouraged to successfully achieve proficiency at instructor determined benchmarks in all Platinum Education exams. Students scoring below the expected benchmark will be expected to remediate according to the instructor's directions and required to take the exam a second time. The student's highest test score will be used to calculate the student's final course grade. The consequences of students failing to meet the expected benchmark after the second attempt will be outlined by the course syllabus and their instructor.

Overall Incomplete Grade

The expectation of the Northwest College EMS Department faculty is that the student completes all homework, lab, and clinical requirements prior to the end of the semester. Failure to complete the expectations as set forth in the syllabus will result in the grade earned being assigned to the student at the end of the semester. *In rare instances*, an incomplete grade may be assigned to the student for extraordinary circumstances beyond their control. This will be performed by the lead instructor and program director at their discretion. Failure to complete course requirements due to poor planning and scheduling is not an accepted excuse on behalf of the student.

If an incomplete grade is assigned, the student will be informed of a due date for course completion. The program will not schedule 'extra' labs or clinical time for the student to facilitate completion. The student will be required to join the next cohort to finish these requirements. For Paramedic, this would mean joining in on these activities within 12 months (for lab or classroom activities) or when clinicals have

restarted the following semester. For EMS and Advanced EMS, this would mean joining the next semester's cohort in their normal schedule of events.

Failure to finish the requirements by the due date will result in the incomplete grade converting to an 'F.' At this point, the student will be required to retake the course in question to replace the grade on their transcript and will not be eligible for licensure until this is done.

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Forms of Clinical Experience

- I. Participatory Clinical Experiences:** Students may perform hands-on patient care and EMS care/skills under the direct supervision and assistance of an EMS Professional of the student's level or higher, an RN, or a physician. No more than one student in a clinical area at a time will be allowed. All clinicals will be completed by the student in Platinum Planner within 24 hours of completion of the Clinical.
- II. Skill Lab/SIM Experiences:** Students will participate in the skills lab when held to cement learned concepts in a high-fidelity simulation environment. Platinum Planner will be used to evaluate Lab/SIM experiences that include hands-on skills and patient care scenarios.

Clinical/Lab/SIM Grading

Students will be evaluated using a progressive clinical evaluation tool that demonstrates clinical growth from beginning to end. Students are expected to utilize skills and knowledge gained from previous semesters and experiences.

Objectives for individual clinical/lab/SIM experience, as well as any other coursework requirements are outlined in each course syllabus. Clinical/lab/SIM grades will be entered into course gradebook and are weighted per course syllabus. The student must complete all objectives as laid forth by the CoAEMSP Student Minimum Competency to achieve a passing grade in EMS 2895. The fulfillment of these requirements is a stipulation of pursuing licensure with National Registry. Failure to achieve either lab objectives or clinical objectives will constitute a failing grade in EMS 2895. Other forms of evaluation may include Preceptor feedback, Ancillary Staff feedback, written outcomes grading.

Clinical Skills

Skills may only be performed with an instructor or preceptor designated by the instructor. Some skills may be performed independently, **ONLY** at the discretion of the instructor. These skills are those the student has previously practiced as an Advanced EMS, including intravenous access, intraosseous access, IV fluid administration, obtaining 12-lead EKG (not interpreting), glucose administration, IM epi administration, nebulizer administration, and CPAP administration. Students **will not** administer medications that are beyond their scope of practice or without the supervision of their preceptor.

Skills documentation provides a means of tracking skills performed by the students which have been observed by their preceptor. Documentation of each skill performed is required to be done in Platinum Planner for that lab or clinical experience. A signature from the preceptor at the end of the day affirming these activities is required. The minimum required skills and success rates are reported in the Student Minimum Competency as developed by CoAEMSP. The program requires that students hold a success rate of 85% on IVs, 100% on IV bolus medications, and 90% on orotracheal intubations before proceeding to capstone.

Clinical Incident Procedure

Clinical incident reports are required in cases where an actual or potential error occurred that jeopardized or could jeopardize a client's or student's safety in the clinical setting. Client, staff, or student safety does include the

facility-dependent required use of personal protective equipment or following other facility- determined procedures. The generation of an incident report prompts immediate remedial action by the EMS instructor in collaboration with the student and the facility where the incident occurred. The student is responsible for immediately reporting the incident to the EMS instructor and working with the EMS instructor to begin the paperwork process. The incident form is available from the EMS instructor and requires completion by the student and EMS instructor prior to forwarding it to the EMS Education Program Director.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

The EMS Department and Faculty of Northwest College will adhere to the following attendance policy:

Class or Clinical Absence

Northwest College has an attendance policy: one clock hour of unexcused absence for each credit offered (for example, a three-credit course equals three clock hours of unexcused absences allowed). After the allowed absences have been taken, the instructor has the prerogative to reduce the student's grade by one grade per absence beyond the number allowed. Students who miss class while officially representing the college are directly responsible for seeing that all assignments, written lessons, labs, quizzes, tests, and exams are made up promptly. Such authorized absences merely give the individual who missed the class an opportunity to make up the work and in no way excuse the student from work required by instructor.

Students must attend at least 90% of the classroom and laboratory hours during the term. Students will be assigned make-up work for all classroom hours missed: usually in the form of written essays on the topics missed during the absence.

Tardiness is a disruption of the learning environment. Any student arriving to class more than fifteen minutes late will be docked one hour of class attendance.

Students are expected to attend class as scheduled. Absence and tardiness will be recorded at each class session, and the instructor will counsel students demonstrating attendance problems. Students failing to maintain satisfactory attendance and missing more than 10% of the course hours in the term will be dismissed from the program.

Tardiness is a disruption of the learning environment. Any student arriving to class more than fifteen minutes late will be docked one hour of class attendance. All clinical absences are required to be made up. Students who do not notify instructor and do not attend clinical are considered a “no call/no show” and will be immediately escalated to “Problematic/Disciplinary” protocol per the EMS Student Handbook.

Class or Clinical Tardy

Tardy is defined as arriving to class or clinical after the designated start time has passed. Students who are tardy to clinical learning activities or scheduled exams will not be allowed to stay and will be marked absent. The EMS student may be tardy one time for classroom lecture per semester. The second tardy will initiate the “Problematic/Disciplinary” protocol per the EMS Student Handbook.

CLINICAL AND PROFESSIONAL DIRECTIVES

Violations of clinical and professional directions, which cause injury or potential injury to anyone, may result in the student being dismissed from the classroom, clinical/lab/SIM setting at the discretion of the faculty and the ‘As Needed Evaluation’ process will be initiated.

Students may be sent home from a clinical experience and charged with an absence if instructor determines student is unsafe.

Safe EMS Practice and Clinical Directives

Unsafe clinical practice is grounds for dismissal from the EMS Program and is determined by the

following:

1. Students will be required to adhere to national and state standards of practice and practice within legal and ethical frameworks.
 2. Students will be held accountable to adhere to the NAEMS Code of Ethics.
 3. Students will be held accountable to adhere to the Wyoming Emergency Medical Services Act and the Wyoming Office of EMS Rules and Regulations. <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/ems/rules-and-scope-of-practice/ems-rules-and-regulations/>
 - a. Students are required to always adhere to individual facility policies (Policies will be reviewed with students prior to and during clinical learning experiences).
 4. Students must obtain instructor's permission and receive instruction regarding skill performance prior to performing EMS skills. (See 'Clinical Skills').
 5. Students must check in and out with their preceptor before leaving/entering the clinical site experiences.
 6. Students must report honestly their current health status and always abide by local health screening processes.
 7. Students must participate in health and safety guidelines, including hand hygiene, facial coverings, vaccination requirements, to ensure safety of all involved in the care of a patient.
 8. The consumption of drugs or alcohol prior to attendance of any classroom, clinical/lab/SIM experience is expressly forbidden. The unlawful use, possession, or distribution of a controlled substance as defined in Section I-V of Section 303 of the Controlled Substance Act (21 U.S.C. 812) and W.S. S35-7-1011 through 1022 and amendments thereof is forbidden.
- ❖ Any student who appears to meet the definition of 'chemically impaired' as stated in the 'Substance Abuse Policy' of the EMS Student handbook will be immediately removed from the classroom, clinical/lab/SIM experience, and the 'Substance Abuse Policy' will be initiated by the NWC EMS Program faculty, EMS Education Program Director and/or Division.

Professional Attitude, Conduct and/or Behavior

Unprofessional attitude, conduct and/or behavior is defined as the inability to work productively, constructively, and cooperatively with others. Expectations of professional attitude, conduct and/or behavior are upheld in the classroom, clinical/lab/SIM environments, and includes college-sponsored events on and off campus.

Examples of unprofessional attitude/conduct and/or behavior are (not limited to):

1. Continual antagonism of instructors or classmates, and/or repeatedly causing dissension, among others.
2. Engaging in Facebook, SnapChat, Instagram, and other social media activities, gaming, shopping, or browsing on any electronic device during testing, classroom, laboratory, clinical experiences, or other learning experiences.
3. Profanity
4. Intoxication on students' free time, while attending college sponsored events to the point that endangers self or other students, displays belligerent or otherwise unprofessional behavior.
5. Presenting at the clinical or classroom experience less than fifteen (15) minutes prior to its start.
6. Breach in NAEMS Code of Ethics.
7. Violating health and safety protocols or clinical site policies.

Behavioral Expectations for College Sponsored Experiences/Activities

EMS students are granted the privilege to represent Northwest College EMS Department, as well as the profession of EMS, at a number of off-campus experiences to include (but not limited to) community service events, health fairs, and EMS student conferences. While these experiences take place away from Northwest College campus, they are subject to all Northwest College Student Handbook and EMS Student Handbook policies.

During college-sponsored experiences/activities:

1. Students are required to always act professionally, and practice safely as outlined in the EMS Student handbook and according to state and national standards. (See Professional Attitude, Conduct and/or Behavior in EMS Handbook)
2. Students are expected to be on time, prepared for each experience with the appropriate supplies/paperwork and ready to actively engage in the planned off-campus experience.

Confidentiality

Students are required to keep all information relating to patients confidential.

1. Students must adhere to HIPAA regulations which will be reviewed with students by the faculty, and a HIPAA content module must be completed and signed by each student during orientation at the beginning of each semester.
2. Texting, computer, cell phone communications and photos from smart phones, iPads, tablets, etc., as well as other forms of social media provide unintentional or intentional risks of breaching confidentiality and violating HIPAA regulations. Students are responsible for adhering to the guidelines as established by the NAEMS Code of Ethics.
3. Breach of confidentiality as defined in Federal HIPAA regulations and individual facility policies may constitute grounds for dismissal from the program.
 - a. Tier one: unintentional violations will result in verbal and written reprimand with the student being placed on probation for the remainder of the program.
 - b. Tier two: intentional violations will result in dismissal from the EMS Program without possibility for readmission.

Professional Appearance

All students are required to wear the NWC EMS Student uniform during all clinical and laboratory experiences, and as directed by NWC EMS Program faculty. Students may be dismissed from the experience and charged with an 'unexcused' absence' by the NWC EMS Program faculty, Chair, and /or Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences if professional appearance criteria are not followed.

NWC student uniforms are intended to be worn for NWC EMS Program experiences only.

The student uniform includes:

1. NWC student uniform with appropriate cohort label on left chest depicting EMS level status in NWC EMS Program. (Grey-EMS, Red- AEMS, Paramedic- Black)
2. Black trauma pants
3. Black socks
4. Black shoes, comfortable, well-fitting, which totally enclose the foot.
5. The student's own college-issued photo ID worn on uniform.
6. Watch with ability to monitor seconds.

Additional Clinical Requirements:

1. Stethoscope with a diaphragm and bell
2. A black fine point ballpoint pen
3. Bandage scissors
4. Learning resources as directed by instructor.

Tattoo Policy

All visible tattoos on the front or back torso must be covered with clothing. Tattoos on the hands, wrists, arms, head, neck, and fingers may remain uncovered if depicting appropriate content. All inappropriate content must be covered.

Jewelry

Acceptable jewelry includes a wedding band only (no high-profile rings or other rings are acceptable). One pierced post-style (stud) earring in each ear lobe is permitted. All other visible body piercings are not permitted and must be removed prior to entering the clinical site. Students are not permitted to wear bracelets (except for Medic Alert bracelet), chains, necklaces, drop earrings or rings with stones in clinical environments.

Hair

Mustaches and beards are permitted per facility policy, but must be clean, trimmed, and well-groomed. Hair must be neatly styled and groomed. Hair longer than collar-length must be pulled back from the face and secured neatly in a manner to prevent hair from falling in the face (ponytail, braid, or bun). Long braids or ponytails must be secured to prevent falling over the shoulder. Bangs are acceptable if they are out of the eyes.

Nails

Artificial nails/nail tips are prohibited in all clinical environments. Nails must be natural, neatly maintained at length no longer than the fingertip, and kept free of debris and polish.

Hygiene

Good personal hygiene is a responsibility of each student and is respectful of patients and colleagues in the clinical environment. Students are expected to bathe regularly, to conduct proper oral hygiene, and in general to prevent offensive body odors. Scented soaps, lotions, perfumes, and colognes may offend or illicit allergic responses among patients and clinical staff and should be avoided while students are engaged in clinical settings. Students must be clean and free of any offensive body odors, including cigarette odors.

While on campus, students are expected to adhere to the [NWC Standards of Student Conduct Smoking Policy](#).

Off-Hour Clinical Site Behavior and Appearance

1. Students obtaining information for clinical paperwork, outside the assigned clinical timeframe, must check in with the institution's supervisor upon arrival.
2. Students must be wearing a student photo ID indicating their student status and state their purpose for being in the institution to the supervisor.
3. Students going to the clinical areas to get assignments or to do reference work from charts are prohibited from wearing blue jeans, tank tops, tee shirts, shorts, flip flops, bare midriffs, excessively tight clothing, low cut tops, and/or see-through fabrics.
4. Students must inform the supervisor of the institution prior to accessing the medical record and check out with the institution's staff when leaving.
5. Students may not perform any hands-on patient care activity within off-hours.
6. All confidentiality and professional behavior requirements apply.

Community Service

Community Service is a valued component of NWC mission and the EMS Program's desire to be a part of the community we serve. Therefore, community service is a required part of EMS coursework.

Community Service expectations will be outlined by the instructor and expected to be completed by each student with the appropriate documentation by the end of each semester. Failure to fulfill the community service expectation will result in an 'I'/'Incomplete' final course grade. Once the community service time is made up, the grade will be converted to the grade earned in the course. If the mutually agreed upon deadline has passed for the community service completion, the grade will convert to 'U,' Unsatisfactory, resulting in a failure to progress in the program.

II. Wyoming EMS Scope of Practice

While functioning in a clinical setting, you are restricted to performing only the functions of the level to which you are trained. This includes all skills and medication administration. Performing any skills or delivering any medications outside of this scope of practice is operating outside of the scope of your licensure and will be met with formal disciplinary action from the State of Wyoming EMS office.

Wyoming Office of Emergency Medical Services and Trauma

Scope of Practice for EMS Personnel

This document is an interpretive guideline regarding the authorized skills, interventions and medications for all levels of licensed EMS providers. It is not a “stand-alone” document. This guidance is subordinate to the provisions of the *Wyoming Emergency Medical Services Act of 1977*, and the Wyoming Department of Health’s *Rules and Regulations for Emergency Medical Services*. This document should also be read in conjunction with the National EMS Education Standards, the National EMS Scope of Practice Model, and other guidance provided by the Wyoming Office of EMS.

EMS personnel may not exceed the scope of practice for their license level as established by the *Rules and Regulations for Emergency Medical Services*. A physician medical director must authorize the individual’s scope of practice through standing orders and written protocols. The physician medical director may also limit an individual’s the scope of practice. However, a medical director or supervising physician **cannot authorize an EMS provider to perform skills or administer medications above the level of education and licensure.**

An individual may only perform a skill or role for which that person is:

- **Educated** (has been trained to do the skill or role), **AND**
- **Certified** (has demonstrated minimal competence as established by a training program), **AND**
- **Licensed** (has the legal authority issued by the State to perform the skill or role), **AND**
- **Credentialed** (has been authorized according to locally established standards in the skill or role).

Any skill performed or medication administered above the EMS provider’s level of education and licensure is a violation of W.S. §§ 33-36-101, the *Rules and Regulations for Wyoming Emergency Medical Services*, and is a **prosecutable offense under Wyoming Law.**

Key to Provider Levels		
EMR	R	Emergency Medical Responder
EMT	E	Emergency Medical Technician
AEMT	A	Advanced Emergency Medical Technician
IEMT	I	Intermediate Emergency Medical Technician
PMDC	P	Paramedic
		NOT AUTHORIZED

NOTE: If a provider code (the single letter code from the table above) is listed for a skill, then that level of EMS Provider is permitted to perform the skill. An asterisk (*) or a plus sign (+) indicates a modification or clarification to the skill for that provider level.

Airway and Breathing Skills		Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Supplemental oxygen therapy						
	a. Oxygen delivery devices	R	E	A	I	P	This includes any type of cannula or mask designed for the delivery of supplemental oxygen.
	b. Humidified oxygen	R	E	A	I	P	
2.	Basic airway management						
	a. Manual maneuvers to open and control the airway	R	E	A	I	P	This includes procedures such as: head-tilt, chin-lift; tongue-jaw lift; modified chin lift; jaw thrust; Sellick's maneuver.
	b. Manual maneuvers to remove an airway obstruction	R	E	A	I	P	
	c. Insertion of airway adjuncts intended to go into the oropharynx	R	E	A	I	P	
	d. Insertion of airway adjuncts intended to go into the nasopharynx	R	E	A	I	P	
3.	Ventilation management						
	a. Mouth to barrier devices	R	E	A	I	P	
	b. Bag-valve-mask	R	E	A	I	P	
	c. Manually triggered ventilators	R	E	A	I	P	
	d. Automatic Transport Ventilators			A	I	P	
	e. Ventilators					P	Includes the use of Positive End-Expiratory Pressure (PEEP).
4.	Suctioning						
	a. Upper airway suctioning	R	E	A	I	P	
	b. Tracheobronchial suctioning			A	I	P	
5.	Advanced airway management						
	a. Continuous Positive Airway Pressure(CPAP) and Bilevel Positive Airway Pressure(BIPAP) administration and management			A ¹	I ¹	P	¹ AEMT and IEMT may only perform CPAP.
	b. Supraglottic Airway			A ¹	I	P	¹ Insertion of devices that do not require direct laryngoscopy.
	c. Endotracheal intubation				I ¹	P	¹ This includes nasal and oral endotracheal intubation at the paramedic level. ¹ IEMTs may perform only oral intubation.
	d. Airway obstruction removal by direct laryngoscopy				I	P	

EMR **R** EMT **E** AEMT **A** IEMT **I** PMDC **P** Not Authorized

Airway and Breathing Skills		Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
	e. Percutaneous or Surgical Cricothyrotomy					P	
	f. Gastric decompression					P	
	g. Pleural decompression via needle thoracotomy				I	P	
	h. Chest tube monitoring					P	

Assessment Skills		Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Assessment skills						
	a. Perform patient assessments	R	E	A	I	P	
	b. Obtaining vital signs manually and electronically	R ¹	E	A	I	P	This includes manual measurements and the use of non-invasive blood pressure monitoring devices, pulse oximetry measurement, blood glucose monitoring. ¹ EMR does not measure blood glucose.

Pharmacological Intervention Skills		Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
1.	Fundamental pharmacological skills						
	a. Use of unit dose commercially pre-filled containers or auto-injectors for the administration of life saving medications intended for self, peer, or patient rescue after exposure to nerve agents	R	E	A	I	P	Mark I kits.
	b. Assist patients in taking their own prescribed medications as approved by medical direction		E	A	I	P	Prescribed medications include the patient's Albuterol Inhaler; Nitroglycerine tablet, spray, or patch.
	c. Administration of oral glucose (for hypoglycemia) and aspirin (for chest pain of suspected ischemic origin) with the approval of medical direction	R ¹	E	A	I	P	¹ EMRs may not administer oral glucose.
2.	Advanced pharmacological skills: venipuncture/vascular access						
	a. Obtaining peripheral venous blood specimens			A	I	P	This is either through direct venipuncture or through an existing peripheral IV catheter.
	b. Peripheral IV insertion and maintenance (includes removal as needed)			A	I	P	This includes placement of a saline lock. Peripheral lines include external jugular veins, but does not include placement of umbilical catheters.
	c. Intraosseous(IO) device insertion (includes removal as needed)			A	I	P	
	d. Access indwelling catheters and implanted central IV ports for fluid and medication administration.					P	
	e. Central line monitoring					P	

EMR **R** EMT **E** AEMT **A** IEMT **I** PMDC **P** Not Authorized

Pharmacological Intervention Skills	Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
3. Administration of medications/fluids						
a. Crystalloid IV solutions			A	I	P	IV solutions include 5% Dextrose in Water; Lactated Ringers; 0.9% Sodium Chloride Solution.
b. Administration of hypertonic dextrose solutions for hypoglycemia			A	I	P	
c. Administration of glucagon for hypoglycemia			A	I	P	
d. Administration of SL nitroglycerine to a patient experiencing chest pain of suspected ischemic origin		E ¹	A	I	P	¹ EMTs only administer Nitroglycerin prescribed for the patient and with verbal orders from medical control.
e. Parenteral administration of epinephrine for anaphylaxis	R ¹	E ²	A	I	P	¹ EMRs may administer epinephrine via an auto-injector only. Auto-injector may be the patient's or supplied by the ambulance service. ² EMTs may utilize a syringe and needle to administer epinephrine in the treatment of anaphylaxis by IM route.
f. Inhaled (nebulized) medications to patients with difficulty breathing and/or wheezing			A ²	I	P	Inhaled (nebulized) means atomization of the medication through an oxygen/air delivery device with a medication chamber or through use of metered dose inhaler. ¹ AEMT may administer Albuterol; Atrovent; or Duo-Neb.
g. Administration of naloxone (Narcan) to a patient suspected of narcotic overdose	R ¹	E ¹	A	I	P	¹ EMRs & EMTs – unit-dose, premeasured, intranasal or autoinjector
h. Administration of nitrous oxide (50% nitrous oxide, 50% oxygen mix) for pain relief			A	I	P	
i. Paralytic administration					P	
j. Administration of medications by Paramedics					P	Paramedics may administer any medication if they have been:
						Educated (has been trained to use the medication), AND Certified (has demonstrated competence in its proper use and side effects), AND Licensed (has legal authority issued by the State to use or perform), AND Credentialed (has been authorized by medical director to use or perform the skill or medication).
*All other levels shall refer to Appendix A.						
k. Maintain an infusion of blood or blood products					P	

Cardiac/Medical Skills	Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
1. Fundamental cardiac skills						
a. Manual external CPR	R	E	A	I	P	
b. Use of an automated external defibrillator	R	E	A	I	P	

EMR **R** EMT **E** AEMT **A** IEMT **I** PMDC **P** Not Authorized

Cardiac/Medical Skills	Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
2. Advanced cardiac skills						
a. Use of mechanical CPR assist devices	R	E	A	I	P	
b. 4 lead ECG monitoring and interpretation		E ¹	A ¹	I	P	¹ Obtaining and transmitting at EMT and AEMT level only.
c. 12 lead monitoring		E ¹	A ¹	I	P	¹ Obtaining and transmitting at EMT and AEMT level only.
d. 12 lead interpretation				I ¹	P	² It is not expected that IEMTs be capable of interpreting and providing interventions for all possible arrhythmias. Rather, the focus of the intermediate program is the identification of lethal arrhythmias and providing appropriate interventions with their scope of practice.
e. Manual cardiac defibrillation				I ¹	P	¹ IEMT may only defibrillate a pulseless and apneic patient.
f. Emergency cardioversion, including vagal maneuvers					P	
g. Transcutaneous cardiac pacing					P	
3. Emergency childbirth management						
a. Assist in the emergency delivery of a newborn	R	E	A	I	P	
4. Behavioral emergency skills						
a. Manual and mechanical patient restraints for behavioral emergencies	R	E	A	I	P	Includes soft disposable restraints and leather restraints, as approved by the local EMS medical Director; with appropriate patient monitoring.
b. Chemical restraint of combative patients					P	See pharmacological intervention skills.

Trauma Care Skills	Levels					Interpretive Guidelines
1. Managing injuries, including, but not limited to:						
a. Manual cervical stabilization and cervical collar use	R	E	A	I	P	
b. Manual stabilization of orthopedic trauma	R	E	A	I	P	
c. Spinal motion restriction	R	E	A	I	P	Includes the use of commercial spinal motion restriction devices such as the KED®.
d. Splinting	R	E	A	I	P	This includes the use of traction splints.
e. MAST/PASG Use (only for the purpose of splinting)		E	A	I	P	
2. Managing other traumatic injuries, including, but not limited to:						
a. Bleeding control	R	E	A	I	P	Includes use of tourniquets.
b. Wound packing	R	E	A	I	P	
c. Non-invasive eye irrigation	R	E	A	I	P	
d. Complex eye irrigation with the Morgan® lens					P	
3. Movement/extrication of patients, including, but not limited to:						
a. Emergency moves for endangered patients	R	E	A	I	P	
b. Rapid extrication of patients	R	E	A	I	P	

EMR **R** EMT **E** AEMT **A** IEMT **I** PMDC **P** Not Authorized

APPENDIX A – MEDICATION LIST FOR WYOMING EMS PROVIDER LEVELS: EMR, EMT, AEMT, IEMT

Albuterol		R ¹	E ¹	A	I	¹ EMTs only administer Albuterol Inhaler prescribed for the patient and with orders from medical control.
Amiodarone						
Aspirin		R ¹	E ¹	A	I	¹ For patients with chest pain of suspected cardiac origin.
Ativan						
Atropine						
Dextrose				A	I	
Diazepam						
Diphenhydramine						
Epinephrine 1:1000		R ¹	E ²	A	I	¹ EMRs Epi-Pen only. ² EMTs may utilize a syringe and needle to administer epinephrine in the treatment of anaphylaxis by IM route.
Epinephrine 1:10,000						
Fentanyl						
Furosemide						
Glucagon				A	I	
Glucose (oral)			E	A	I	
Heparin Sodium						monitoring, titrating, and discontinuing of infusion drips initiated by a hospital or healthcare facility
Ipratropium				A	I	
IV Crystalloid Solutions				A	I	
Lidocaine (bolus)				A ¹	I	¹ AEMT may use with IO for local anesthetic
Lidocaine (drip)						
Mark I Kit		R	E	A	I	Approved for all levels for self and peer administration.
Morphine Sulfate						
Naloxone		R ¹	E ¹	A	I	¹ EMRs & EMTs – unit-dose, premeasured, intranasal or auto injector
Nitroglycerin (tablet, spray)			E ¹	A	I	¹ EMTs only administer Nitroglycerin prescribed for the patient and with verbal orders from medical control.
Nitroglycerine Drip					I ¹	monitoring, titrating, and discontinuing of infusion drips initiated by a hospital or healthcare facility
Nitrous Oxide				A	I	
Ondansetron						
Sodium Bicarbonate						
Thiamine						
Vasopressin						
Xopenex						
Monitoring other existing medications			E ¹	A ¹	I	¹ Individuals may only monitor medications that they are otherwise authorized to administer.

EMR **R** EMT **E** AEMT **A** IEMT **I** PMDC **P** Not Authorized

III. Faculty and Staff Contact Information

Faculty and Staff	Room Number	Phone Number	Email Address
EMS Education Program Director			
Steven Haggard	YAB 157	754-6035	steven.haggard@nwc.edu
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Senior Program Assistant			
	CC2252	754-6257	
Division Chair of Life and Health Sciences Division			
Dr. Marneé Crawford	YAB162	754-6474	Marnee.Crawford@nwc.edu
Administration			
Dave Erickson, Vice President of Academic Affairs	ORB126C	754-6235	dave.erickson@nwc.edu

NORTHWEST COLLEGE EMS PROGRAM

EMS Student Handbook

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have received an orientation to the Northwest College 2026-2027 AAS EMS Program Student Handbook and am aware of where to access it for future reference. I understand and acknowledge that these policies will be utilized in determining my fulfillment of the requirements of the program, my ability to continue in the EMS program. I understand I will be notified in a timely manner of changes and that it is my responsibility to access the handbook and ask the instructor for assistance in understanding the policies.

Signature

Date

Printed Name