

# Professional Requirements / Terminal Competencies

## Paramedic Program Goals as Defined by CAAHEP/CoAEMSP

The paramedic program will “prepare competent entry-level Paramedics in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains,” with or without exit points at the Emergency Medical Responder, Emergency Medical Technician, and Advanced Intermediate levels.

## WSU Paramedic Program Professional Requirements

In order to be recommended for certification to the State of Utah Bureau of Emergency Medical Services or the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, a graduate of the WSU program must meet these Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic Professional Requirements (“terminal objectives”).

The EMT-P provides prehospital emergency care under medical command authority to acutely ill and/or injured patients and/or transports patients by ambulance or other appropriate emergency vehicle. The Paramedic shall demonstrate at 100 percent competency:

- x An awareness of abilities and limitations;
- x The ability to relate to people; and
- x The capacity to make rational patient care decisions under stress.

To fulfill the role of the Paramedic, you must be able to demonstrate full competency in your abilities to:

1. Recognize a medical emergency; assess the situation; manage emergency care and, if needed, extricate; coordinate efforts with those of other agencies that may be involved in the care and transportation of the patient; and establish rapport with the patient and significant others.
3. Record and communicate pertinent data to the designated medical command authority.
4. Initiate and continue emergency medical care under medical control, including the recognition of presenting conditions and initiation of appropriate treatments, including traumatic and medical emergencies, airway and ventilation problems, cardiac dysrhythmias, cardiac standstill, and psychological crises, and assess the response of the patient to that treatment, modifying medical therapy as directed.

5. Exercise personal judgment and provide such emergency care as has been specifically authorized in advance, in cases where medical direction is interrupted by communication failure or in cases of immediate life threatening condition.
6. Direct and coordinate the transport of the patient by selecting the best available method(s) in conjunction with medical command authority.
7. Record, in writing or dictation, the details related to the patient's emergency care and incident.
8. Direct the maintenance and preparation of emergency care equipment and supplies.

"Description of the Profession" from the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for EMS Professions 1989 Standards.

Specific WSU Paramedic Performance (Terminal) Objectives per NREMT/CLS/PALS 2010 and the 2010 National EMS Education Standards.

In order to receive an endorsement/recommendation to test and certify at the conclusion of the didactic, clinical and field internship portions of the paramedic program.

- x 8 pediatric patients in respiratory distress
- x 10 patients with syncope
- x 20 patients with abdominal complaints
- x 20 patients with altered mental status

7. Properly record and report findings, including pertinent negatives

8. Maintain sterile techniques in situations which require such activity

9. Identify and select the correct intravenous solution from the drug box as ordered

10. Competently initiate an IV infusion on a minimum of:

- x 25 patients in M8 (h)106f (n r)J (ntl)8(m)4 (um)(91.55 0 Tdrsg 0 Tde(r)4 (y)8 Tde(r)4 (y)8

- x 15 live patients for ET
- x 20 patients for all other airway adjuncts

25. In step by step fashion, describe the generic procedure of rapid sequence intubation

26. Perform the suctioning technique in the following situations:

- a. Oropharyngeal
- b. Endotracheal
- c. Nasopharyngeal
- d. Tracheostomy

27. Obtain an ECG:

- a. Equipment setup
- b. ECG electrode application site
  - (1) Standard limb leads
  - (2) Modified chest leads
  - (3) Standard 12 lead placement
- c. Utilize the Quicklook feature or "combo pad" type application

28. State the area of myocardial infarct or ischemia based on a 12 lead EKG tracing

29. Select and administer the appropriate drug for an identified dysrhythmia according to local protocol and evaluate the patient's response to the therapy

1. Recognize and provide proper treatment for the following dysrhythmias:

- a. Normal Sinus Rhythm
- b. Sinus arrhythmia
- c. Sinus arrest
- d. Sinus bradycardia
- e. Sinus tachycardia
- f. Atrial tachycardia
- g. PAC's
- h. PJC's
- i. PVC's
- j. SVT/PSVT
- k. First degree block
- l. Second degree, Type 1 (Wenckebach)
- m. Second degree, Type 2
- n. Third degree block
- o. Ventricular tachycardia and TDP
- p. Ventricular fibrillation
- q. Asystole
- r. AIVP
- s. Pulseless electrical activity (PEA)
- t. Pacemaker rhythm

30. Instruct the patient to accomplish the Valsalva maneuver
31. Safely establish transcutaneous pacing, defibrillate or cardiovert as indicated
32. Accomplish venipuncture using vacuum collection tubes
33. Determine a blood sugar using a Dextrostix or equivalent chemical testing device
34. Employ safety precautions while controlling and restraining a violent patient
35. Intervene in a situation using fundamental crisis intervention techniques
36. Objectively observe and report nonverbal behaviors
37. Catheterize the urinary bladder of a male or female patient
38. Perform nasogastric intubation
39. Assign a neurological score utilizing the Glasgow coma scale
40. Estimate percentage of burns using the Rule of Nines
41. Monitor of the patient in labor and decide when birth is imminent
42. Manage an uncomplicated delivery, including the resuscitation of the neonate
43. Assess and assign an APGAR score for the neonate
44. Apply primary injury prevention techniques at opportune moments
45. Recognize basic terms utilized in EMS research
46. State techniques that will preserve a crime scene
47. Demonstrate the ability to triage in mass casualty events using both START and triage
48. State the basic functions of incident command using the National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) terminology and concepts.
49. State the considerations and PPE needed for both HAZMAT and terrorism events
50. Upon speaking to the lay public, be able to communicate basic concepts of wellness to include, nutrition, stress, alcohol, smoking and illegal drug use

- d. appearance personal hygiene
- e. communications
- f. time management (punctuality)
- g. teamwork and diplomacy
- h. respect
- i. patient advocacy
- j. careful delivery of care

56. In field internship a student must complete a minimum of 480 hours and successfully be team leader on 50 ALS calls

### Additional requirement:

In order to be recommended to test for the National Registry, the student must prove they have applied to the WSU Graduation Office for either the Institutional Certificate or AAS Degree. No student will be cleared to test until proof of that requirement has been met.

### Certification Exam Disability Accommodation

WSU's Paramedic Program is dedicated to providing an outstanding education to all students and will diligently work with Disability Services in providing that education. However, prospective students should recognize that testing for certification and licensure is done by the National Registry of EMT's. Should a student have any concerns about disability testing accommodations it is the student's responsibility to contact the Utah Bureau of EMS at [health.utah.gov/ems](http://health.utah.gov/ems) or the National Registry at [nremt.org](http://nremt.org)