Program Purpose

The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Program provides education at the Emergency Medical Technician, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and Paramedic levels of education. The program prepares students to obtain national certification and professional licensure through classroom, laboratory and clinical experiences. The EMS program maintains the college mission for accessible quality education as well as meeting the need for qualified graduates to deliver quality prehospital care to the communities served. College mission goals 3 and 7 are supported by the EMS program.

Program Learning Outcomes

Graduates of the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program are able to

- Properly use personal protective equipment
- Obtain baseline vital signs and SAMPLE* history
- Maintain a patient’s airway
- Size up a scene
- Conduct an initial assessment on patients
- Conduct a focused history and physical exam for a trauma patient
- Conduct a focused history and physical exam for a medical patient
- Recognize and manage patients with various emergencies
- Function in a supervised clinical setting as an entry-level EMT
- Prepare for service, dress professionally and act in a safe manner

*SAMPLE: Signs and Symptoms, Allergies, Medications, Past medical history, Last oral intake, Events leading up to illness and injury

Assessed Needs and Assumptions


Locally, paramedic level graduates are in the highest demand of the licensed EMS providers.
Degrees and Awards

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Short-Term Certificate – 10 credit hours
(12 hours, beginning Fall 2013)

Advanced EMT (AEMT) Short-Term Certificate – 10 hours credit hours
(12 hours, beginning Fall 2013)

Paramedic – Certificate – 50 credit hours

AAS in Emergency Medical Services – 71 credit hours

Accreditation

The Emergency Medical Services program is within the institutional accreditation granted by the SACS Commission on Colleges and reaffirmed in 2005.

The EMS Program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon recommendation of the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP). CoAEMSP accreditation is required by the Alabama Department of Public Health, Office of EMS and Trauma. The program was last awarded continuing accreditation in July 2012. Additionally, all initial Paramedic applicants seeking NREMT’s National EMS Certification must have successfully completed education from an accredited program sponsored by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

The EMS Program maintains affiliation as an American Heart Association Training Center.

Instructors

The EMS Program Faculty includes 2 full-time instructors, 1 part-time EMS Clinical Coordinator, 1 part-time EMS Physician Medical Director, 1 adjunct instructor, and 1 part-time EMS Continuing Education and AHA Training Center Coordinator.

Shelia Barnes (BS, RN, NRP, EMS), serves as the EMS Program Director as well as an EMS Instructor. She holds a BS in Public Safety Administration and AAS degrees in EMS and Nursing. She has 16 years of full-time postsecondary EMS education experience as well as adjunct service. Ms. Barnes is licensed in Alabama as an RN and a Paramedic, and she is licensed as a Paramedic in Tennessee. Also, she is a Nationally Registered Paramedic through the NREMT. She has over 30 years of combined clinical EMS and nursing experience in various positions of advanced life support, air medical, EMS communications, critical care transport and level one trauma center service. In addition to required professional development for licensure, she actively participates in various national and local EMS and nursing organizations, webinars, serves on the Board of Curriculum for the National Academy of Emergency Dispatch and is matriculating in the RN-BSN-MSN mobility program at the University of Alabama in Birmingham.
Roger Wootten (BS, NRP, EMS Instructor) completes the full-time EMS faculty list. Mr. Wootten holds a BS in Public Safety and Health Administration and an AAS in EMS. He has 18 years of full-time EMS education experience in the college system. He holds instructor certifications in various American Heart Association courses, as well as the Emergency Vehicle Operators course. He has also served in clinical preceptor, adjunct, and skills instructional roles in a 13-year span. Mr. Wootten is a 25-year Nationally Registered and Alabama licensed paramedic. As a licensed EMS professional, he continues his education by attending various workshops at the local and national level, participating in webinars, and journal study.

Shane Parker (AAS, NREMT-P) serves as the EMS Program Clinical Coordinator. Mr. Parker recently returned to college-level education in a part-time capacity. He is an American Heart Association Instructor in various disciplines and International Trauma Life Support Instructor. He has over 25 years of active EMS experience at the advanced life support level as well as in the air medical transport service. Mr. Parker is recently retired as a field operations supervisor with Dekalb Ambulance Service. His ongoing professional development includes licensure-required continuing education, participation in national EMS clinical and educational symposiums, as well as webinars and local activities.

Ms. Barnes, Mr. Wootten and Mr. Parker have successfully completed the National Association of EMS Educators (NAEMSE) Instructor course within the past two years. All are active members of the NAEMSE.

Dr. Ashley Stoker, M.D., the EMS Program Medical Director, is a 2012 graduate of the Emergency Medicine Residency Program at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Stoker joined the faculty in February 2013. Dr. Stoker practices at Dekalb Regional Hospital Emergency Department and serves as the Director of Ultrasound with the Schumacher Emergency Physicians Group.

Greg Harris (RN, NREMT-P, AAS) is an adjunct instructor for EMS with 12 years of service to the NACC EMS program. Mr. Harris holds current RN and paramedic licensure in Alabama and Tennessee, with instructor certifications in the American Heart Association courses, Hazardous Materials, and Rescue Technician. Mr. Harris has 17 years of paramedic experience and 5 years of Emergency Department and Flight Nurse service. Mr. Harris maintains professional development through license renewal and critical care intensive competencies on an ongoing basis for flight service.

Donna Moore (RN, AAS) serves as the EMS Continuing Education Coordinator and American Heart Association (AHA) Training Center coordinator. Her educational experience spans the two-year college programs as well as dual enrollment classes at the local high school. She is a 29-year registered nurse with extensive experience in cardiac and emergency care as well as instructional experience with AHA.
As enrollment has increased in the EMS programs, the need for more laboratory and psychomotor experiences to meet EMS students’ terminal competency requirements have resulted in a shift from generic “adjunct” assistance to focused skill instructors. This allows greater flexibility of scheduling part-time personnel for various department needs, thus allowing a more efficient utilization of instructors.

**Ongoing Costs for the Program**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries and Benefits</td>
<td>$189,104.94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel</td>
<td>$2,856.96</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Supplies &amp; Equipment</td>
<td>$43,802.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$235,764.59</strong></td>
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</table>

**Instructional Quality and Enhancements/Curriculum Design**

The College has identified six competencies that students should attain as a result of completing general core courses:

- Communication
- Cognition
- Information Literacy
- Interpersonal Skill
- Aesthetic Sensitivity
- Personal Responsibility

In accordance with national and state EMS curriculum changes, the EMT and AEMT level courses are implemented with the initial paramedic cohort commencing summer 2013. Course syllabi are on file for EMT and AEMT with the paramedic level courses revisions currently in progress. The course learning outcomes for the paramedic level courses are also in progress.

Course scheduling requires consideration of the unique needs of the typical EMS student. Due to the nature of progression through the levels of education, the AEMT and paramedic student often are working in an EMS or fire service on a 12 hour or 24on/48 off rotation. These students have to arrange “shift” swaps in order to be on campus. The core EMS courses have more contact hour requirements than academic courses, requiring longer blocks of time. A balance for time requirements and the effort to require fewer weekly trips to campus are major considerations in class scheduling. In addition to classroom sessions, EMS students are also required to attend clinical sessions at various hospital and EMS services outside of the class hours. The majority of EMS students are parents and many work more than one job.

The majority of EMS courses are conducted in the Health Education Building within HE 114 and HE 115 with labs utilizing the spaces as well. A need for more lab space as the program expands is likely as the need for simulation space and equipment is in the plan with coming upgrades. Two full-time faculty offices are located on the second floor of the
Workforce Development building, and two offices are adjacent to the HE 115 classroom. These offices house the AHA Coordinator and the EMS clinical coordinator. Recent upgrades to AV equipment in the HE classrooms were completed in February. An increased effort to engage students in learning through technology is ongoing with the increased utilization of Blackboard both in distance education options and as a complement to face-to-face classes.

The current library resources are more than adequate to meet the needs of the EMS program.

**Advisory Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr. David Campbell</td>
<td>President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Mike Kennamer</td>
<td>Director of Workforce Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelia Barnes-convener</td>
<td>EMS Program Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathy Gilbert</td>
<td>Highlands Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dr. Ashley Stoker</td>
<td>EMS Medical Director</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mark Ford</td>
<td>DeKalb Ambulance Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chief Charles Centers</td>
<td>Chief, Rainsville Police Dept.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amy St. Clair</td>
<td>DeKalb Regional Medical Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ruth Bischoff</td>
<td>Marshall Medical Center-South</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ron Bray</td>
<td>Highlands EMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honorable Ronnie Osborn</td>
<td>Probate Judge – Dekalb County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anthony Clifton</td>
<td>DeKalb County EMA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martha Tellefsen</td>
<td>Graduate-North Marshall EMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gene Necklaus</td>
<td>Scottsboro Fire and Rescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debbie Jaggers</td>
<td>Employer – Air Evac EMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacob Babb</td>
<td>Current Student</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Advisory Committee meets annually to review program goals and outcomes for the classes and to make recommendations to the program. In addition, Advisory Committee meetings include a review of minimum competency requirements, including team leads, achievement of goals, analysis of goals, action plans, results of action, and a review of the annual report. Advisory Committee meeting minutes are maintained to record attendance of the members and the discussions and actions taken during the meeting. The committee is integral to the EMS program’s continuing accreditation process.
## Enrollment and Completions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Academic Year</th>
<th>Number Enrolled</th>
<th>Short-Term Certificates Awarded</th>
<th>Certificates Awarded</th>
<th>A.A.S. Degrees Awarded</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010-2011</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011-2012</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2012</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## National Registry Pass Rates (1st Quarter 2012-4th Quarter 2012)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>First Attempt Pass</th>
<th>Cumulative Pass Within 3 Attempts</th>
<th>Cumulative Pass Within 6 Attempts</th>
<th>Failed All 6 Attempts</th>
<th>Eligible for Retest</th>
<th>Did Not Complete Within 2 years</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EMT</td>
<td>94% 16/17</td>
<td>94% 16/17</td>
<td>94% 16/17</td>
<td>0% 0/17</td>
<td>6% 1/17</td>
<td>0% 0/17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AEMT</td>
<td>85% 17/20</td>
<td>85% 17/20</td>
<td>85% 17/20</td>
<td>0% 0/20</td>
<td>15% 3/20</td>
<td>0% 0/20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paramedic</td>
<td>100% 7/7</td>
<td>100% 7/7</td>
<td>100% 7/7</td>
<td>0% 0/7</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>0% 0/7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ADPH OEMST February, 2013

## Job Placement Rates of EMS Completers (Summer 2010-Spring 2011)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Employed</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>88%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NACC Factbook 2012-2013

## Findings of the Review

The EMS Program at Northeast underwent a transition and reorganization in January 2012 with the addition of a new program director in order to expand the full-time faculty with a departure of existing adjunct personnel.

Program strengths and improvements

- Increased attention on appropriate student advising
- Increased retention and success strategies through monitoring and early alert
- Addition of a full-time faculty member
- Faculty experience and focus on currency of knowledge and professional development
- Curriculum expansion to require medical terminology in the short-term certificate, certificate, and AAS degrees beginning Fall 2013 as well as the addition of the WorkKeys course to the paramedic level program
Lab and classroom equipment in continuous evaluation and update
Collaboration with nursing faculty on birthing simulator for use by EMS and Nursing students.
Ambulance stocked and equipped for simulation labs
Increased first-time board score success at all levels.
Increased involvement and support from area EMS employers and clinical sites and participation in Advisory Committee events.
Relationships developed to provide avenues for promoting and recommending students to employers for open positions.
Increased outreach and continuing education offerings to EMS community.
Greater participation in community and recruiting events.

Plans for improvement and growth

- Evaluation of and focus on increasing physical classroom and lab space available for three levels of EMS providers.
- Continued recruitment and retention of qualified assistive faculty and staff for continuity of the learning processes as well as the maintenance and documentation of accreditation standards
- Seeking improvement strategies in the educational delivery, competency evaluation, and outcomes in EMS courses
- Continued student recruitment efforts with emphasis on increasing diversity
- Maintain student retention above 70%
- Deliver dual enrollment classes for Emergency Medical Responder pending available instructors beginning Fall 2013 at DeKalb Technology Center.
- Remain committed to improvements in technology and simulation into lab settings
- Increase the collection and evaluation of student data to track trends for accreditation. Faculty will attend a workshop on the improvement of student competency and measurement tools sponsored by CoAEMSP.

Report Affirmed by:

__________________________________________________  __________________
Shelia Barnes, EMS Program Director Date

__________________________________________________  __________________
Dr. Mike Kennamer, Director of Workforce Development Date

Date reviewed by Curriculum Committee: ________________________________

Curriculum Committee Chair: _________________________________________
Rodney Land, Chemistry Instructor