PARAMEDICAL TECHNOLOGY

Paramedics provide pre-hospital emergency care to acutely ill or injured patients under medical authority of licensed physicians. Individuals interested in pursuing a career as a paramedic should possess significant strength to lift and carry victims, good use of hands and fingers, good coordination, good judgment and emotional stability, as well as the ability to work confidently under pressure. Students successfully completing the degree requirements and the PMED courses meet the U.S. Department of Transportation National Standards for Paramedics are eligible to take the National Registry examination required for licensure.

Two primary requirements of the Paramedic program are clinical rotations and the field internship. Clinical rotations provide instruction and supervised practice of emergency medical skills in various units of hospitals within the Anchorage and Mat-Su borough areas. The field internship provides experience in advanced life support vehicles such as ambulances, helicopters, and fixed wing aircraft. Student interns are the third member of the medical/ rescue team and work under the direct supervision of a paramedic preceptor. Internship sites are arranged in various U.S. locations. Efforts are made to place students in geographic locations of their choice; however, intern positions may not be available at all approved sites. Length of internship varies depending on the call volume at the location and successful application of paramedic skills.

Both the Mat-Su and Kenai campuses offer the program.

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE
Paramedical Technology

Graduates of the Paramedical Technology program will have the ability to:

1. Understand their roles and responsibilities as a program within an EMS system by applying the basic concepts of development, pathophysiology and pharmacology to assess and manage patients with emergency medical needs;
2. Maintain a patient’s airway, oxygenate, and ventilate a patient and be able to take a proper history and perform a comprehensive physical examination;
3. Properly administer medications and communicate effectively with other healthcare providers including physicians, nurses, and other allied health personnel; and
4. Integrate pathophysiological principles and assessment findings to formulate a field impression and implement a treatment plan for trauma and medical patients of all ages.

ADVISING
Advising for Mat-Su College (MSC) students for this program is only available from the Paramedic faculty at MSC. Please call (907) 746-9329 for more information.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Admission to the KPC/MSC Paramedic programs is competitive and based on a ranking process. Program applications can be requested through the department or downloaded via the Internet. Application requirements must be completed prior to the May 15 application deadline.

Admission Requirements for Paramedical Degree - Pre-Major - Kenai Peninsula College and Mat-Su College only. Students should consider applying for admission as a “pre-major” in Paramedical Technology while enrolled in other Paramedical Technology degree prerequisite courses. While being a pre-major is not required, you may be eligible for financial aid since you will be considered a degree-seeking student. Students enrolled as Paramedical Technology pre-majors are still required to obtain a KPC or MSC campus-specific Certificate of Admission.

Admission as a Paramedical Technology pre-major does not guarantee admission to the Paramedical Technology degree program. Applications for the degree program that starts each fall must still be submitted by the May 15 deadline. Formal admission requirements to the Paramedical Technology AAS degree program are listed below.

1. Certificate of Admission from the Office of Admissions, including transcripts from both high school/GED and college, with transcript evaluations (if any). Documentation from college transcripts must show successful completion of BIOL A111 and BIOL A112 with laboratories and grades of 2.00 C or above.
2. Student must attend an advising session with the KPC or MSC Paramedic coordinator. Contact your campus (listed above) for an appointment.
3. Paramedic Program Application and Confidential Required Information form sent to the Paramedic coordinator
   a. Copy of current National Registry EMT-Basic or State of Alaska EMT-1 certificate
   b. Evidence of current Healthcare Provider or equivalent, CPR Card
   c. Copies of all current medical certifications or licenses
   d. Military DD-214 (long form); if applicable
   e. Complete Anatomy & Physiology I and II (BIOL A111, BIOL A112; 8 credits); with a minimum C grade.
   f. Take and submit to the program coordinator the scores from the Nurse Entrance Test (NET). It is scheduled through the KPC, MSC, or UAA testing center where you intend to take the examination.
   g. Resume with three letters of recommendation
   h. Admissions essay
4. Upon completion of items 1-3, student files are ranked based on a point system. The top 20 (KPC) or 25 (MSC) applicants will be notified and invited for oral interviews by a selection committee. The top 15 (KPC) or 16 (MSC) will be accepted into the program. The remaining standby applicants will be ranked and offered a position should an accepted applicant decline admission. Please contact department for further details. Students will be contacted in June with their results.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS BEFORE BEGINNING COURSEWORK
Once admitted to the Paramedic program, students are required to provide the following before actually beginning coursework.

1. Provide documentation from personal physician, PA-C, or NP affirming capability of performing the physical tasks as outlined by the DOT 1998 Paramedic Curriculum.
2. Evidence of:
   a. Immunity to rubella and mumps confirmed by titer;
   b. Immunity to hepatitis A and hepatitis B, confirmed by titer (first semester clinical students may be in the process of completing the immunization series; for those students, documentation of immunity by titer is required prior to entry into PMED A295 course);
   c. Immunity to chicken pox documented by history, titer or current immunization;
   d. Diphtheria/tetanus vaccination within the past 10 years (with booster required at the time of expiration);
   e. Freedom from active tuberculosis, documented annually by negative PPD skin test or by health examination by a nurse practitioner, physician, or physician’s assistant;
   f. Documentation of HIV testing annually (results not required to be submitted to KPC/MSC).
3. Healthcare Provider or equivalent CPR certificate must be kept current.
4. Professional liability insurance in the amount of $1 million/$3 million must be maintained throughout the duration of the student’s enrollment in the Paramedic program. The policy will be paid out of student lab fees.
5. Submit results of a state- and national-level criminal background check. Must be completed prior to the start of courses. This process can take several months to complete.
6. Document having been found free of illegal drugs. Tests must be taken and results submitted to the Paramedic coordinator after being accepted into the program, and before the first day of class.

Students enrolled in clinical courses must provide their own transportation to clinical assignments and will be required to purchase uniforms and specialized equipment. The college assumes no responsibility for illnesses and injuries experienced by students in
conjunction with their clinical experiences; students who are injured while completing clinical assignments are responsible for all associated medical costs. No workers compensation will be awarded if injured on a clinical site, or during the field internship. It is strongly recommended that students maintain personal medical insurance.

ACADEMIC PROGRESS
1. Students are required to earn a grade of 3.00 B or higher in each PMED course. Failure to maintain a passing grade of B will result in dismissal from the program.
2. Students MUST complete all General Degree courses (English, communications and math) before they register for or begin their ride-along internship (PMED A295).

GENERAL UNIVERSITY REQUIREMENTS
Complete the General University and the General Course Requirements for Associate of Applied Science Degrees located at the beginning of this chapter.

Communication Requirements (9 credits)
Oral communication – COMM A111 is recommended (3)
Written communication – ENGL A111 is required and ENGL A212 is recommended (6)

Natural Science Requirements (8 credits)
BIOL A111 and BIOL A112 are required prerequisites for admission into the Paramedic program and also fulfill the general requirements for the AAS degree.

Math Requirements (3 credits)
MATH A105 Intermediate Algebra (or higher) 3

Major Requirements (48 credits)
PMED A241 Paramedicine I (8)
PMED A242 Clinical Rotation I (4)
PMED A251 Paramedicine II (8)
PMED A252 Clinical Rotation II (4)
PMED A261 Paramedicine III (8)
PMED A262 Clinical Rotation III (4)
PMED A295 Paramedical Internship (12)

A total of 68 credits is required for the degree.