Paramedic

Degree: A.S. - Paramedic
Certificate: Paramedic
Area: Health & Education
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Paramedicine is a specialty whose practitioners respond to emergencies before a patient reaches a hospital, rendering basic and advanced medical treatment before and during transport to a medical facility. Paramedics work for fire departments, rescue squads, private providers, industrial companies, clinics, and hospitals. Classroom, clinical, and field internship training prepares paramedics to assess and treat a wide variety of medical emergencies. The knowledge, skills, and experience gained through the paramedic program allows students to meet the responsibilities outlined in the Department of Transportation National Standard Curriculum. The ARC Paramedic program is designed to prepare the student for certification as a paramedic, working for a fire department, rescue squad, private provider, industry, clinic, or hospital. Under the direct supervision and evaluation of a mobile intensive care nurse, the student will complete a clinical internship experience at a designated hospital site. Under the direct supervision of a licensed paramedic, the student will complete a field internship. This provides pre-hospital experience and is the last course in the series preparing the student for certification.

In order to apply for the program, a student must have current certification as an EMT-Basic and one year verified EMS experience, and a grade of “C” or better in a college-level human anatomy and physiology course which covers all systems.

Requirements for Pre-enrollment to the Program

1. Graduation from an accredited high school in the United States, or successful completion of GED or CHSPE.
2. Current certification as an EMT-Basic and approximately one year verified EMS experience, and a grade of “C” or better in a college-level human anatomy and physiology course which covers all systems.
3. A cumulative college GPA of 2.0 and a grade of “C” or better in BIOL 102 or BIOL 430 and BIOL 431 or other college level human anatomy and physiology course; NURSE 320 or PMED 105; PMED 110, 120, and 130.
4. Current curriculum planning sheet (within the semester in which the pre-enrollment packet is being submitted).

Pre-Enrollment Deadline

For enrollment into the Paramedic program beginning in January, your pre-enrollment application must be submitted to the Health and Education Division, Room CDC 200 no later than the first Friday in December by 4:00 p.m. Paramedic program information is available from the Health and Education Division, the Counseling department, or online at www.arc.losrios.edu/~edhealth/paramed.html. Pre-enrollment applications to the program will be available beginning in September through the deadline date each year.

Selection Process

1. Only students who meet the educational requirements and follow the pre-enrollment procedures will be considered for the program. Meeting all of these requirements does not guarantee enrollment in the program.
2. Class size will be limited. If the pre-enrollment pool is greater than the program can accept, students are chosen based on a computerized random selection process from among the qualified candidates.
3. The student accepted into the Paramedic program is required to have a physical examination, inoculations, and drug screen prior to the entering the second semester.

Requirements for Degree Major or Certificate

BIOL 102 or BIOL 430 and BIOL 431; or other college level human anatomy and physiology course; NURSE 320 or PMED 105; PMED 110, 120, and 130.

General Education Graduation Requirements: In addition to completing the degree requirements, students must also complete the general education graduation requirements for an A.A./A.S. degree. See ARC graduation requirements.
PMED 100  Emergency Medical Technician - Basic  5 Units
Prerequisite: HEED 310 with a grade of “C” or better or Current Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification (Healthcare Provider or Professional Rescuer).
Hours: 72 hours LEC; 72 hours LAB
This course is designed to provide instruction to the level of Emergency Medical Technician - Basic. Topics include skills necessary to provide emergency medical care at a basic life support level with a fire, ambulance, or other specialized service. This course is conducted in compliance with Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 2 of the California Code of Regulations and Emergency Medical Technician - Basic (EMT-I). A “C” or better is required for certification as Emergency Medical Technician - Basic. May be taken four times. Not open to students with a current EMT - Basic certificate.

PMED 102  Emergency Medical Technician - Basic, Pre-hospital Field Internship  5 Units
Prerequisite: Pre-paramedic skills placement exam, EMT-Basic current certification.
Corequisite: Biology 102.
Advisory: ENGW 102 or ENGW 103 and ENGRD 116, or ESLR 320, and ESLW 320; MATH 32.
Hours: 18 hours LEC; 216 hours LAB
This course is an internship that provides opportunities to refine hands-on basic life support skills in the pre-hospital setting. This internship is in preparation for application to the American River College, Paramedic Education Program.

PMED 105  Prehospital Calculations  .5 Units
Formerly: PMED 64
Prerequisite: Current certification as an EMT-basic in the state of California, as required by Title 22.
Advisory: MATH 32.
Hours: 9 hours LEC
This course provides basic instruction in calculating medication dosages in the pre-hospital setting.

PMED 110  Introduction to Advanced Prehospital Care  12 Units
Prerequisite: Acceptance into the Paramedic Program.
Hours: 144 hours LEC; 216 hours LAB
This course contains the didactic material and the related skills necessary to establish a foundation for subsequent prehospital assessment and management. Topics include anatomy and physiology, pharmacology, intravenous therapy, basic and advanced life support, electrocardiography, medical/surgical, pediatric, obstetrics, and psychiatric/geriatric problems. Crisis intervention, strategies, and medical legal concepts are also discussed.

PMED 120  Clinical Internship  6 Units
Formerly: PMED 52
Prerequisite: PMED 110, with a grade of "C" or better; current Emergency Medical Technician I certification.
Hours: 36 hours LEC; 216 hours LAB
This course is designed to provide an opportunity to apply the cognitive knowledge and skills gained in the Paramedicine course to patient care in a hospital setting. This course provides for increasing assessment techniques and advanced skills.

PMED 130  Prehospital Field Internship  12 Units
Formerly: PMED 53
Prerequisite: PMED 120 with a grade of “C” or better; current EMT I certification.
Hours: 54 hours LEC; 480 hours LAB
Under the direct supervision and evaluation of a licensed paramedic or a mobile intensive care nurse, the student will complete a prehospital field internship experience at a predetermined clinical site. This internship will provide the paramedic student with hands-on prehospital experience and is the final course in the series preparing the student for licensure.

PMED 140  Pediatric Advanced Life Support Certification (PALS)  .5 Units
Prerequisite: Current Provider C Basic Cardiac Life Support card or county-approved equivalent certificate. Current licensure as a paramedic, nurse, physician, allied health professional or current enrollment in the last semester of an allied health program.
Hours: 6 hours LEC; 12 hours LAB
This course provides education modules for health care professionals specific to pediatric emergencies. Certification in pediatric advanced life support is granted to students who successfully complete the course. This course may be taken four times.

PMED 142  Advanced Cardiac Life Support Certification  .5 Units
Prerequisite: Current Provider C Basic Cardiac Life Support Card or equivalent licensure as a paramedic, nurse, physician, allied health professional or current enrollment in an Allied Health program.
Hours: 6 hours LEC; 12 hours LAB
This course provides education modules for health care professionals specific to pediatric emergencies. Certification in advanced cardiac life support is granted to students who successfully complete the course. This course may be taken four times.

PMED 160  Introductory Wilderness Medicine  2 Units
Formerly: PMED 61
Prerequisite: Current certification in provider level Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation.
Advisory: Basic First Aid.
Hours: 27 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB
This course provides the didactic material and related skills necessary to establish a foundation of medical care in the wilderness setting. Anatomy and physiology, care of traumatic injuries, patient assessment, environment injuries, medical emergencies, and common simple wilderness medical problems are included. Additionally, basic wilderness survival for the initial responder, and selecting and caring for wilderness medical equipment and supplies will be covered. This course emphasizes improvised care options, and long term care in field settings.

PMED 161  Advanced Wilderness Medicine  2 Units
Formerly: PMED 62
Prerequisite: PMED 160 or EMT, or other health care provider such as nurse or doctor.
Hours: 27 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB
This course allows the student to gain an advanced level of medical care in the wilderness setting. Anatomy and physiology, improvised airway control, principles of musculoskeletal care, integration of field, synthesis of wilderness medicine and urban care, and common simple wilderness medical problems are included. Additionally, basic wilderness survival for the wilderness responder, and selecting and caring for wilderness medical equipment and supplies will be covered. This course emphasizes improvised care options, and long term care in remote field settings.

PMED 165  EMS Search and Technical Rescue  2 Units
Formerly: PMED 60
Prerequisite: None
Hours: 27 hours LEC; 27 hours LAB
This course provides the student with a foundation in several technical rescue disciplines. Practical applications of water rescue, low angle and high angle rescue, and urban search and rescue are covered. Additionally, basic survival skills in rescue environments for the EMT/Paramedic, and selecting and caring for rescue equipment and supplies will be covered. This course emphasizes scenario-based learning in safely assessing, managing and pre-planning for the technical rescue environment.
PMED 240  Pediatric Advanced Life Support - Recertification  .5 Units
Formerly: PMED 58
Prerequisite: Current American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support Provider Card or county approved equivalent certificate.
Hours: 8 hours LEC; 3 hours LAB
This course provides education modules specific to pediatric emergencies for health care professionals. This course provides recertification for the student according to the American Heart Association’s Pediatric Advanced Life Support standards and guidelines. May be taken up to six (6) units.

PMED 242  Advanced Cardiac Life Support - Recertification  .5 Units
Formerly: PMED 59
Prerequisite: Current American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support Provider Card or county approved equivalent certificate.
Hours: 8 hours LEC; 3 hours LAB
This course provides education modules specific for adult cardiac emergencies for health care professionals. This course provides recertification for the student according to the American Heart Association's Advanced Cardiac Life Support standards and guidelines. May be taken up to six (6) units.

PMED 1000  Emergency Medical Technician - Basic: Recertification  1 Unit
Formerly: PMED 202
Prerequisite: Current certification as an Emergency Medical Technician - Basic.
Hours: 20 hours LEC; 4 hours LAB
This course provides current Emergency Medical Technicians - Basic with continuing education modules to satisfy recertification requirements of local/ state and National EMS organizations. EMS related topics include airway management, cardiopulmonary resuscitation, patient assessment, spinal management, medical/legal documentation, vital signs and extrication techniques. May be taken four times. Credit/No Credit only.