



Essential Functions for the EMT/AEMT Programs

EMT/AEMT Job Description and Characteristics

An EMT/AEMT functions as a primary care provider in the pre-hospital setting. They are responsible for all aspects of care provided to the sick and injured. The EMT/AEMT provides basic life support and some advanced skills (AEMT), including patient assessment, airway management, use of the automatic defibrillator and assisting and administering medications to patients. This person is responsible for driving the ambulance in a safe manner under all conditions. They must have a thorough knowledge of the street, highway and addressing system in which he or she will be working. In organizations that provide advanced patient care, the EMT/AEMT will work under the direction of a Paramedic and assume a support role. The EMT/AEMT must understand all applicable legal, moral and ethical issues surrounding emergency medical service. They must be dedicated to continued learning through continuing education and maintenance of licensures and certifications.

The EMT/AEMT must be confident and accept the challenge and high degree of responsibility entailed in this position. They must have excellent judgment, be able to prioritize decisions and act quickly in the best interest of the patient. The EMT/AEMT must be able to function at an optimum level in a non-structured environment that is constantly changing. The EMT/AEMT must be able to remain calm while working in difficult and stressful situations, and stay focused while carrying out the functions of the position. Good judgment is essential, along with knowledge and technical skills. They must possess excellent verbal communication skills and be capable of adapting to situations with violence and emotional instability in multicultural settings. The EMT/AEMT must possess critical reasoning skills and be capable of applying them effectively in stressful situations. Self-motivation is essential.

Essential Duties

- Report for duty on time and when assigned
- Maintain good physical condition and personal hygiene
- Ability to assess emergency scenes
- Lift patients with assistance
- Operate EMS vehicles under normal and emergency conditions
- Operate standard equipment; such as stretchers, cots, patient care monitors, and standard diagnostic equipment
- Extricate persons from vehicles, bend and lift, and perform CPR for extended periods of time.
- Be able to handle extreme stress in crisis situations
- Be able to stand for extended periods of time.
- Work 8, 10, 12, or 24 hour shifts, and overtime when required

Environmental Factors

- May work in inclement weather, including extreme heat and cold.
- Be available to report for duty in dangerous and severe weather such as ice storms, wind storms and flooding event.
- Be able to work with and under the direction of other agencies during regional emergency response incidences.
- Evening and weekend and holiday hours are required as needed

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