



Odessa College EMSP-Paramedic Program

Admissions Guide

Contact Information:

Director: Edward Jones, LP, NREMT-P, BS

Senior Dean: Allisa Cornelius, MSN, RN

The admissions process for the EMSP-Paramedic Program is competitive and applicants must meet all minimum criteria in order to be eligible for ranking. Ranking points are obtained from the most recent Prerequisite/General Education Courses, Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) V (AH-Category L) or Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA) is an option, GPA (4.0 scale) and an interview using Job Fit. Official TEAS V test scores are valid for five (5) years and only the most recent test score will be used. Official TSI assessment scores are valid for five (5) years and only the most recent test score will be used.

Prerequisite Requirements

EMSP-Paramedic Program applicants are required to have successfully completed the following prerequisite courses listed on an official transcript from an approved higher education institution or other military institution prior to starting the application/ranking process. Students who have not completed these requirements during the initial application deadline will be placed on a waiting list pending proof of completion and students are responsible for updating information with the program. Incomplete applications will not be ranked until all Prerequisites Requirements are met. The department director must approve course substitutions.

- PSYC 1300 Learning Framework
- BIOL 2401 Human Anatomy & Physiology
- BIOL 2402 Human Anatomy & Physiology
- HPRS 1106 Essentials of Medical Terminology
- Must hold a current EMT-B certification

General Requirements

EMSP-Paramedic Program applicants are required to complete and pass the Test of Essential Academic Skills (TEAS) V (AH-Category G) or Texas Success Initiative Assessment (TSIA) is an option during the application/ranking process. Students who have not completed this requirement during the initial application deadline will be placed on a waiting list pending proof of completion and students are responsible for updating information with the program. Incomplete applications will not be ranked until all general requirements are met.

Applicants for the Emergency Medical Services Professional (EMSP) Paramedic Program must satisfy minimum criteria in order to be eligible for consideration of ranking.

EMSP-Paramedic Program applicants are required to meet all the following:

- Enrolled at Odessa College as a Credit Student
- TEAS V (AH-Category L) or TSIA compliant
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 is required which will be based on prior prerequisite courses accepted for the EMSP-Paramedic Program plan of study based on 4.0 scale
- Interview with EMSP Faculty using Job Fit

Completed Program Specific materials should be brought in person during the Application acceptance time period to:

Odessa College Fire/EMS Department
2460 Kermit Hwy
Odessa, TX 79764
Fire Technology Training Center, Room 102
Phone: 432-335-6841

Assessment Thresholds

Minimum required TEAS V (AH-Category L) scores for EMSP-Paramedic Program. The TEAS V (AH-Category L) testing requirements and fees are provided by the Odessa College Testing Center at 432-335-6620. TEAS V (AH-Category L) scores below the minimum requirements may result in additional developmental course requirements and/or TEAS V (AH-Category L) retesting requirements. Three attempts are acceptable following the testing center guidelines.

- Reading 70
- Math 67
- English 58

Minimum required TSIA Assessment scores for EMSP-Paramedic Program. The TSIA testing requirements and fees are provided by the Odessa College Testing Center at 432-335-6620. TSIA scores below the minimum requirements may result in additional developmental course requirements and/or TSIA retesting requirements. Three attempts are acceptable following the testing center guidelines.

- Reading 351
- Math 350
- Writing 340

Ranking Protocols

It is required that all prerequisite courses, as well as highly recommended that some general education courses within the degree plan be completed on a transcript prior to ranking for it to be competitive. Ranking courses within the degree plan is a good measure in which performance most reliably predicts future ability to perform successfully in the program. The ranking GPA is calculated based on the following courses. In addition, each course grade earns the following; A=3 points, B=2 points, C=1 point, D=not accepted. Substitution courses with a grade of “P or S” or passing equals 1 point.

Deadlines for Completing Specialized Admissions Requirements

Initial application period is October for the following Spring semester. A second application period will be conducted in January prior to the start of the Spring semester for incomplete applications submitted after the October application period.

Pre-program Specific Requirements

Applicants for the EMSP-Paramedic Program must also meet all pre-program specific requirements prior to qualifying for ranking. The following is required for all applicants:

- Must complete the OC Admissions Application and gain acceptance to the college before applying to the program
- Completed the application Health Form
- Meet current immunization requirements
- Provide proof of health insurance which must be maintained throughout the program
- Completed Physical Exam
- Background Check (applicant with a criminal history requires a pre-screening petition sent to the Texas Department of State Health Services for review prior enrolling in an EMS education course)

Additional Information

- Program Start Dates: Spring (January)
- Maximum Students Admitted: 12 students/cohort
- Upon successful completion of all prerequisite EMSP courses and/or Level I-Paramedic EMSP courses with a minimum grade of “C” in each course, the student will receive a course completion certificate issued by the TDSHS approved Program Director and Coordinator which is

required for eligibility to test for certification with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians.

- Students will be expected to pay the fees that are associated with program requirements.

Post Admissions Requirements

Students are responsible for the following requirements **AFTER** accepting a seat in the program:

PROGRAM ORIENTATION: one day **in person** orientation.

CLINICAL ORIENTATION (Online): Renew annually.

HIPAA TRAINING: HIPAA Access Online. Renew annually. Uniforms, Specialized Equipment, Lab Supplies and Liability Insurance required for clinical and field internships.

URINE DRUG SCREEN: This requirement will be completed by student prior to participating in clinical/internship activities. The student will not be able to go to the clinical areas/healthcare facilities until cleared. Please wait for instructions from the EMSP-Paramedic Program. Students who cannot participate in clinical/field activities due to adverse activities revealed through substance abuse testing will complete course and program requirements.

Current Healthcare Professional CPR/AED Certification (Must be from American Heart Association Healthcare Provider) Please wait for instructions from the EMSP-Paramedic Program.

Must adhere to the Odessa College EMSP uniform policy.

Point Ranking System

As part of the admission criteria, the point values for all EMSP-Paramedic Program applications will be totaled. A rank ordered list of EMSP-Paramedic Program applicants by point total will be developed. The applicants with the highest number of points will be accepted into the EMSP-Paramedic Program until all available spots are filled. If two or more students have the same scores for the last remaining seat(s), the highest interview scores will be used to determine their final ranking. Each accepted applicant will receive an email confirmation from the Program Director and immediately registered for the EMSP-Paramedic Program courses.

Points are calculated based upon the following criteria:

Prerequisite Courses	up to 12 points
General Education Courses	up to 18 points
TSIA or TEAS V Test	up to 30 points
GPA (4.0 scale)	up to 20 points
Interview	up to 20 points
Total	up to 100 points

NOTE: Five Program Points will be awarded to the total points for any student who successfully completed the EMT-Basic program at Odessa College within 1 year of application.

Prerequisite Courses

1. EMSP 1501 Emergency Medical Technician-Basic
2. EMSP 1160 Clinical-Emergency Medical Technology/Technician
3. BIOL 2404 Human Anatomy & Physiology
4. HPRS 1106 Essentials of Medical Terminology

General Education Courses

1. BCIS 1305 Business Computer Applications
2. PSYC Choice of 5 courses from the current degree plan
3. ENGL Choose
4. MATH 1314 College Algebra
5. GOVT Choice of 2 courses from the current degree plan
6. Language, Philosophy & Culture Choice of several courses from the current degree plan

* A=3 points, B=2 points, C=1 point, P=1 point, D=not accepted.

TEAS V test (AH-Category L) scores are valid for five (5) years and only the most recent test score will be used.

SCORE (AH-L)	Points Awarded (Reading)
85-89	10
80-84	8
75-79	6
70-74	4
SCORE	Points Awarded (Math)
82-86	10
77- 81	8
72- 76	6
67-71	4
SCORE	Points Awarded (English)
73-77	10

68-72	8
63-67	6
58-62	4

Official TSI assessment scores are valid for five (5) years and only the most recent test score will be used. Students with exemptions/waivers approved by Odessa College will be awarded 4 points.

SCORE	Points Awarded (Reading)
380-390	10
370- 379	8
360-369	6
351-359	4

SCORE	Points Awarded (Math)
380-390	10
370- 379	8
360- 369	6
350-359	4

SCORE	Points Awarded (Writing)
379-390	10
366-378	8
353-365	6
340-352	4

Grade Point Average (GPA)

The GPA will be taken from the 11 college credit hours that meet the prerequisite course requirement. The cumulative grade point average of 2.5 (4.0 system) will be based only on courses completed within the EMSP-Paramedic Program plan of study for prerequisite courses including course substitutions.

GPA	Points Awarded
3.7 - 4.0	20
3.5 -3.69	18
3.3 - 3.49	16
3.1 - 3.29	14
2.9 - 3.09	12
2.7 – 2.89	10
2.5 - 2.69	8
≤ 2.49	0

Interview Process

Up to 20 points based on applicant interview using Job Fit.

This document is for informational purpose only and is not to be construed as a binding offer or contract between the College and the student. This document was revised September 1, 2016, and is subject to change without prior notice. This document is intended to be used with the College Catalog and Paramedic Student Handbook which provide complete information on courses as well as College regulations and procedures.

The Odessa College Paramedic program is approved by the Texas Department of State Health Service and accredited by the Committee on Accreditation for the EMS Professions.

Odessa College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender, age, disability, veteran status, sexual orientation or gender identity.