

Southwest Virginia Paramedic Program

A joint venture of
Mountain Empire Community College
Southwest Virginia Community College
Virginia Highlands Community College
Wytheville Community College

P.O. Box SVCC • Richlands, VA 24641 • 276-964-7729 • Fax: 276-964-7727

Dear Sir or Madam:

Thank you for your interest in the Paramedic, EMT-Intermediate, and/or Advanced EMT program. A cooperative venture by area community colleges and the SW VA EMS Council, will allow us to offer classes at five training sites; Abingdon, Big Stone Gap, Richlands, Galax and Wytheville.

The Paramedic degree program is designed to allow completion in five semesters. The EMT-Intermediate curriculum is completed in two semesters and Advanced EMT takes only one.

In-state tuition is currently around \$150 per credit hour and it should be stressed that financial aid is available to cover most or all of tuition expenses. *Students residing in the Cities of Bristol and Kingsport, Sullivan, Johnson, Hawkins, or Hancock County, TN; as well as Bell, Letcher, Harlan, Pike Counties in KY, and McDowell, Mercer, Mingo Counties in WV are eligible for tuition rates close to that of in-state. Others may qualify if their employer has a Virginia base of operations.*

In addition to college financial aid, a tuition assistance program facilitated by the SW VA EMS Council can help defray some of the expense related to this training.

On this website you will find several different items and some helpful information. After examining these documents, should you still have questions concerning the program please contact the following persons for assistance:

SVCC/WCC/VHCC/Galax	Bill Akers	276-964-7729	bill.akers@sw.edu
MECC	Kim Dorton	276-523-2400, ext. 356	kdorton@mecc.edu

If you do wish to apply for admission, I would suggest you proceed as follows:

1. Complete the **application for admission to MECC, SWCC, or VHCC** for the college you plan to attend. Students currently enrolled or who have taken classes since Fall Semester, 2010, do not need to reapply. If you have completed college coursework at another institution, please request an official copy be sent to the college's admissions office. (*Note: Applicants interested in attending the Wytheville or Galax classes should apply through Southwest Virginia Community College. at www.sw.edu. No trip to SwVCC should be necessary, all can be done on-line, by mail, or at the orientation sessions.*)
2. Complete the **application for federal financial aid.** (*STRONGLY ENCOURAGED – Over 70% of our students receive significant financial aid and it is required for those seeking tuition assistance through the EMS Council.*)
3. Complete the **paramedic/EMT-I / AEMT program application** and return it as soon as possible.

3b. With the **program application**, please include the following:

- A. A copy of your high school diploma or a copy of your GED completion certificate.*
(include a transcript of any previous college coursework)
- B. A copy of your driver's license or proof of age
- C. A copy of your current CPR certification card *
- D. A copy of your state EMS certification card.*

**Those who plan to complete these requirements prior to August 25 should go ahead and apply to the program but note your anticipated completion date on the application.*

- 4. Complete the **Virginia Placement Test (VPT)**. This test is administered between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 2:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, in the Student Services Office at your closest campus WCC and NRCC can administer the test as well. *(Call the Student Services office to make an appointment.)* The college application must be completed prior to taking this test. *(ASSET, SAT, or ACT scores, as well as successful completion of ENG 111 are accepted as a replacement for the VPT)*

***Additional practice materials are available – contact student services.*

5. Attend one of the pre-selection orientation and program entrance exam sessions.

Dates, times and locations will be emailed to you once your apply and/or contact me by email.

If you have questions specific to financial aid or the college application process, please call the Office of Admissions or the Financial Aid Office at any of our colleges.

Thank you again for your interest, and please call me should you have further questions after reviewing all these materials.

Sincerely,

Bill Akers Jr.

Bill Akers Jr. MS, NRP
Program Director