

PRIMARY CARE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

PMA CONTINUES TO ANSWER THE NEEDS OF PRACTITIONERS WITH THE
PRIMARY CARE PARAMEDIC (PCP) PROGRAM

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Professional Medical Associates' Primary Care Paramedic Program is designed to address the needs of ambulance and fire personnel responding to the scene of a medical emergency. The Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) program maintains approval by the Alberta College of Paramedics. The course was developed as a completer course from the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) level and aligns with the National Occupational Competency Profile for paramedic professionals. The curriculum emphasizes patient assessment, focusing on strategies for evaluating specific body systems rather than relying on rote memorization. It equips graduates with the ability to effectively interpret and integrate information.

MAJOR SKILLS

The program is based on the scope of practice outlined in the **Health Professions Act, Schedule 18 Paramedic Profession Regulations** for the Primary Care Paramedic, the Paramedic Association of Canada's National Competencies for Paramedicine and the proposed scope of practice.

PREREQUISITES

Applicants must have completed an Emergency Medical Responder or First Medical Responder (FMR) program. Applications must include a personal resume, transcript from EMR or FMR program, high school transcripts or a GED, a CLEAR criminal record check with vulnerable sectors within 90 days, current BLS/CPR certification, and should include letters of recommendation from EMS and health related employers. Applicants must be 18 years of age with class 5 drivers license (non-GDL). Recommended academic requirements include English 30, Math 20 and Biology 30 or equivalent with Chemistry 10 and Physics 10. Competency for admission is evaluated through a combination of assessments, including completion of written examinations and a practical scenario at the EMR level, a personal interview, reference checks, MMI rotations, and aptitude assessments measuring mechanical and numerical reasoning, comprehension, spatial ability, and written and verbal knowledge.

PROGRAM LENGTH AND DELIVERY

The total length of the program is approximately 970 hours. This is comprised of 240 hours of self study and review, 200 hours of lectures and 250 hours of lab and practical time. In addition, ambulance and hospital practicums would total a minimum of 240 additional hours. Practicums are competency based so additional hours may be necessary for completion. The program spans approximately 10 to 11 months with the didactic portion following a 3 days on / 5 days off rotation. In-person sessions are held at either our St. Albert or Calgary campus, focusing on hands-on skills, simulations, and classroom instruction. During the 5-day off period, students are expected to complete self-directed learning, including assigned readings, independent study, and online assignments completed through our Moodle learning management system (LMS). Students are expected to commit a consistent number of hours during this time for successful progression. After completion of the didactic portion, students enter practicum, which include both clinical and field placements in supervised healthcare and EMS settings. These placements are scheduled based on availability and site coordination. Regular attendance and full participation are required throughout the program.

POST-GRADUATE AFFILIATION

Graduates are eligible to complete the Alberta Registration examination process and apply for registration with the Alberta College of Paramedics.



PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- ✓ Primary Care Paramedic Certificate
- ✓ Fundamentals of Airway Management Program
- ✓ Emergency Driving course with high-fidelity driving simulator
- ✓ Prehospital Trauma Life Support
- ✓ Basic Life Support
- ✓ Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization (PEARS)
- ✓ Geriatrics for Emergency Medical Services (GEMS)

FEES AND EXPENSES

Cost of the Program (subject to change): \$13,450.00 Program fees cover all certification fees, required books, study manuals, uniforms, equipment, and learning assessments. Additional costs for travel and lodging may apply depending on clinical rotation placement.

PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS

Students will be assessed through ongoing practical sessions, review quizzes, and midterm exams. The final evaluation consists of both written and theoretical components. The practical component assesses the student's ability to apply their knowledge, skills, and patient-care decision making in trauma and medical simulated clinical experiences following a scenario format. A combined average of 85% is required, with a minimum grade of 80% in each individual course.

PROGRAM OUTLINE

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| Roles and Responsibilities of the PCP EMS/Fire/Rescue liaison and development of systems medical and legal responsibilities | Assessment and management of the GI/GU system overview of anatomy and physiology of GI/GU system system assessment - gastrointestinal and genitourinary system |
| Patient Transportation and Ambulance Operations | Assessment and management of the Nervous System system assessment - assessment of the CNS potential cause of altered level of consciousness psychiatric patient management unconscious emergencies |
| Medical Terminology for the PCP | Assessment and management of the Endocrine System anatomy and physiology of the endocrine system endocrine disorders |
| Communications and Medical Documentation medical documentation verbal communication | Assessment and management of the Immune System anatomy and physiology of the Immune System Immune disorders |
| Basic Vehicle Rescue | Prehospital Trauma Management soft tissue injuries internal organ injuries injuries to the axial skeleton injuries to the appendicular skeleton |
| Scene Management incident command - introduction of the medical sector | Environmental Emergencies heat injuries management of the hyperthermic patient cold injuries management of the hypothermic patient inhalation injuries and burns |
| Triage and Special Situations | Emergency Prehospital Emergencies anatomy of pregnancy management of normal delivery management of abnormal delivery care for the mother and baby after delivery recognition of depressed infant and basic resuscitation |
| Lifting and Moving Patients emergency patient moves non-emergency patient moves patient movement equipment | Special Patients age as a special consideration physically challenged patients alcohol and drug abuse |
| Structure and Function of the Human Body and Introductory Pharmacology and Medical Administration | Emotional and Psychiatric emergencies |
| Introduction to Patient Assessment primary survey and critical interventions assessment and treatment - critical interventions “key assessment phrases” secondary survey | Hospital Practicum |
| Assessment and management of shock types of shock level or degree of shock management of shock state | Ambulance Practicum |
| Assessment of the Integument structure and functions of the integument skin color, temperature and condition | |
| Assessment of the Head and Neck assessment clues for assessment and management inspection and palpation | |
| Assessment of the Thorax and Thoracic disorders assessment and overview of the respiratory system basic management of the respiratory system assessment and overview of the cardiovascular system management of the cardiovascular system 4 and 12 lead electrocardiography | |

For more information, please contact the office, or visit our website at www.promedics.org

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