

RN-Paramedic Bridge Program (EMTP 275/276)

➤ Program Structure

Beginning in the spring of 2022, RN's or other advanced providers such as physician assistants, nurse practitioners, or physicians; will have 2 class options for obtaining their paramedic license, depending on their current skill set and experience. (Anytime RN is mentioned from here forward, PA-C, NP, or MD/DO can be used in place of RN, if that is your current license level).

EMTP 275 titled "RN to Paramedic Bridge" will be a hybrid course that consists of 7 weeks of online work, followed by 12-14 days in our local area to complete skills proficiency, cadaver lab, EMS ride time, and National Registry preparation. On-site location for skills and cadaver lab will be the Crowder College main campus in Neosho, MO.

EMTP 276 titled "RN to Paramedic – EMS Qualified" will be our "Self-Directed Learning" or "SDL" course that can be completed 100% online, with no clinical requirement. There will be an 8-week window of time in order to complete all requirements for the course. (EMTP 276 will have additional requirements for entry, and see pg. 5 for details).

➤ General/Minimum entry requirements for ALL APPLICANTS

- Registered Nurse (RN) license must be in good standing with a minimum of 1000 hours of RN work experience in the last 2 years.
- American Heart Association (AHA) BLS and ACLS Provider within good standing (American Red Cross accepted, with AHA preferred).
- Applicants must **ALSO** meet **ONE** of the following criteria in order to be considered.
 - Two or more years of Emergency or Critical Care experience.
 - One year of RN experience in ER or Critical Care, and one year of pre-hospital experience (totaling 2 years of experience), with an active EMT or AEMT license.
 - One year of RN experience with a current certification from the Board of Certification for Emergency Nursing (BCEN). Board certification must not be expired, and the individual must be currently working in emergency or critical care.
 - Accepted certifications:
 - CFRN, CTRN, TCRN, CPEN, or CEN.

- **All applications will be scored according to the rubric listed within this document, with the order of acceptance starting with the highest scoring applicants that applied for the EMTP 275 class.**
 - Alternates will be accepted in a priority order, and will be notified should an individual not be able to fill their slot.

Program Deadlines & Important Dates (for each semester)

- Spring Semester (January start date)
 - Application Deadline: November 15th
 - Acceptance notification: December 1st
 - Enrollment form return deadline: December 15th
 - Alternate notification (if applicable to fill un-filled seats): December 16th
 - Alternate enrollment form return deadline: January 2nd
- Fall Semester (August start date)
 - Application Deadline: July 1st
 - Acceptance notification: July 15th
 - Enrollment form return deadline: July 31st
 - Alternate notification (if applicable to fill un-filled seats): August 1st
 - Alternate enrollment form return deadline: August 15th

*If enrollment forms are not returned by deadlines, applicant forfeits the seat in the course.

**Fully completed application must be received prior to deadline to be consider for upcoming semester.

***Any program deadline dates that fall on a weekend day (Saturday or Sunday) will be moved to the following first Monday thereafter.

EMT License Requirement

Beginning August 2nd, 2021 National Registry required all RN's or higher-level providers bridging to paramedic to have either a **state OR National Registry** EMT license PRIOR to testing at the paramedic level. The EMT license is **NOT** a requirement to enter the course, but ***must be attained PRIOR to testing for the paramedic license.*** Therefore, it will be beneficial if an individual has an EMT license prior to entering the program, and will help to increase the candidates score in the rubric.

If an individual **DOES NOT** have an EMT license by the beginning of the course, and their state does not allow them to challenge the state level exam; then they will be **REQUIRED** to attend a skills practice day on the Friday of week #9, followed by psychomotor skill testing on the Saturday of week #9; administered by a local agency ***IN OUR DEMOGRAPHIC AREA.*** Schedule will be posted at the beginning of the semester for both cohorts.

This on-site EMT skills practice day, and testing for skills verification is mandatory for individuals in ***either course (275 or 276),*** should they **NOT** possess an EMT license.

- Pages 3 & 4 outline the 275 (Hybrid course); with pages 5 & 6 outlining the 276 or SDL course.

EMTP 275 “RN to Paramedic Bridge” (Hybrid) Course

- Any individual that meets the general entry requirements to the program but does not have pre-hospital transport experience and/or is not able to perform the following skills:
 - Adult & Pediatric Intubation
 - Needle Decompression
 - Needle Cricothyrotomy
- Individuals that have pre-hospital experience, but it is greater than 5 years old, will also be considered for this course.
- EMTP 275 (Hybrid) Phases
 - Phase #1 – Didactic Phase
 - Didactic education will be broken down in to 6 weeks, with the final being administered at the beginning of week #7.
 - The beginning of each week will consist of a zoom meeting where we will review material that will be covered in the week. Attendance is optional for the zoom meetings, and they will be recorded for viewing at a later time should individuals not be able to attend.
 - Each week will consist of a discussion board, writing assignment, and exam.
 - Final Exam will take place at the beginning of week #7 prior to attending the on-site portion.
 - Phase #2 – Clinical Rotations/On-Site experience
 - Sunday (end) of week #7: Skills proficiency (@ Crowder College EMS lab)
 - Clinical time will consist of EMS ride time that will be completed on a local Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulance. Ride time will begin Monday of week #8
 - Crowder College EMS instructor staff will schedule all EMS ride time with a schedule being sent to all members of the course prior to arriving for clinical rotations.
 - For an example of the on-site schedule; see the appendix section of this document.
 - Phase #3 – Completion/Wrap-Up
 - Turning in all clinical paperwork to instructor and gaining approval of completion.
 - Application completed to national registry for paramedic level testing (or EMT nesting if needed prior to paramedic testing).
 - Watching the NREMT Psychomotor test prep videos made by lead instructor.

EMTP 275 8-week Didactic Schedule

Week #	Material Covered
1	Documentation and Report Writing Legal and Ethical issues in Pre-Hospital Medicine; Pre-Hospital Decision Making General Medical (Neuro, Abd/GI, GU/Renal, Psychiatric, Hematology, Immunology, Endocrine)
2	Airway; Airway Management
3	Cardiovascular Emergencies; ECG and Rhythm Interpretation; 12-Lead ECG
4	Special Populations (Pediatric, Neonate, Geriatric)
5	Environmental Emergencies; Hazmat Trauma
6	Operations (MCI, Extrication + Special Rescue, Crime Scene Awareness, Incident Mgmt)
7	Final Exam (Comprehensive)

➤ **Clinical Rotations (EMTP 275 Course Only)**

Department	Hours	Description
Ambulance	60	Leader/Third Ride with an EMS agency (Units must be ALS units)

➤ **Skill Requirements**

Skill	# Required
ALS Contacts**	15

**Any ambulance transport that requires more than BLS skills/procedures.

NOTE: All EMTP 275 (Hybrid) students must complete 60 hours of ride time AND obtain 15 ALS patient contacts to meet the requirements to pass the course and be approved to sit for the National Registry exam at the paramedic level.

➤ **Uniforms (worn for clinical rotations) – Hybrid Students**

- Uniforms are a royal blue polo with the Crowder College EMS logo on the left chest; with “RN-Paramedic Student” on the right chest.
- 2 uniform shirts will be ordered per student at the beginning of the course.
- Pants need to be an EMS style pant that are black or navy blue, black belt, and black boots (EMS ride time) or black tennis shoes (hospital time).
- Uniforms need to be worn during all clinical rotations that the student attends under the Crowder College umbrella.
- Uniforms will be ordered through the bookstore by the instructor and will be available for the students upon arriving for clinical rotations.

EMTP 276 “RN to Paramedic – EMS Qualified” (SDL)Course

- The student must be able to perform the following skills at their job and provide documentation thereof:
 - Adult & Pediatric Intubation
 - Needle Decompression
 - Needle Cricothyrotomy

- Skill Verification/Documentation Methods (01/SDL students)
 - Option #1: A medical director/training officer will have to have witnessed the skill(s) being performed by the individual to the company and protocol standard. The medical director/training officer will complete the skill proficiency checklists of the PSP manual (found with the application), verifying skill proficiency at the level of the National Standard; and signing the letter confirming the skill completion with credentials.
 - Option #2: Attending on-site cadaver lab and performing the skills on the cadaver.
 - Option #3: Performing a video recording of the student performing the skill on a mannequin/trainer; then sending the video to the lead instructor for evaluation.
 - Option #4: State approved license proving the individual can perform the skill(s). An example would be a Pre-hospital intubation license for RN’s.

- Requirements for clinical waiver
 - The RN must have (at a minimum) 250 documented hours worked in the pre-hospital environment; with the following types of pre-hospital environments/work accepted:
 - Ground ambulance provider that runs 911/emergency calls, and the RN can provide ALS care to the patient when under their care.
 - Critical Care transport where the RN is a team lead, or works as a team with another provider of equivalent experience (such as a Paramedic or transport RT).
 - Air Ambulance provider where the RN is a team lead, or works as a team with another provider of equivalent experience (such as a Flight Paramedic or Flight RT).
 - Note that if the RN works in a transport setting where the RN is **NOT** the primary decision maker for patient care or and equal part of an equivalent team (such as a flight RN and flight paramedic that have equal responsibility and decision making); then this experience will **NOT** count. Examples of transport experience that will **NOT** count will be the following:
 - Flight/Transport RN that works with a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant; where the higher lever provider makes **ALL** primary decisions, and decides treatment pathways.
 - RN working for an ambulance/ground service; but the RN **CANNOT** perform ALS skills while on duty when working on the ambulance.

➤ EMT 276 (SDL) Phases

- Phase #1 – Didactic Phase
 - Didactic learning will be broken down in to 6 modules (5 working modules and a comprehensive final examination).
 - Modules are completed at a self-paced speed (as fast as an individual wants to complete them), in the order listed under “didactic units”.
- Phase #2 – Completion/Wrap-Up
 - Application completed to national registry for paramedic level testing (or EMT nesting if needed prior to paramedic testing).
 - Watching the NREMT Psychomotor test prep videos made by lead instructor.

➤ Didactic Units

Module #	Material Covered
1	Documentation and Report Writing Legal and Ethical issues in Pre-Hospital Medicine; Pre-Hospital Decision Making General Medical (Neuro, Abd/GI, GU/Renal, Psychiatric, Hematology, Immunology, Endocrine)
2	Airway; Airway Management
3	Cardiovascular Emergencies; ECG and Rhythm Interpretation; 12-Lead ECG
4	Special Populations (Pediatric, Neonate, Geriatric) Environmental Emergencies; Hazmat
5	Trauma
6	Operations (MCI, Extrication + Special Rescue, Crime Scene Awareness, Incident Mgmt)
7	Final Exam (Comprehensive)

****Note**** Individuals without an EMT license at the start of the course, even though they might qualify for the 276/SDL course, will still be required to obtain an EMT license prior to testing for paramedic at the National Registry level. The EMT license can be obtained in one of 3 options:

1. Come to our area during week #9 of the college semester and practice and test for the EMT level skills with a service in our area (then test for the written exam @ their home location)
2. If the students’ home state allows them to test for EMT skills, then the student must submit the NREMT EMT Psychomotor Examination Verification as completion of passing the EMT skills. Crowder College can then approve the individual to test for the EMT cognitive/written exam, and upon passing gain an EMT license.
3. Obtain their EMT license in a separate course prior to entering the program.

Appendix

- i. On-Site Schedule Example for Hybrid section (02)
 - a. Class will consist of groups (depending upon the number of students) for clinical rotations and simulation lab time
 - b. *Students will be in one group for initial skills validation, cadaver lab, and EMT skills (if applicable).
 - c. 20 students maximum (class limit)
 - d. **Other variations are available deepening upon the number of individuals in the course.**

Day	Group #1	Group #2
Sunday (Week #7)	Skills Lab (1500-1900)	Skills Lab (1500-1900)
Monday (Week #8)	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)	Simulation Lab
Tuesday (Week #8)	Simulation Lab	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)
Wednesday (Week #8)	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)	NREMT Prep
Thursday (Week #8)	NREMT Prep	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)
Friday (Week #8)	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)	NREMT Prep
Saturday (Week #8)	OFF DAY	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)
Sunday (Week #8)	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)	OFF DAY
Monday (Week #9)	NREMT Prep	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)
Tuesday (Week #9)	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)	OFF DAY
Wednesday (Week #9)	OFF DAY	EMS Ride Clinical (12 hour)
Thursday (Week #9)	Cadaver Lab	Cadaver Lab
<u>Friday (Week #9)</u>	<u>EMT Psychomotor Skill Prep</u>	<u>EMT Psychomotor Skill Prep</u>
<u>Saturday (Week #9)</u>	<u>EMT Psychomotor/Skills Testing @ Quapaw Nation Fire/EMS</u>	<u>EMT Psychomotor/Skills Testing @ Quapaw Nation Fire/EMS</u>

*Skills Lab, Simulation lab, and NREMT prep will be completed @ Crowder College – Neosho, Smith Hall 208 (EMS classroom).

**Cadaver Lab will be completed @ Crowder College – Neosho; Farber Building (second floor).

***EMS ride time will be scheduled by lead instructor, with a rotation of metro and rural EMS opportunities.

Highlighted areas are mandatory for all individuals that **DO NOT** currently possess a state or National Registry EMT license, and cannot test in their local area.

ii. Application Rubric (used for EMTP 275 cohort)

Applicant Name:		
Variables	Rating	Score
Years of experience in emergency or critical care at the advanced level (RN/PA/NP/MD/DO)	1 point for each year of experience	
Years of work experience in EMS/pre-hospital care - Ground EMS (911 service) - Air Medical	1 point for each year of experience	
BCEN Certification(s) - CFRN, CTRN, TCRN, CPEN, CEN	1 point for each certification (5 Points Maximum)	
EMT License	2 points for having an EMT license.	
Advanced EMT (AEMT) License	4 points for having an AEMT license.	
Previous Crowder College RN-Paramedic student applicant	3 points for each previous application (12 points maximum)	
TOTAL SCORE	--	

In the event of a tie score the following tie-breakers will be used in this order:

1. The individuals that have both EMS and hospital experience will be given preference.
2. If the above does not settle the tie, then the seat will be given to the individual(s) that have more years of experience.
3. If numbers 1 and 2 do not settle the tie, then it will be determined by a discussion within the department of EMS instructors.