

# EMT Sample Information

Emergency Medical Technicians are first responders to medical emergencies, providing basic emergency care and transportation to hospitals. State certification is required, and universities, community colleges and technical schools nationwide offer EMT training programs.

## Sample costs:

- University programs charge about \$800-\$1,000 for basic EMT training that lasts from one month to three months, depending on whether students attend fulltime or part time. The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, for example, offers a 138-hour training program for EMTs that costs \$850. UCLA provides training through its Center for Prehospital Care for \$925 for a 20-day fulltime program that can also be completed part-time and at night over three months.
- Community college programs can charge anywhere from \$200-\$1,000 for basic EMT training, although tuition may be substantially more for out-of-state students. Basic EMT training at South Louisiana Community College, for example, is \$258 for state residents, plus student fees of \$52. At other community colleges, such as Tacoma Community College in Washington, training costs are about \$1,000, comparable to universities.
- Costs at technical schools vary significantly by program, but can be \$750-\$1,800 or more. Human Services Training Program, one of the state-recommended EMT training programs for people seeking EMT work in Massachusetts, charges \$760 for a three-month program that can be completed at night and on weekends. The San Francisco Paramedic Association offers a one-month fulltime program for \$1,825.
- Many states require national certification, which is available for EMTs through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. These NREMT exams cost \$70.

### **What should be included:**

- EMTs can work for private ambulance services, hospital-affiliated ambulance services, or with firefighters. Basic training includes instruction in assessing patients, and managing respiratory, trauma, and cardiac emergencies. It also instructs students on handling typical emergency calls, such as emergency childbirth, cardiac arrest and fractures.
- Most programs require on-the-job training, such as ambulance ride-alongs and hospital observation, in addition to classroom work.
- Most EMT programs also offer intermediate training, teaching students more advanced skills, such as IV insertion and use of advanced airway devices. Intermediate training is the next step to becoming an advanced EMT, or Paramedic, and is typically completed after basic EMTs have some on-the-job experience.

### **Additional costs:**

- Books may be included in tuition fees, or may cost about \$100 extra, depending on the program.
- Recertification is periodically required, typically every two years.
- Health testing (for diseases such as TB) and vaccinations (for diseases such as for hepatitis B) may be required before entering an EMT program. TB tests are easily obtained and inexpensive (usually less than \$20). Vaccines, such as the Hepatitis B vaccine, can cost up to \$50 a dose, according to the CDC.
- Some programs require students to obtain basic certificates, such as CPR, before they begin EMT training. The cost of classes offered by the American Heart Association and the Red Cross varies by location, but it's typically under \$100.

Paramedics are first responders to medical emergencies. In addition to completing a training program administered at community colleges, universities or technical schools, paramedics must take exams and become certified to work in their state.

### Typical costs:

- Paramedic training programs take one to two years to complete. Tuition costs vary from \$3,000 to \$13,000 or more, depending on the institution.
- Tuition costs vary significantly among community colleges. At Borough of Manhattan Community College in New York City, tuition costs for a two-year program total \$6,300. On the lower end of the community college tuition scale, tuition at Tacoma Community College in Washington is \$3,373.70 for a 1.5 year program. Tuition prices may increase substantially for out-of-state students.
- Tuition costs for paramedic training at universities are comparable to the higher-priced community colleges. The University of Iowa Hospital and Clinics, for example, offers paramedic training for \$5,500.
- Technical schools can offer more flexible schedules for working adults, but they can also have higher tuition costs than community colleges and other state-funded schools. Tuition at California EMS Academy, for example, is \$11,000-\$13,000.
- The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians certification exam costs \$110 for paramedics.

### Unite States - Sample Pay Ranges

State	Annual Salary	Monthly Pay	Weekly Pay	Hourly Wage
Washington	\$34,617	\$2,885	\$666	\$16.64
New York	\$32,512	\$2,709	\$625	\$15.63
New Hampshire	\$31,479	\$2,623	\$605	\$15.13
California	\$30,869	\$2,572	\$594	\$14.84
Vermont	\$29,714	\$2,476	\$571	\$14.29
Massachusetts	\$29,648	\$2,471	\$570	\$14.25
Wyoming	\$29,064	\$2,422	\$559	\$13.97

State	Annual Salary	Monthly Pay	Weekly Pay	Hourly Wage
Idaho	\$29,049	\$2,421	\$559	\$13.97
Hawaii	\$28,759	\$2,397	\$553	\$13.83
Maine	\$28,588	\$2,382	\$550	\$13.74
West Virginia	\$28,254	\$2,354	\$543	\$13.58
Texas	\$28,172	\$2,348	\$542	\$13.54
Pennsylvania	\$28,117	\$2,343	\$541	\$13.52
Connecticut	\$28,022	\$2,335	\$539	\$13.47
Rhode Island	\$27,578	\$2,298	\$530	\$13.26
Montana	\$27,532	\$2,294	\$529	\$13.24
New Jersey	\$27,462	\$2,289	\$528	\$13.20
Alaska	\$27,383	\$2,282	\$527	\$13.16
Maryland	\$27,261	\$2,272	\$524	\$13.11
Arizona	\$27,249	\$2,271	\$524	\$13.10
North Dakota	\$27,183	\$2,265	\$523	\$13.07
Nevada	\$27,168	\$2,264	\$522	\$13.06
Indiana	\$27,074	\$2,256	\$521	\$13.02
Nebraska	\$26,826	\$2,236	\$516	\$12.90
Minnesota	\$26,665	\$2,222	\$513	\$12.82
Tennessee	\$26,654	\$2,221	\$513	\$12.81
Wisconsin	\$26,572	\$2,214	\$511	\$12.78
Virginia	\$26,475	\$2,206	\$509	\$12.73
Ohio	\$26,462	\$2,205	\$509	\$12.72
South Dakota	\$26,389	\$2,199	\$507	\$12.69
Georgia	\$26,286	\$2,190	\$505	\$12.64
Kentucky	\$26,127	\$2,177	\$502	\$12.56
Utah	\$26,097	\$2,175	\$502	\$12.55

State	Annual Salary	Monthly Pay	Weekly Pay	Hourly Wage
Oregon	\$25,988	\$2,166	\$500	\$12.49
Louisiana	\$25,861	\$2,155	\$497	\$12.43
Alabama	\$25,672	\$2,139	\$494	\$12.34
Kansas	\$25,610	\$2,134	\$492	\$12.31
South Carolina	\$25,609	\$2,134	\$492	\$12.31
Colorado	\$25,519	\$2,127	\$491	\$12.27
Delaware	\$25,478	\$2,123	\$490	\$12.25
Iowa	\$25,431	\$2,119	\$489	\$12.23
New Mexico	\$25,250	\$2,104	\$486	\$12.14
Oklahoma	\$24,933	\$2,078	\$479	\$11.99
Florida	\$24,775	\$2,065	\$476	\$11.91
Mississippi	\$23,993	\$1,999	\$461	\$11.54
Arkansas	\$23,964	\$1,997	\$461	\$11.52
Michigan	\$23,947	\$1,996	\$461	\$11.51
Illinois	\$23,835	\$1,986	\$458	\$11.46
Missouri	\$23,440	\$1,953	\$451	\$11.27
North Carolina	\$21,823	\$1,819	\$420	\$10.49

**Key points to remember – From [www.FirefightersABCs.com](http://www.FirefightersABCs.com):**

- **Most fire agencies require a EMT cert to apply**
- **Some fire agencies require a Paramedic cert to apply**
- **In most cases fire agencies require your National Certification**
- **The bottom line:**
  - **Obtain your EMT Cert**
  - **Obtain your Paramedic Cert**
  - **Obtain your AS in Fire Science if possible**
  - **Obtain your AA/AS in something**
  - **Obtain your BA/BS in something**
  - **Be the best prepared candidate as possible – don't limit yourself**
  - **Join the 100% Free Firefighter's ABCs Online Internship Program**