



EMS Academy

EMT ROOKIE SCHOOL

Metropolitan Emergency Medical Services (MEMS)

**1101 W. 8th Street
Little Rock, AR 72201
(501) 301-1400**

In 2002, MEMS realized the importance of “growing our own” with regards to meeting our staffing needs. It was then that MEMS’ EMS Academy was established and we began in-house EMT and Paramedic Training.

Our Training Department staff has over 100 years of combined field experience to share with our students.

MEMS EMT Rookie School is usually held twice each year as staffing needs occur. Classes and deadlines to apply are advertised in the Arkansas-Democrat-Gazette newspaper prior to anticipated start date.

Suitable and qualified candidates are selected for the EMT Rookie School and are paid an hourly rate of \$7.54 per hour while going through our full-time, six week in-house EMT school. After successful completion and obtaining an Arkansas State and National Certification they are extended full-time employment and are eligible to bid for a full-time shift and be a part of an ambulance crew. Certified EMT’s, with no experience, receive a starting base annual salary of \$23,105 with full benefits (Hourly rate is calculated based on shifts assigned).

Once employed, qualified EMT employees of MEMS are eligible for our in-house Paramedic school, which is usually held once per year. This 6-month program allows EMT employees who are in good standing and meet the academic requirements to attend Paramedic school full-time at MEMS while being paid their current base annual salary. This program reduces the traditional educational calendar of 18months to 6 months.

Certified Paramedics, with no experience, receive a starting base annual salary of \$38,064, also with full benefits (Hourly rate is calculated based on shifts assigned)

Overtime signups are voluntary and offered as available, through the MEMS Scheduling Department, on a monthly basis, in order to earn pay above the base annual salary.

If you would like to be considered for EMT Rookie School, please complete the following application, noting on the top “EMT Rookie School” and return (only the application, along with the reference and consent form) to MEMS, either by mail to 1101 W. 8th St. Little Rock, AR 72201, or feel free to deliver it to the same address. We are located just off of I-630 and the Chester Street exit.

(If you are viewing our application on line and are unable to print a copy, feel free to call our front desk at 501-301-1400 and they will be glad to mail you one, or if you are local, you may pick one up at our front desk at the above address between the hours of 8am to 5pm Monday through Friday.)

You must meet the following minimum requirements in order to receive consideration for the MEMS EMT Rookie School.

- Possess a High School Diploma or Equivalent.
- Possess a valid Arkansas driver's license
- Meet age requirement as defined by MEMS automobile insurance carrier, currently at age 19.
- Must have an acceptable driving record as defined by MEMS automobile insurance carrier and provide a Motor Vehicle Record from the Department of Finance and Administration.
- Must be physically fit based on a Physical Agility Test, based on job specifics.
- Must take the ASSET test, consisting of Writing, Reading and Numerical Skills
- Must pass a drug test
- Must have pass a criminal background check from the Arkansas State Police Headquarters.

REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE SIX WEEK COURSE

Any EMT Rookie School Candidate who satisfactorily completes the course will incur an obligation to continue employment with MEMS for one year from the date of licensure and completion of the subsequent field orientation training. Candidates who fail to satisfactorily pass the final exam after two attempts may be terminated.

MEMS financial support for the employee during this training period is considered an educational loan which will be forgiven if the person remains employed as a qualified EMT for one year following the successful completion of the formal class, testing, licensure and orientation training. The failure to remain employed at MEMS for any reason from the beginning of EMT training through the follow on orientation training plus one year will require the employee to reimburse MEMS a total fee of \$1,200.00 for educational expenses.

All EMT Rookie School Candidates will be required to sign an agreement acknowledging this understanding before starting classes.

Class Schedule will be Monday thru Friday 7am to 4pm, for six weeks. There will be some additional weekend and/or evening clinical requirements.

NATURE OF THE WORK

People's lives often depend on the quick reaction and competent care of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and Paramedics during incidents as varied as automobile accidents, heart attacks, drowning, childbirth, and gunshot wounds which all require immediate medical attention. EMTs and Paramedics provide this vital attention as they care for and transport the sick or injured to a medical facility.

Depending on the nature of the emergency, EMTs and Paramedics typically are dispatched to the scene by a 911 operator and often work with police and fire department personnel. Once they arrive, they determine the nature and extent of the patient's condition while trying to ascertain whether the patient has preexisting medical problems. Following strict rules and guidelines, they give appropriate emergency care and, when necessary, transport the patient. Emergency treatments for complicated problems are carried out under the direction of Medical Doctors by radio preceding or during transport.

EMTs and Paramedics may use special equipment such as backboards to immobilize patients before placing them on stretchers and securing them in the ambulance for transport to a medical facility. The

EMT drives during patient transport, while the Paramedic monitors the patient's vital signs and gives additional care as needed in the back of the ambulance.

At the medical facility, EMTs and Paramedics help transfer patients to the emergency department, report their observations and actions to staff, and may provide additional emergency treatment. After each run, EMTs and Paramedics replace used supplies and check equipment. If a transported patient had a contagious disease, EMTs and Paramedics decontaminate the interior of the ambulance and report cases to the proper authorities.

A MEMS ambulance crew generally consists of one EMT-Basic and one Paramedic. The Paramedic is the senior crew member responsible for the ambulance and direction of the EMT-Basic. Both are Arkansas Certified and certified through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. (NREMT)

The EMT-Basic assists the Paramedic and is trained to care for patients on accident scenes. The EMT-B has the emergency skills to assess a patient's condition and manage respiratory, cardiac, and trauma emergencies.

Paramedics provide the most extensive pre-hospital care. In addition to the procedures already described, Paramedics may administer drugs orally and intravenously, interpret electrocardiograms (EKGs), perform endotracheal intubations, and use monitors and other complex equipment.

WORKING CONDITIONS

WORKING CONDITIONSEMTs and Paramedics work both indoors and outdoors, in all types of weather. They are required to do considerable kneeling, bending, and heavy lifting. EMTs and Paramedics may be exposed to diseases such as Hepatitis-B and AIDS, as well as violence from drug overdose victims or mentally unstable patients. The work is not only physically strenuous, but also stressful, involving life-or-death situations and suffering patients. Nonetheless, many people find the work exciting and challenging and enjoy the opportunity to help others.

TRAINING AND RECERTIFICATION

Formal training and certification is needed to become an EMT or Paramedic. To maintain certification, EMTs and Paramedics must re-register, usually every 2 years. In order to re-register, an individual must be working as an EMT or Paramedic and meet a continuing education requirement which is offered through MEMS Training Facility.

Should you have any questions regarding our program, please feel free to contact us at 301-1414 or 301-1400.

Thank you for your interest in MEMS.