

# **PARAMEDIC SCIENCES**

**Associate of Science (AS) Degree**  
(IU School of Medicine Health Professions Programs)

**2011 - 2012**

## **HEALTH PROFESSIONS AND PRELAW CENTER**

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#### **IMPORTANT:**

This document was prepared for Indiana University Bloomington students by the Health Professions and Prelaw Center. Please note that specific requirements and policies can change at any time without notice. Students are responsible for obtaining the most current information directly from the application services, and the schools and programs in which they have an interest. Refer to the Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) bulletin, at <http://bulletin.iupui.edu> (click on School of Medicine, and then on Health Professions Programs). Also refer to the program web site at <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/>.

## I. GENERAL PS INFORMATION <sup>1</sup>

### A. Description of the Profession

- **Paramedics** provide emergency patient care in the pre-hospital setting. They determine the nature and extent of victims' emergencies, immobilize fractures, supply intravenous therapy, provide other life-saving interventions for victims of acute illness or injury, and stabilize patients for safe transport. **Skills and characteristics important to this profession:** Critical thinking and problem-solving skills, empathy, ability to work quickly and make good decisions under pressure, ability to cope with being on call and having an irregular work schedule, effective interpersonal communication, ability to perform moderate to heavy lifting, and the ability to work with a team of care givers. These and other professional development components are a critical part of any undergraduate degree. Click the Professional Development link on the HPPLC home page for further suggestions.

**HPPLC advisors strongly encourage you to review further information about this program,** including links to web resources, on the HPPLC web page ([www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu))

**We also suggest you sign up for the HPPLC email list** associated with your program of interest, also found on our home page. Feel free to sign up for more than one list.

### B. Description of the PS Program

- **IU Bloomington does *not* offer a paramedic sciences program, but students pursuing this degree may complete the prerequisites at IUB and then transfer to IUPUI.** The IU School of Medicine Health Professions Program at IUPUI offers an AS in Paramedic Sciences. The IUPUI course of study generally requires the completion of 1 (one) year (26 - 33 cr hrs) of prerequisite work at IUB or another campus / college. If admitted to the program, students complete one (1) year of professional work at the Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis.

## II. COURSES REQUIRED FOR ADMISSION (*Carefully read Notes on next page*)

The requirements below are for the IUPUI program.

<b>Required Preprofessional Courses <sup>2, 3</sup> (Course designations are for IUB)</b>	<b>Credit Hours</b>
<b>Written &amp; Oral Communication</b>	
<b>Elementary Composition (ENG-W 131 or 170) <sup>7</sup></b>	3
<b>Oral Communication (CMCL-C 121 or 122 or 205)</b>	3
<b>Mathematics, Life &amp; Physical Sciences</b>	
<b>Human Anatomy with Lab (ANAT-A 215)</b>	5
<b>Human Physiology with Lab (PHSL-P 215)</b>	5
<b>Mathematics (MATH-M014 or higher) <sup>4</sup></b>	3 - 4
<b>Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Certification <sup>5, 6</sup></b>	
<b>See notes 5 &amp; 6.</b> EMT certification required, through either IUB coursework (HPER-H 160, 3 cr; HPER-H 401 and 404, 3/1 cr), or through another EMT training program.	--
<b>Other Program Prerequisites</b>	
<b>Psychology (PSY-P 101 or 102, or higher)</b>	3
<b>Sociology (SOC-S 100 or 200-level or higher SOC or a cultural anthropology course)</b>	3
<b>IUB preprofessional hours</b>	25 – 26 (32 – 33 with IUB EMT)

**(Carefully read important NOTES on next page)**

## NOTES:

- 1) The information in this handout refers only to the IU School of Medicine Health Professions Paramedic Sciences program (at IUPUI). Paramedical training is offered elsewhere. For instance, [www.coaemsp.org/accreditedprograms.htm](http://www.coaemsp.org/accreditedprograms.htm) offers a partial list of accredited programs. (You can do further research if you wish to identify additional programs.)
- 2) Preprofessional courses (except electives) must be completed with a "C" or higher ("C-" not acceptable).
- 3) Courses listed in this chart are the lowest level acceptable. The program will sometimes accept alternative 100-level or upper level courses. Before enrolling in an alternative, check to make sure it is acceptable.
- 4) If a student places in a level of math higher than M014, a 3 - 4 credit math course of some sort must still be taken. AP credit *does* count.
- 5) EMT certification (sometimes called "EMT Basic") is required prior to admission to the program, including 20 documented hours of patient contact in an ambulance. Taking the courses listed in the chart and passing the certification exam will garner certification. For a list of other EMT training programs in Indiana, visit <https://oas.in.gov/hs/training/public/calendar.do> . Under "Categories," click the "EMS Training" link. The list is continually updated, and other states should have similar listings. Prices range from about \$400-\$600, and programs can last weeks or months depending upon how often classes meet.
- 6) First aid certification earned through the Red Cross, hospitals, etc. does not exempt students from Hper-H160. First Responder certification may, in very rare cases, allow exemption from H160. HPER-H 401 and H 404 are taken concurrently and require that HPER-H 160 be taken before them or concurrently with them because doing so garners students some of the training hours ultimately required for EMT certification.
- 7) The program accepts Advanced Placement credit as fulfilling the composition requirement, as well as exemption from composition; however, you still need to meet the minimum number of credits to apply. You also must contact the program for approval prior to applying.

## III. ADDITIONAL COURSE OPTIONS AND NOTES

- If you wish to enter the IUPUI program after freshman year, there may be little time to take non-prerequisite courses if you intend to earn your EMT certification through IU coursework. See **Notes 5 and 6**, above. (Note, however, that students applying for fall admission can still complete courses during freshman summer terms, or during sophomore fall term for admission during sophomore spring).
- With careful planning, some students have completed their paramedic science degree while also completing a four-year degree. You may discuss this possibility with the program director or contact the IU School of Medicine Health Professions Programs office.
- If time permits, the IUPUI program recommends taking additional courses in physical fitness, Spanish, or bioethics (bioethics courses may have prerequisites).

## IV. ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND STATISTICS

### A. Overview

- The IUPUI paramedic science program generally admits all qualified candidates (see stats next page). Successful completion of prerequisite coursework (see **Section I**), cumulative GPA (CGPA), the admission interview, and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) experience are all factors in the admission process.

### B. Shadowing and Observation

- See **Note 5**, above. Accruing patient interaction hours as an EMT beyond the required 20 may also strengthen your admission interview.
- To schedule a "ride-along" with paramedics, visit the Bloomington Hospital Student Placement Center web page, [www.bhstudents.org](http://www.bhstudents.org), and click on the "Shadowing" link.

### C. Volunteering and Other Professional Development

- Consider joining IC - EMS, IU's Collegiate Emergency Medical Service (formerly, IU - EMS), a student organization that, among other services, facilitates EMT volunteering at IU activities. You may join even prior to obtaining your EMT. New web site forthcoming; email [iuems@indiana.edu](mailto:iuems@indiana.edu) for information.
- While volunteering is not required, HPPLC advisors suggest that such experience is important to any college education. Accruing patient interaction hours as an EMT beyond the required 20 may also strengthen your admission interview. See **Section G, ADMISSION INTERVIEW**, on next page.

## **D. GPA**

- **Minimum cumulative GPA (CGPA):** Minimum of 2.3 required.
- **Math / Science GPA:** Not calculated separately.
- For **admission statistics**, including GPA information, refer to <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/how-to-apply/prior-year-statistics/>.

## **E. Admissions Test**

- EMT certification (sometimes called "EMT Basic") is required prior to admission to the program, including 20 documented hours of patient contact in an ambulance. Taking the courses listed in the chart and passing the certification exam will garner certification. For a list of other EMT training programs in Indiana, visit <https://oas.in.gov/hs/training/public/calendar.do>. Under "Categories," click the "EMS Training" link. The list is continually updated.

## **F. Application Information**

- **Deadlines:**
  - 1) All application materials are due **February 1<sup>st</sup> for Fall admission** and **October 1st for Spring admission**.
  - 2) IUB students must also submit an Intercampus Transfer (ICT) Application to IUPUI. ICT website: [www.iupui.edu/~moveiu](http://www.iupui.edu/~moveiu)
  - 3) Decisions are usually made in March for Fall admission and November for Spring admission.
  - 4) students applying for fall admission can still complete courses during freshman summer terms, or during sophomore fall term for admission during sophomore spring. (As part of the application, students submit a plan for how they will complete any remaining prerequisites prior to the start of the professional program.)
- **Where to Find the Application**

Got to <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/>, click on How to Apply / Application.
- **Second Chances (e.g., repeating courses)**

For *Academic Bankruptcy*, *Fresh Start*, and *Extended X* (repeat course) policy information, refer to <http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp>. Click on How to Apply / Admission Policies. The complete text of all three of these policies can be found in this section. Students must request the use of these policies at the time of application.
- **Residency / Non-Residency**

Preference is given to applicants who are Indiana residents and to applicants who complete the majority of applicable course work at a public college or university in Indiana. Each School of Medicine program's admissions committee determines how the preference policy shall be weighted in their admissions policies. (Note that since the Paramedic Science program generally admits all qualified candidates, this policy has not been an issue for prior paramedic applicants.)

## **G. Admission Interview**

- Interviews take place in early to mid November & March, and last approximately 30 minutes. The interview team is usually comprised of 2 - 4 interviewers, and includes the Program Director and various faculty members. Dress for success and conduct yourself with poise and confidence.
- Students are asked general questions about their goals and career intentions. The committee also poses hypothetical scenarios that may not have "right" answers, and students are asked to make decisions and justify their responses within the context of the hypothetical situation.
- If you have not heard from the program by November / March regarding an interview date, contact them. (See contact information at end of this document.)

## **H. Credit Hours Required Prior to Admission to Professional Program**

- 24 (but with prereqs at IUB, 25 – 26 (32 – 33 with IUB EMT). See **Page 3** for details.

## **I. Letters of Recommendation**

- (None required for the IU program.)

## **J. Personal Statement / Essay**

- (None required for the IU program.)

## **V. ADMISSION NOTES AND SUGGESTIONS**

- **<http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/> is an excellent source for program information.** Pay attention to the links on the left side of the web page.
- **Average Fall entering class size is 8-10 students. Classes in the spring have typically been smaller.** (Note that because paramedic science classes also include students enrolled in the hospital-based program, the total class size is larger than the size of the entering IU class.)
- **HPPLC advisors strongly recommend you talk with the director or advisor for the paramedic science program** regarding any unanswered questions you have about the program or admissions. It's also just good policy to keep in touch with the people who have a say in whether or not you are admitted. (See contact information below.)
- **We also recommend you visit each school / program** to which you intend to apply.

## **VI. CAREER INFORMATION**

- **Feel free to talk with the director or advisor for the program** regarding credentialing exams (which you take after you finish your degree).
- **According to the US Department of Labor / Bureau of Labor Statistics**
  - 1) "Employment of emergency medical technicians and paramedics is expected to grow much faster than the average for all occupations through 2016, as full-time paid EMTs and paramedics replace unpaid volunteers."
  - 2) "...Turnover is relatively high in this occupation because of the limited potential for advancement and the modest pay and benefits in private-sector jobs."
  - 3) In 2006, the "middle 50 percent earned between \$21,290 - \$35,210, while the "highest 10 percent earned more than \$45,280." (***But see higher JEMS statistics below.***)
  - 4) 2006 JEMS Paramedic Salary & Workplace Survey indicates higher levels than above: National Average EMT-Paramedic \$35,182 - \$51,537. Salary ranges in Indiana are: \$33,280 - \$49,444.
  - 5) Visit <http://stats.bls.gov/home.htm> & [www.bls.gov/search/oooh.asp?ct=OOH](http://www.bls.gov/search/oooh.asp?ct=OOH) & [www.bls.gov/oco/ocos101.htm](http://www.bls.gov/oco/ocos101.htm)

## **VII. PROGRAM CONTACT INFORMATION and OTHER RESOURCES**

### **Paramedic Sciences Program Director**

Leon Bell, MS, EMT-P

Wishard Memorial Hospital

Indiana University Medical Center

Paramedic Science Office

3930 Georgetown Rd

Indianapolis, Indiana 46254

Phone: (317) 630-7614

Cell: (317) 491-3630

Email: [lbell1@iupui.edu](mailto:lbell1@iupui.edu) or [leon.bell@wishard.edu](mailto:leon.bell@wishard.edu)

Paramedic Science Office Phone: (317) 630-7614

### **IU School of Medicine Health Professions Programs**

635 Barnhill Drive

Medical Science room 158

Indianapolis IN 46202

Phone: (317) 278-4752

Email: [askhpp@iupui.edu](mailto:askhpp@iupui.edu)

Web: School of Medicine Health Professions Programs

<http://medicine.iu.edu/hpp/> (refer to the links on the left)

### **Additional Resources:**

**National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians** (which includes paramedics)

<http://www.naemt.org/>

**Accredited EMS / Paramedic Programs** (partial listing)

[www.coaemsp.org/accreditedprograms.htm](http://www.coaemsp.org/accreditedprograms.htm)

**National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians**

[www.nremt.org/about/nremt\\_news.asp](http://www.nremt.org/about/nremt_news.asp)

**For a list of EMT training programs,** visit

<https://oas.in.gov/hs/training/public/calendar.do> . Under "Categories," click the "EMS Training" link. The list is continually updated.

**HPPLC web page** [www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu)

**Professional Development** is a critical part of any undergraduate degree. Visit the Professional Development section of the HPPLC home page for detailed suggestions.

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**The Health Professions and Prelaw Center encourages you to email our advisors** with questions. Feel free to e-mail an individual advisor; or, if you're not sure who to contact, send a message to [hpplc@indiana.edu](mailto:hpplc@indiana.edu).

**Visit the HPPLC web site to sign up for the email list of the health profession in which you're interested.** You will occasionally receive information, including notices about upcoming meetings and campus visits by admission representatives, information about our Health Programs Fair, professional development opportunities, and other items of interest ([www.hpplc.indiana.edu](http://www.hpplc.indiana.edu)).

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