

# LIFE SAVING. LIFE CHANGING.

Emergency Medical Services

## TEXAS EMS CAREER PATH

EMS offers career advancement and benefits. Start with certification as an emergency medical technician (EMT). From there, progress to an advanced EMT, paramedic, licensed paramedic and beyond. Ask about available scholarships to help cover education costs.

### Base Requirements

- 18+ years old
- High school diploma or GED
- Pass EMS certification exams in English

### Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

#### Education:

150-hour program (4 months)  
EMT National Registry Exam

### Advanced EMT (AEMT)

#### Education:

250-hour program (6 months)  
AEMT National Registry Exam

### Paramedic

#### Education:

1,000-hour program (12 months)  
Paramedic National Registry Exam

### Licensed Paramedic

Same requirements as a paramedic  
Plus, a 2-year EMS degree or a  
4-year degree in any field

Salary increases from an EMT to a paramedic can range from 33% - 70% depending on the level of certification.

## CERTIFICATION STEPS

- 1) **EDUCATION:** Complete a nationally accredited education program for your chosen level of EMS certification.
- 2) **EXAM:** Pass the National Registry Exam for that certification.
- 3) **APPLICATION:** Submit the Texas application for EMS Personnel Certification which requires a background check.
- 4) **CERTIFICATION:** Once approved, receive your Texas EMS certification in the mail in two weeks, or sooner online.

## OTHER CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

- EMS Instructor
- EMS Operator
- Health Care Provider
- Fire Rescue

EMS provides the necessary experience to advance into other careers.

Learn more at [EMS.Texas.gov](https://www.ems.texas.gov)

Education, certification and salary information is specific to Texas.



TEXAS  
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Texas Department of State  
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