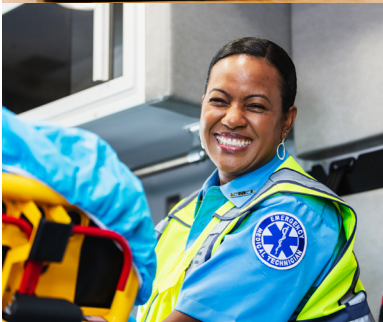




Workforce
Development Board
Contra Costa County

Community Fact Sheet



Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

The EMT program helps underserved populations start their career in healthcare by securing a nationally recognized license that guarantees them an entry level job with a local ambulance company.

What are the specifics of the program?

This program was developed in response to a need from a local ambulance company (AMR) to help their emergency services personnel better reflect the vibrant diversity of the communities they serve. Participants earn an in-demand nationally recognized license and a \$25 an hour job after only four months of training.

The EMT program offers fall and spring cohorts at both Contra Costa College and Mt. Diablo Adult Education, where participants receive free hands-on training, tutoring and exam preparation assistance. This includes CPR certification, ride-alongs with actual ambulance companies, as well as career counseling and mentoring from industry experts. Stipends and completion bonuses help participants make ends meet and stay fully engaged during training. Upon successful completion of the program, graduates earn their EMT license and are guaranteed an EMT job with American Medical Response (AMR). Direct job placement, comprehensive support and resources, as well as ensuring no out of pocket expenses have been critical to the program's high enrollment numbers, completion percentage and overall participant satisfaction.

Why is the program important?

Earning an in-demand national license like EMT means participants are in high demand. The license is automatically recognized anywhere by ambulance companies, hospitals and other health providers across the nation. Becoming an EMT is also a great way for individuals to gain entry into the healthcare field and get the exposure and experience needed to advance in their career with occupations such as paramedics, nurses and fire fighters.

The project has provided a consistent source of qualified talent for AMR and other local ambulance companies to reduce staffing shortages, which has helped improve emergency response times. EMT's are first responders, and this program was founded on the understanding that morale and health outcomes improve when emergency personnel are from the underserved communities they serve.

Who are the community partners for the program?

There are multiple community partners including the Bay Area Health Workforce Partnership that provides program development and guidance; training sites such as Contra Costa College and Mt Diablo Adult Education; and the employer partner, American Medical Response

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