
Paramedics and EMTs

Emergency Medical Technicians, Paramedics, and Emergency Medical Responders are all medical professionals who may be first on the scene when there's a medical emergency. They have different qualifications and the specific situations in which they can work and treat patients may vary. Emergency medical responders can perform basic functions but do not transport patients. EMTs require somewhat more training and often staff ambulances. Paramedics require more training and can perform more complex medical procedures such as inserting IV lines. Each is a certification and a clear area of qualification, but only Paramedics and EMTs are separately defined as occupations in the ONET taxonomy.

Trends

The number of states that separately license Advanced Emergency Medical Technicians (AEMT) seems to be increasing.

Common Qualifications

Most states require a specific training program or nationally recognized certification (or both) as part of their licensure requirements. Experience and credit hours are often clearly defined.

Examples of License Titles

These are commonly licensed occupations. In the national occupational license database, there are 120 licenses that are clearly associated with Paramedics, EMRs, and/or EMTs, representing 46 states and territories. Most have multiple licenses, with an average of 2.6 distinct licenses per state.

Most common license titles:

- Paramedic
- Emergency Medical Technician
- EMT
- Emergency Medical Responder

Outlier license title examples:

- Certified First Responder
- Community Paramedic
- Emergency Medical Care Technician (EMCT)
- EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN - ADVANCED (EMT-A)
- Emergency Medical Technician - Critical Care (AEMT-CC)
- EMT, BASIC INTRAVENOUS
- Medical Examiners - Paramedic
- SECURITY - PARAMEDIC/EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN - OFFICER

Examples of License Boards

Typically licenses are issued by a Board with a specific Emergency Medical focus, but often rolled in with public health or the state medical board. Sometimes the board is in with Public Safety or broader emergency services.

Most common board titles:

Office of Emergency Medical Services
Emergency Medical Services Licensing

Outlier board title examples:

Licenses associated with a more specific industry (such as gaming or mining) might be regulated by that board.

ONET codes

For the most part, licensure is clearly associated with EMTs or Paramedics. Sometimes a license will cover both and should be assigned to both occupation codes, and sometimes licenses are more specific (Advanced EMT, EMT, BASIC INTRAVENOUS) and multiple licenses within the same state will be coded to each occupation. Emergency Medical Responders should be coded to 29-2042.00.

29-2042.00 Emergency Medical Technicians

Assess injuries and illnesses and administer basic emergency medical care. May transport injured or sick persons to medical facilities.

Sample of reported job titles: Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), First Responder

29-2043.00 Paramedics

Administer basic or advanced emergency medical care and assess injuries and illnesses. May administer medication intravenously, use equipment such as EKGs, or administer advanced life support to sick or injured individuals.

Sample of reported job titles: First Responder, Flight Paramedic

Related Occupations

When searching for licenses related to emergency medical services, a number of related licenses come up. Some are other occupations that work alongside EMTs and Paramedics, such as

Ambulance Dispatcher
Ambulance Provider
EMT instructor

Other licenses in which it is mentioned are usually other occupations that require certain minimal training in emergency care. These may be more focused on CPR certification or have other first aid requirements. In these cases, the assigned occupation should be the primary occupation even if there's mention of additional medical knowledge.

Sports coaches and schools/teachers
EpiPen allergy injections, cardiac rescue
Mining
Casino Security

Associated Certifications

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

<https://www.nremt.org/AEMT/Certification>

Emergency Medical Responder

<https://www.nremt.org/EMR/Certification>

Emergency Medical Technician

<https://www.nremt.org/EMT/Certification>

Nationally Registered Paramedic

<https://www.nremt.org/Paramedic/Certification>

AED Certification

<https://www.redcross.org/take-a-class/aed>

Vascular Access-Board Certified

<https://www.vacert.org/about-the-exam/>

Diver Medic Technician

<https://nbdhmt.org/diver-medic-technician-training-and-certification/>

Tactical Responder Certification

<https://www.ibscertifications.org/certifications>

Tactical Paramedic Certification

<https://www.ibscertifications.org/certifications>

Flight Paramedic Certification

<https://www.ibscertifications.org/certifications>

Critical Care Paramedics Certification

<https://www.ibscertifications.org/exam/exam-requirements>

Community Paramedic Certification

<https://www.ibscertifications.org/roles/community-paramedic>