

CCEMS Paramedic Explorers' Program

Discover the CCEMS Paramedic Explorers Program: Launch Your Future in Emergency Medicine!

The CCEMS Paramedic Explorer program is a great way for students to gain firsthand experience in the medical field. It provides high school students with valuable knowledge and skills related to emergency medical care.

❖ Program Goals: Build Skills, Ignite Careers, Serve the Community

- **Education and Training:** Provide participants with comprehensive knowledge about Emergency Medical Services including first aid, CPR, and basic life support techniques.
- **Career Exploration:** Allow young people to explore careers in the medical field, particularly in Emergency Medical Services, by offering hands-on experiences and mentorship from professionals.
- **Skill Development:** Develop important skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, teamwork, and communication, which are essential in emergency situations.
- **Community Service:** Encourage participants to give back to their community by participating in public service activities and emergency response efforts.
- **Leadership and Responsibility:** Develop leadership qualities and a sense of responsibility through structured activities and real-life emergency scenarios.

❖ Topics and Certifications

- What EMS Does- 911 Calls, Specialized Teams, etc.
- Communication Skills
- Ethics and Professional Behavior
- Ambulance and Equipment Operations
- CPR/AED/First Aid Certification
- Stop The Bleed Certification
- Patient Assessment Skills
- Advanced Skills (IO, Airway, Medication Administration)
- Patient Movement
- Life Skills and More!

❖ **Participant Requirements**

- 14-18 years old
- High school student or rising freshman
- Maintain at least a B average in all classes
 - Report cards will be turned into the program coordinator each quarter.
- 15 service hours will be required. Service hours will be submitted to the program coordinator.
-

❖ **Program Schedule**

- Monthly meetings will be held on the 2nd Monday of each month from 7pm-9pm unless otherwise stated. Explorers are expected to be ready to go at start time.
 - Meeting will be held at the Catawba County Emergency Services building at 100 Government Drive, Newton, NC
 - If the meeting is to be held at a different location participants will be notified via email.
- If you are unable to be at a meeting, you are expected to notify the program coordinator ahead of time and have an acceptable reason for missing. Early dismissals will not be permitted without parental permission. The parent may contact the program coordinator via phone or email. Explorers will not leave the premises until dismissed.
- To maintain eligibility for the program, you must be present for 80% of the activities. This will require some time management on your part, but it is manageable.

❖ **Application Process**

- The application period will be open 1 time per year following the beginning of a new school year.
- Completed applications will be turned into the program coordinator.
- A short essay will be included about why they are interested in the program. Things to include may be any personal experiences with EMS and future education and career goals.
- 3 recommendations should be included in the application. Recommendations can be mailed or emailed but should include contact information.

❖ **CCEMS Paramedic Explorers Expectations**

- Explorers are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly, professional, and disciplined manner during all functions.
- Portray a positive image of yourself and Catawba County EMS.
- Explorers must follow the direction of EMS staff. This is to always ensure safety.

- Maintain at least a B average in all classes (Report cards will be turned into program coordinator each quarter.)
- 15 service hours will be required. Service hours will be approved by and submitted to the program coordinator.
- Be an active participant in all activities.
- Bring ideas to the group!

❖ **EMS Staff Expectations**

- EMS staff are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly, professional, and disciplined manner during all functions.
- We must have at least 2 EMS employees at all meetings.
- There are to be no one-on-one times between EMS employee and student. This is to protect all parties as well as the integrity of the program.
- EMS employees will be asked to commit to the meetings/events they sign up for. We all have different specialties and strengths, and we will use those to make the program great!
- Personal texting between a participant and an EMS staff member is inappropriate.

❖ **Termination From the Program**

- Explorers can be dismissed from the program at any time for any reason. Some examples of reasons to immediately dismiss include (but are not limited to): failure to maintain a B average, discipline issues at school or at home, being charged with a crime, any social media post that reflects badly on the CCEMS Paramedic Explorers program or Catawba County EMS.
- While professional connections are encouraged, no personal relationships between Explorer and staff will be permitted. This will result in immediate dismissal of both from the program.

Operations

The CCEMS Paramedic Explorers program will run much like an EMS shift. Explorers will have the opportunity to earn positions within the program. Explorers interested in holding a leadership position may submit a letter of interest to the program coordinator between October 1st and November 1st annually. These positions will then be appointed by the EMS staff.

- **Shift Supervisor**-1 position (1 year + experience in the program)
Responsible for assisting in leading the program in conjunction with the program advisors. In addition, will be responsible for leading the assigned Crew Chiefs and ensuring all required tasks are completed. The Shift Supervisor will also have the responsibility to disseminate information about upcoming events, meetings and tasks to

the Crew Chiefs. The Shift Supervisor will lead by example and be a role model to all explorer members.

- **Crew Chiefs**-2 positions (8 months + experience in the program)
Responsible for leading their assigned crew by communicating upcoming events, meetings and tasks. The Crew Chief will be the “first-line” supervisor for their assigned group. Crew Chiefs will also be responsible for greeting and being the role model for new and current explorers.
- **Logistics Technician**-1 position (6 months + experience in the program)
Responsible for ensuring equipment, tools, and supplies are well-kept, clean, and maintained. Also, the logistics technician will be responsible to record supplies use, quantity and requests for additional supplies. The logistics technician will assist the advisors with gathering equipment for training, events and for the program.

Uniforms

- CCEMS will issue one shirt to each Explorer. Explorers will be required to purchase black or navy uniform pants, black closed toe shoes or boots, and a black or navy belt.
- Explorers will wear their uniforms to designated events.
- Meeting night attire should conform to the school dress code. Keep in mind that you will be moving around doing skills so dress accordingly.
- Misuse of uniform can result in immediate dismissal.

❖ Program Coordinator
Melanie Sigmon
Community Engagement Specialist
melaniesigmon@catawbacountync.gov
(828) 464-1575