

EMS Program Essential Functions

The Alabama College System endorses the Americans' with Disabilities Act. In accordance with Southern Union State Community College Policy, when requested, reasonable accommodations may be provided for individuals with disabilities. The essential functions below are necessary for EMS program admission, progression and graduation and for the provision of safe and effective pre-hospital care. The essential functions include but are not limited to the ability to:

- 1) Cognitive and critical thinking abilities
 - a) Comprehend new knowledge and apply it in EMS practice
 - b) Analyze situations and identify cause-effect relationships
 - c) Be attentive to detail and be aware of standards and rules that govern practice and implement therapies based upon mathematical calculations (9th grade level or higher)
 - d) Possess sufficient emotional stability to be able to perform duties in life or death situations and in potentially dangerous social situations, including responding to calls in districts known to have high crime rates
 - e) Operate a computer after an orientation
- 2) Interpersonal abilities
 - a) Establish rapport with individuals
 - b) Interchange ideas in a group
 - c) Perceive emotions displayed by others
 - d) Convey sensitivity, respect, tact, and a mentally healthy attitude in interpersonal relationships
- 3) Communications
 - a) Must be able to read and understand written instructions
 - b) Must have sufficient English language abilities to understand printed materials; lectures; instructional, medical or other directives; and patient questions and/or responses
 - c) Appropriately use the terminology of the profession in verbal and written communications
 - d) Interpret feedback or messages
 - e) Be able to send and understand messages with the use of communications equipment of current technology
- 4) Physical mobility
 - a) You must have the physical agility to walk, climb, crawl, bend, push, pull, lift, and balance over less than ideal terrain
 - b) Must have good physical stamina and endurance, measured by the ability to undertake, without adverse effects, lifting, carrying, and balancing loads in excess of 125 pounds or 250 pounds with assistance
 - c) Able to manipulate small objects to insert one into another, such as threading a needle.
 - d) Must have the ability to see different color spectrums
 - e) Your eyesight must be correctable to 20/20 in at least one eye and be able to determine directions according to a map. Students who desire to drive an ambulance must possess approximately 180 degree peripheral vision capacity and must possess a valid drivers license, and must be able to safely and competently operate a motor vehicle in accordance with state law
 - f) You must have good eye-hand coordination and sufficient manual dexterity to manipulate equipment, instrumentation and medications
 - g) You must be able to differentiate between normal and abnormal findings in human physical conditions by using visual, auditory, olfactory and tactile observations
 - h) Be able to make good judgment decisions and exhibit problem-solving skills under stressful situations
 - i) Be able to handle stress and work well as part of a team
 - j) Be oriented to reality and not mentally impaired by mind-altering substances
 - k) Not be addicted to drugs
 - l) Be able to work shift of 24 hours in length

- m) Be able to tolerate being exposed to extremes in the environment including variable aspects of weather, hazardous fumes, and noise

The above examples of criteria are not intended as a complete listing of EMS practice behaviors, but are a sampling of the types of abilities needed by the EMS student to meet program objectives and requirements. The EMS Department or its affiliated agencies may identify additional critical behaviors or abilities needed by students to meet program or agency requirements. The EMS Department reserves the right to amend this listing based on the identification of additional standards or criteria for EMS students

An individual who discloses a disability may request reasonable accommodations. Individuals will be asked to provide documentation of the disability in order to assist with the provision of appropriate reasonable accommodations. To request accommodations, students with disabilities should provide documentation of the disability to the College ADA Coordinator. The documentation should address the specific accommodation and should be dated within three years of the enrollment date. Once the documentation is filed with the College ADA Coordinator, the student's instructors will be notified of the requested accommodation. Students should update their information with the College ADA Coordinator by the courses for which they are seeking accommodations each semester.

Student Verification	
Read the declarations below and sign only one option. <i>If you are unable to fully meet any criterion, you will need to direct your request to the College ADA Coordinator.</i>	
<p>_____ I have reviewed the Essential Functions for this program and I certify that to the best of my knowledge I currently have the ability to fully perform these functions. I understand that further evaluation of my ability may be required and conducted by the EMS faculty if deemed necessary to evaluate my ability prior to admission to the program and for retention and progression through the program.</p>	
<p>_____ I have read the Essential Functions for this program and I currently am unable to fully meet the items indicated without accommodations. I am requesting the following reasonable accommodations: Attach additional sheet</p>	
Student Signature _____	Date _____
Printed Name _____	Student ID _____

MEDICAL VERIFICATION	
Is this person's mental and physical health sufficient to perform the classroom and clinical duties of an EMS student?	
YES ___ NO ___ If no, please explain (use additional sheet if needed)	
MD/NP/PA Signature _____	Date _____
Printed Name _____	