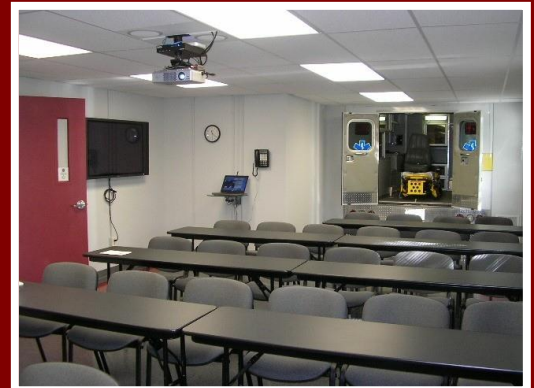
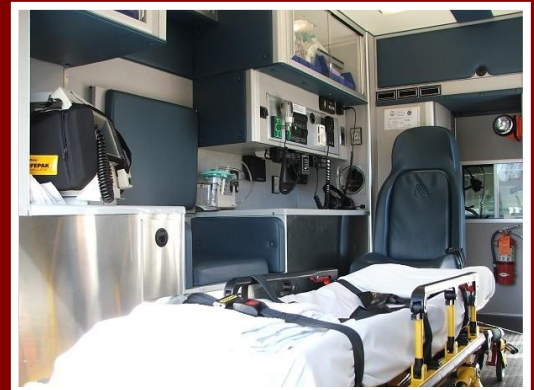


RAPPAHANNOCK EMS COUNCIL

REGIONAL TRAINING AND SIMULATION CENTER



ALS
CERTIFICATION
PROGRAMS
INFORMATION



National Registry of
Emergency Medical Technicians®
THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™

Dear Prospective ALS Student:

Thank you for your interest in an ALS Certification Program at the Rappahannock EMS Council (REMS). Upon completion of the Intermediate or Paramedic Bridge Program, you will be eligible to take the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technician's Examination and then obtain Virginia reciprocity as an Intermediate or Paramedic.

Due to the limited number of Accredited Programs offering ALS level courses in our Region, applications for the program are high in number. Enrollment in our program is limited and admission is competitive. Applications are accepted on a first come, first served basis as outlined under the approved registration policies included in the student packet.

Current Enhanced providers wishing to upgrade to Intermediate are required to complete the same registration steps as EMT-Basics. The Intermediate and Enhanced-Intermediate Bridge run the same time, with limited optional dates for current Enhanced providers. Enhanced providers are still responsible for all of the information and will still be tested on the material covered on optional days, attendance at all of the classes is highly recommended.

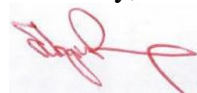
Current EMT-B providers that have a current and unrestricted license as a registered nurse (RN) are required to complete the same registration steps as EMT-Intermediates applying for the paramedic bridge program. The Paramedic bridge and RN to Paramedic bridge run at the same time, and the RN to paramedic bridge program will require approximately 300 hours of training.

REMS is an accredited paramedic training facility through the Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services. As such, it meets the requirements for students to be eligible for testing through the National Registry of EMT's at the Intermediate or Paramedic level. Beginning in 2013 Virginia accreditation was replaced with National Accreditation through CoAEMSP. REMS is committed to high standards and training excellence, which are reflected by our outstanding NREMT scores and partnership with the Virginia Community College System. Our ALS Certification Program classes are offered as a component of an EMS Degree program and provides for an Associate's degree in Applied Science through Germanna Community College.

The Intermediate and Paramedic program consists of classroom, labs, clinical, and field hours. Both programs are very time consuming and students must make a commitment to make the program a priority in their lives in order to be successful. Students not able to commit fully to the program should apply at a later date. Significant time beyond regularly scheduled weekly classes will be required to complete homework, prepare for class, and to study or practice required skills.

This packet is designed to assist to better understand the programs. It is imperative that you follow the registration procedures for the specific course you will be taking. Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,



E. Wayne Perry, Program Director
WPerry@vaems.org

Program Information

Rappahannock EMS Council's ALS Certification Programs teach from current State and National education standards and are designed to prepare students as competent and prepared advanced life support providers and practitioners. The ALS Certification Program curriculum is developed based on national standards and as such, students will be expected to learn skills, procedures, and therapies that are within that scope of practice across the country. The Virginia OEMS gap analysis and comparison with former Department of Transportation guidelines have resulted in a training-minimum and practice-maximum matrix. Students need to recognize that though they will be trained and capable, their individual practice authorizations will come from the approved scope of practice for the agency where they operate as approved by the appropriate operational medical director.

The REMS Intermediate and Paramedic Bridge Programs offer a rigorous collaboration of didactic and lab training during the classroom portion of training. This prepares the student to demonstrate competency in a variety of skills and practical situations. Once competency is demonstrated the students will move on to the clinical setting where they will complete various clinical rotations in the hospital environment and also perform a field internship in the actual EMS environment. The student will use these clinical experiences to obtain required patient contacts and demonstrate competencies and assessments to the satisfaction of a preceptor. Documentation of these patient encounters will be made and then submitted to the REMS council for review and approval by the program director and the course medical director. A passing grade, along with approval/acceptance of patient contacts, is required for successful completion of this portion of training.

In addition to intensive classroom training, practical skills verifications, and clinical exposures in the hospital and field setting, students will also learn how to utilize critical thinking skills and demonstrate their ability for team collaboration and leadership while participating in life-like simulation scenarios in the REMS Simulation and Training Center. The REMS Council maintains several training labs that utilize interactive simulation manikins to provide students with realistic training and hands-on opportunities for advanced invasive procedures. Audio and video recording during scenarios permits the instructors to debrief and review scenarios with students while offering an opportunity for self-reflection and review.

Upon successful completion of all components of the program, the student documentation will be reviewed by the course medical director to determine if they are eligible to begin the NREMT testing process. Detailed information is available on the National Registry of EMT's website at nremt.org and applicants are encouraged to review the testing, certification, and re-certification requirements for registry. During initial certification, once validation has been made of successful completion of an accredited training program, students will be required to demonstrate an appropriate knowledge level during a computerized written examination as well as psychomotor skill competency during a series of practical lab scenarios in order to obtain National Registry Certification as an Intermediate or Paramedic.

COURSE INFORMATION:

The **Intermediate** program consists of 304 hours of didactic training and 130 hours of clinical rotations and field internship. The **Paramedic Bridge** program consists of 441 hours didactic training and 118 hours of clinical rotations and field internship. Both the intermediate and paramedic bridge programs will be accomplished over the course of two (2) consecutive semesters.

The **RN to Paramedic Bridge Program** consists of 150 hours of didactic training, 150 hours of clinical rotations and field internship. The RN to Paramedic Bridge Program will be accomplished over the course of two (2) consecutive semesters.

The **FULL** Paramedic Program consists of 870 hours of didactic training and 248 hours of clinical rotations and field internship. The **FULL Paramedic** program will be accomplished over the course of five (5) consecutive semesters.

The Clinical and Field Internship requirements will be completed outside of the scheduled classroom hours on the student's own time and the hours listed are simply the minimum hours required. Clinicals and fields must be completed in accordance with the guidelines in the student manual and details will be given at the appropriate points during the course. Depending on call volume and patients encountered it is very likely that students will need to continue beyond the minimum quantity of hours to meet the program requirements.

Near the end of the course when students are preparing for National Registry testing they will undergo a simulated National Registry practical testing situation. This "mock" registry testing will replicate the environment and expectations the student will encounter during National Registry testing and is designed to prepare the student for National Registry. Successful completion of REMS mock registry testing is a capstone requirement for course completion and eligibility for National Registry testing approval.

There are strict attendance requirements based on the Office of EMS Regulations for initial certification courses. It is important that students have support from their families and employers to ensure successful completion of the program. Any student that fails to complete the entire program, or fails to attend sufficient portions of the program will **NOT BE ELIGIBLE** for National Registry Testing.

CLASS LOCATION:

All didactic classes, with rare exception, will be held at the Council Training and Simulation Center, located at 435 Hunter Street, Fredericksburg, Virginia 22401.

All clinical rotations will be accomplished in a hospital or facility with which REMS holds an affiliation agreement. Examples of such facilities include Mary Washington Healthcare, Fauquier Hospital, Riverside Tappahannock Hospital, and Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center. A complete list of available facilities will be provided to the students during the course.

All field internship rotations will be accomplished at an agency with which REMS holds an affiliation agreement. Examples of such agencies include Dale City Fire Department, Spotsylvania Volunteer Rescue Squad, Mountain View Rescue Squad, Fairfax County Fire/Rescue, and Sperryville Rescue Squad. A complete active list of available agencies will be provided to the students during the course.

COURSE COORDINATOR:

Wayne Perry is the REMS Program Director for the ALS Certification Programs. The program director is the course coordinator and will work in collaboration with the Course Medical Director, Dr. N. Hasan to administer the ALS Certification Programs.

COURSE MATERIALS:

Required textbooks for the course are outlined in the specific class syllabus. Optional supporting texts and study materials include associated workbooks, and appropriate reference materials on EKG's, EMS documentation, and pharmacology. The course coordinator can assist with recommendations as needed.

A FISDAP account is also required for scheduling of clinical and field rotations. FISDAP is also used for logging patient contacts during field and clinical rotations. FISDAP skills tracker and scheduler costs are also included in the REMS Council's course fee.

UNIFORM:

Students are required to wear a REMS ALS Certification Program student uniform to each class, clinical rotation, and field internship rotation. Students will purchase shirts through the REMS council and are responsible for providing black boots, navy blue EMS pants, and a belt. The approximate cost the uniform is approximately \$35.00 depending on size and quantity the student prefers. This money is due on the first day of class when the uniforms will be issued if not already paid.

APPLICATION:

- Applications are processed as first come, first served. A student is considered to have applied for the program once a complete application packet is received by REMS. Class size for all courses is limited to 24 students
- Once 24 students are registered and approved for each course, any additional applicants will be placed on a waiting list. A decision to accept students from the waiting list will be made at the application deadline based on incomplete applications.
- Becoming an ALS provider signifies not only an important commitment to the patients in the areas where you serve, but also an important commitment to the training and education required to be competent in providing prompt, accurate, and appropriate emergency care in the pre-hospital setting.
- You should reflect seriously on the time commitment required to complete this training. It is much more than simply showing up to class a few times a week. Please use the following chart to help guide you in your decision. We encourage you to speak with REMS staff regarding any questions you have about expectations of ALS program students.

1	Hours in one week	168
2	Subtract how many hours you work in one week. (Average is 40 hours per week)	
3	Subtract how many hours you sleep in one week. (Average is eight hours per day)	
4	Subtract how many hours of class time per week. (This does not include any weekend classes required during the course)	8
5	Subtract how many hours of study time per week. (Average time is one hour of study per week for every hour of class time ++)	8
6	Subtract how many hours of clinical (hospital) time per week. (You must complete an average of eight hours clinical time per week ##)	6
7	Subtract how many hours of ride (ambulance) time per week. (You must complete an average of twelve hours ride time per week @@)	6
8	TOTAL TIME LEFT	
9	Divide your TOTAL TIME LEFT by 7; This is your time available each day for the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Hygiene ▪ Drive time to and from work ▪ Drive time to and from day care (if applicable) ▪ Drive time to and from class ▪ Meals ▪ Family time (vacation, children's sports, school functions, church, etc.) ▪ Personal time (vacation, sports, errands, chores, shopping, church, etc.) 	

++ Study time includes reading, studying for quizzes/test, practicing skills at home and completing homework.

A minimum of hours must be completed in the clinical (hospital) setting. It is **very rare** (if not improbable) that anyone completes all of the required competencies and patient assessments in these MINIMUM REQUIRED hours.

@@ The amount of ride (ambulance) time you will need is dependent on number of calls run by the agency you ride with. Many, if not all, of you will need to ride at agencies with higher call volumes in addition to the EMS agency you are currently a member with.

Registration Procedures

Pre-requisites:

1. Must be proficient in reading, writing, and speaking the English language.
2. Must have no physical or mental impairment that would render the student unable to perform ALL practical skills required for certification.
3. Must not have been convicted of or found guilty of any crime, offense, or regulatory violation, or participated in any other prohibited conduct as identified in Virginia OEMS regulations. The REMS Council will perform a criminal background check.
4. Must be neat and clean in appearance.
5. Must be 18 years of age at the first day of class.
6. High school graduate or equivalent (GED).
7. Must hold current CPR certification (must remain current throughout ALS training).
8. Must hold a current certification as an EMT-Basic or higher and the certification must remain current until successful completion of National Registry Testing.
For Intermediate class, students must hold current Virginia EMT-B or EMT-E
For Paramedic Bridge class students must hold current Virginia EMT-I
9. Successful completion of both the Germanna Community College English and Math placement tests prior to the REMS ALS Pre-Test for Intermediate applicants or REMS Paramedic Pre-Test for Paramedic Bridge applicants.
 - a. Germanna Community College point of contact for placement testing questions: Marie Hawley, (540) 834-1051; mhawley@germanna.edu
 - b. The REMS ALS Pre-Test and the Paramedic Pre-Test will be offered several times at the REMS Council in addition to any already scheduled at CTS. Contact the REMS Council with questions.

FEES (subject to change):

- | | |
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| ▪ Intermediate Certification Program (must be current EMT-B) | \$2350.00 |
| ▪ Enhanced to Intermediate Bridge Program (must be current EMT-E) | \$2350.00 |
| ▪ Intermediate to Paramedic Bridge Program (must be current EMT-I) | \$2850.00 |
| ▪ RN to Paramedic Bridge Program (must be current RN AND EMT-B) | \$1850.00 |
| ▪ FULL Paramedic Program (requires no current EMS certification) | \$5500.00 |

Course fees above include all lab fees, cadaver lab supplies, technology fees, and classroom materials (including books and study guides). The only additional cost will be approximately \$35 for uniform – depending on size and quantity the student chooses. All fees must be paid in accordance with one of the two options listed below. Students requesting hardship consideration need to contact the REMS Council promptly to apply for a waiver. **Fees are non-refundable and non-transferable once class begins, see cancellation policy for details.**

1. Self Pay: Providers wishing to pay for the course personally must pay at least 50% of the fee when applying to hold their slot. The balance is due by the start of class –If the bal-

ance is not paid by the deadline, the student will be dropped from the course and the application fee is forfeited.

2. Agency Invoicing: This option is only available to REMS agencies in good standing with Agency Invoicing. The agency must pay the balance in full by the start date of the program –. If the balance is not paid by the deadline, the student may be dropped from the course. The form must be signed by the Rescue Chief or the President. **Agencies are responsible for outstanding invoices even if the provider withdraws after the deadline date.**

ACCEPTED STUDENTS:

- Must purchase uniform shirts. REMS Student Polo's are required for all class sessions, as well as all clinical and field rotations. Students must wear REMS Student Polo to every classroom session.
- Must show proof of liability insurance either personally or through their agency. Students who do not have liability insurance will be eligible to sign up through REMS for liability insurance.
- Clinical Pre-Requisites: By the deadline of the end of Week 4 of class, students must show proof of:
 - Rubeola/rubella/varicella titer indicating immunity (documentation of two MMR's may replace rubeola/rubella titer, but not the varicella titer. Documentation of having chicken pox from healthcare professional may replace the varicella titer)
 - Influenza immunization
 - Hepatitis B immunizations or signed Letter of Declination
 - Negative TB test (must be completed annually)
 - Negative 10 panel urine drug screen (must be within 6 months of start date of clinical rotations, or 30 days within start date of rotations at Culpeper Hospital)