

## Emergency Medical Technician Course Introduction and Fast Facts

- The Emergency Medical Technician course is an intensive college level program comprised of cognitive and psychomotor learning
- EMS is not what is portrayed on many television programs. Most EMS calls are routine and mundane. However, the “hot jobs” do occur from time to time.
- As an EMT you will be exposed to the best and worst of humanity as well as human biology. This is not a profession for everyone.
- The benefits of becoming an EMT and working in EMS
  - Giving back to your community
  - Helping others in what may be the worst moment(s) of their life
  - Steppingstone for future careers
  - Build inner strength
  - Inclusion in the first responder family
- The struggles of being an EMT and working in EMS
  - Childbirth (and sometimes death)
  - Death and Dying (everyone dies. When and how we die is the question)
  - Blood, vomit, urine, feces, and other bodily fluids
  - Nudity is a fact. You will likely see it.
  - You may be called upon to treat friends, family, co-workers, colleagues etc.
  - Violence towards others happens
  - You will be required to touch and interact with strangers
  - You may see the aftermath of heinous criminal acts.
- The risks and dangers of being an EMT and working in EMS
  - Violence towards EMS and other first responders
  - On the job injuries
    - Lifting and moving
    - Motor vehicle accidents
    - Exposure to bodily fluids and hazardous materials
    - HIPPA violations
    - Legal implications
      - Mandated reporting, abandonment; negligence etc.

This information is not meant to scare or deter anyone from taking this course or working in EMS. Rather is designed to give an honest understanding of what it means to work in Emergency Medical Services and prevent the “I never thought it would be like this” feeling.