EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) 1  
ACTIVITY/COURSE CODE: 5531

Course Description:

This course is the first in a sequence of courses. Emergency Medical Services 1 is designed to teach students how to recognize and respond to various emergencies. Students will review basic anatomy and physiology as it relates to injury management and treatment. Students will review basic information needed for all phases of a healthcare professional. Information that students are exposed to will include legal and ethical implications, communications, safety, infection control and professionalism. In this course students will learn what skills are necessary to recognize and care for emergencies in adults, children, and infants until professional medical help arrives. Students will obtain FA/CPR/AED certification. Students will be required to perform light physical activity.

General Requirements:

This course is recommended for students in grades 10-12.

Prerequisite(s):

Successful completion of one of the following:  
Health Science 1 or Sports Medicine 1;  

and

Successful completion of one of the following:  
Anatomy and Physiology or Health Science 3;  

and/or teacher recommendation.

Units: 1 or 2 units
Foundation Standard 1: Academic Foundation

Healthcare professionals will know the academic subject matter required for proficiency within their area. They will use this knowledge as needed in their role. The following accountability criteria are considered essential for students in a health science program of study.

1. Identify and understand the basic structural and functional organization of the human body (tissue, organ, and system).
2. Recognize body planes, directional terms, quadrants, and cavities.
3. Describe common diseases and disorders of each body system (prevention, pathology, diagnosis, and treatment).
4. Recognize emerging diseases and disorders.
5. Recognize life-threatening bleeding, and demonstrate how to control it.
6. Recognize the signs and symptoms of shock, and describe how to minimize its effects.
7. Recognize other acute emergencies as they relate to the cardiovascular system.
8. Recognize the signs and symptoms of various soft tissue injuries and demonstrate how to care for them.
9. Understand the process of breathing and the diseases/abnormal conditions that affect the respiratory system.
10. Recognize and treat acute emergencies of the respiratory system.
11. Understand the dynamics of various types of trauma and how to recognize and treat resultant injuries.
12. Discuss common mechanisms of injury/nature of illness.
13. Analyze diagrams, charts, graphs, and tables to interpret healthcare results.
14. Apply mathematical computations related to healthcare procedures (metric and household, conversions and measurements).
15. Record time using the 24-hour clock.

Foundation Standard 2: Communications

Healthcare professionals will know the various methods of giving and obtaining information. They will communicate effectively, both orally and in writing.

1. Construct and define basic medical terminology suffixes, prefixes, roots, and abbreviations.
2. Communicate in an understandable and accurate manner.
3. Interpret verbal and nonverbal communication.
4. Recognize barriers to communication.
5. Report subjective and objective information.
6. Recognize the elements of communication using a sender-receiver model.
7. Apply speaking and active listening skills.
8. Use roots, prefixes, and suffixes to communicate information.
9. Use medical abbreviations to communicate information.
10. Recognize elements of written and electronic communication (spelling, grammar, and formatting).
11. Apply procedures for accurate documentation and record keeping.
12. Modify communication to meet the needs of the patient/client and to be appropriate to the situation.

**Foundation Standard 3: Systems**
Healthcare professionals will understand how their role fits into their department, their organization and the overall healthcare environment. They will identify how key systems affect services they perform and quality of care.

1. Define emergency medical services (EMS) systems.
2. Differentiate the roles and responsibilities of EMS professionals from other healthcare professionals.
3. Define quality improvement, and discuss the EMS professional’s role in the process.
4. Define medical direction, and discuss the EMS professional’s role in the process.
5. Characterize the various methods used to access the EMS system in your community.

**Foundation Standard 4: Employability Skills**
Healthcare professionals will understand how employability skills enhance their employment opportunities and job satisfaction. They will demonstrate key employability skills and will maintain and upgrade skills, as needed.

1. Classify the personal traits and attitudes desirable in a member of the healthcare team.
2. Summarize professional standards as they apply to hygiene, dress, language, confidentiality and behavior.
3. Apply employability skills in healthcare (attendance policy, time management).
4. Observe and participate in service learning/work-based learning (virtual, guest speakers, etc.) and HOSA activities.
5. Discuss careers within the EMS pathway and how they articulate with other health care careers.
6. Discuss levels of education, credentialing requirements, and employment trends in health care.

**Foundation Standard 5: Legal Responsibilities**
Healthcare professionals will understand the legal responsibilities, limitations, and implications of their actions within the healthcare delivery setting. They will perform their duties according to regulations, policies, laws and legislated rights of clients.
1. Define terms and standards related to legal responsibilities.
2. Define the EMS professional’s scope of practice.
3. Discuss advance directives and local or state provisions regarding EMS application.
4. Define types of consent.
5. Discuss the methods of obtaining consent.
6. Discuss the issues of abandonment, negligence, battery, harassment, and their implications for the EMS professionals.
7. Explain the importance, necessity, and legality of patient confidentiality (e.g., Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act [HIPAA], Family Education Rights and Privacy Act [FERPA], and Patient’s Bill of Rights).
8. Differentiate the actions and responsibilities of EMS professionals when interacting with law enforcement.
9. Identify forms of unsafe or hostile work environments.

**Foundation Standard 6: Ethics**

Healthcare professionals will understand accepted ethical practices with respect to cultural, social, and ethnic differences within the healthcare environment. They will perform quality healthcare delivery.

1. Define basic terms and standards related to ethical practices.
2. Identify code of ethics.
3. Differentiate between ethics and morals.
4. Differentiate between ethical and legal issues impacting healthcare.
5. Recognize ethical issues and their implications related to healthcare.
6. Apply procedures for reporting activities and behaviors that affect the health, safety, and welfare of others.
7. Understand cultural diversity as it impacts healthcare.
9. Evaluate the cultural use of verbal and nonverbal language in a variety of healthcare scenarios.

**Foundation Standard 7: Safety Practices**

Healthcare professionals will understand the existing and potential hazards to clients, co-workers, and self. They will prevent injury or illness through safe work practices and follow health and safety policies and procedures.

1. Discuss the principles of infection control, personal protective equipment (PPE), and body substance isolation (BSI).
2. Apply principles of body mechanics.
3. Apply safety techniques in the work environment.
4. Recognize basic safety labels and placards such as Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) (biohazards, poisons, etc.).
5. Understand implications of hazardous materials.
6. Describe fire safety in a healthcare setting.
7. Discuss principles of basic emergency response in natural disasters and other emergencies.
8. Determine scene safety based on the type of patient call, personnel, bystanders, environmental surroundings, etc.
9. Describe when and how to move a victim in an emergency situation.

**Foundation Standard 8: Teamwork**
Healthcare professionals will understand the roles and responsibilities of individual members as part of the healthcare team, including their ability to promote the delivery of quality healthcare. They will interact effectively and sensitively with all members of the healthcare team.

1. Understand roles and responsibilities of team members.
2. Recognize characteristics of effective teams.
3. Recognize methods for building positive team relationships.
4. Analyze attributes and attitudes of an effective leader.
5. Apply effective techniques for managing team conflict.

**Foundation Standard 9: Health Maintenance Practices**
Healthcare professionals will understand the fundamentals of wellness and the prevention of disease processes. They will practice preventive health behaviors among the clients.

1. Discuss possible emotional reactions that EMS professionals, patient, and family may experience when faced with trauma, illness, death, and dying.
2. Recognize the signs and symptoms of critical incident stress.
3. Explain how to recognize the causes and signals of personal stress.
4. Discuss positive steps that the EMS professional takes to help reduce/alleviate stress and promote health and wellness.
5. Identify positive and negative behaviors/factors affecting the EMS professional’s health and well-being.
6. Discuss the relationship between health, lifestyles, and personal risk factors including health screenings, immunizations, and examinations.
7. Demonstrate proper body mechanics.

**Foundation Standard 10: Technical Skills**
Healthcare professionals will apply technical skills required for all career specialties. They will demonstrate skills and knowledge as appropriate.

1. Apply procedures for measuring and recording vital signs including the normal ranges.
2. Apply skills to obtain training or certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), automated external defibrillator (AED), foreign body airway obstruction (FBAO) and first aid.
3. Apply skills to demonstrate understanding of Patient Assessment.
4. Demonstrate use and application of various emergency services equipment.

*Additional technical skills may be included. (See Topics for Review for detailed ideas on required technical skills.)* [www.dhec.sc.gov/Health/docs/cskills.pdf](http://www.dhec.sc.gov/Health/docs/cskills.pdf)
Foundation Standard 11: Information Technology Applications
Healthcare professionals will use information technology applications required within all career specialties. They will demonstrate use as appropriate to healthcare applications.

1. Identify methods and types of data collected in healthcare.
2. Communicate using technology to access and distribute data and other information.
3. Recognize written and electronic technology applications available/used in EMS.
4. Apply basic computer concepts and terminology in order to use computers and other mobile devices.

Resources:

www.mysctextbooks.com, for state-adopted materials, go to Browse Catalog or What’s New.


American Heart Association (AHA.org) materials obtained through:

Laerdal Medical Corporation, www.laerdal.com

WorldPoint, www.eworldpoint.com

American Red Cross (ARC) www.redcross.org. Check with your local chapter for updated manuals/DVD.

Automated External Defibrillation (AED) Essentials Video, Community First Aid and Safety Instructor Manual, ISBN: 1-58480-323-1 or e-mail arc@staywell.com with stock #656-133; Participants Manual stock # 656-132; DVD stock #656-134

Brookside Associates Medical Education Division, Standard First Aid Course - NAVEDTRA 13119 –
http://www.constructionknowledge.net/public_domain_documents/Div_1_General/First_Aid/chapter2.html

Discovery Education, www.discoveryeducation.com

FEMA Independent Study Program (ISP) Courses,
www.training.fema.gov/emiweb/IS/crslist.asp

Firehouse Training Academy, http://www.firehouse.com/training-drills


National Association of EMS Educators - The mission of the National Association of EMS Educators is to promote EMS education, develop and deliver educational resources, and advocate research and lifelong learning. [www.naemse.org](http://www.naemse.org/)

National Center for Injury Prevention and Control (NCIPC), site lists grants [www.cdc.gov/ncipc/ncipchm.htm](http://www.cdc.gov/ncipc/ncipchm.htm)

National Healthcare Skill Standards, [www.healthscienceconsortium.org](http://www.healthscienceconsortium.org)


National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org); EMT-Basic/EMT Psychomotor Exam [www.nremt.org/nremt/about/psychomotor_exam_emt.asp](http://www.nremt.org/nremt/about/psychomotor_exam_emt.asp);

National Safety Council, [www.nsc.org](http://www.nsc.org)

Natural Disasters and Severe Weather, [www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters](http://www.bt.cdc.gov/disasters)


Responder Safety – [www.respondersafety.com](http://www.respondersafety.com)


South Carolina EMS Educator’s Association - [www.scemsea.com](http://www.scemsea.com) (membership required to access)


Trauma, [www.trauma.org](http://www.trauma.org) Trauma.org, Care of the Injured

U.S. Fire Administration (USFA), [www.usfa.fema.gov](http://www.usfa.fema.gov)
EMS 1 – Topics For Review

Patient Assessment

1. Describe common hazards for a medical patient at the scene of a trauma.
2. Determine whether or not the trauma scene is safe to enter.
3. Discuss common mechanisms of injury/nature of illness.
4. Discuss the reason for identifying the total number of patients at the scene.
5. Explain the reason for identifying the need for additional help or assistance.
6. Summarize the reasons for forming a general impression of the patient.
7. Discuss methods of assessing mental status.
8. Differentiate between assessing mental status in the adult, child, and infant patient.
9. Describe methods used for assessing whether or not a patient is breathing.
10. Differentiate between a patient with adequate breathing and a patient with inadequate breathing.
11. Differentiate between obtaining a pulse in an adult, child, and infant patient.
12. Discuss the need for assessing the patient for external bleeding.
13. Explain the reason for prioritizing a patient for care and transport.
14. Discuss the components of the physical exam.
15. State the areas of the body that are evaluated during the physical exam.
16. Explain what additional questioning may be asked during the physical exam.
17. Discuss the components of the ongoing assessment.
18. Describe the information included in the first responder hand-off report.
19. Explain the rationale for crew members to evaluate scene safety prior to entering.
20. Serve as a model for others by explaining how patient situations affect your evaluation of the mechanism of injury or illness.
21. Explain the importance of forming a general impression of the patient.
22. Demonstrate the techniques for assessing mental status.
23. Demonstrate the techniques for assessing the airway.
24. Demonstrate the techniques for assessing whether or not the patient is breathing.
25. Demonstrate the techniques for assessing whether or not the patient has a pulse.
26. Demonstrate the techniques for assessing the patient for external bleeding.
27. Demonstrate the techniques for assessing the patient’s skin color, temperature, condition, and capillary refill (infants and children only).
28. Demonstrate questioning a patient to obtain a SAMPLE history.
29. Demonstrate the skills involved in performing the physical exam.
30. Demonstrate the ongoing assessment.
Airway Care and Rescue Breathing

1. List the signs of inadequate breathing.
2. Describe how to clear a foreign body airway obstruction in a responsive adult, child, and infant.
3. Describe how to clear a foreign body airway obstruction in an unresponsive adult, child, and infant.
4. Explain why basic life support ventilation and airway protective skills take priority over most other basic life support skills.
5. Place the interests of the patient with airway problems as the foremost consideration when making any and all patient care decisions.
6. Demonstrate the steps in the head-tilt chin-lift.
7. Demonstrate the steps in the jaw thrust.
8. Demonstrate the techniques of suctioning.
9. Demonstrate the steps in mouth-to-mouth ventilation with body substance isolation (barrier shields).
10. Demonstrate how to use a resuscitation mask to ventilate a patient.
11. Demonstrate how to ventilate a patient with a stoma.
12. Demonstrate how to measure and insert an oropharyngeal (oral) airway.
13. Demonstrate how to measure and insert a nasopharyngeal (nasal) airway.
14. Demonstrate how to ventilate infant and child patients.
15. Demonstrate how to clear a foreign body airway obstruction in a responsive adult, child, and infant.
16. Demonstrate how to clear a foreign body airway obstruction in an unresponsive adult, child, and infant.

Circulation

1. List the reasons for the heart to stop beating.
2. Define the components of cardiopulmonary resuscitation.
3. Describe each link in the chain of survival and how it relates to the EMS system.
4. Explain when the first responder is able to stop CPR.
5. Demonstrate the proper technique of chest compressions on an adult.
6. Demonstrate the proper technique of chest compressions on a child.
7. Demonstrate the steps of adult one rescuer CPR.
8. Demonstrate the steps of adult two rescuer CPR.
9. Demonstrate child CPR.
10. Identify the patient who presents with a general medical complaint.
11. Explain the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with a general medical complaint.
12. Identify the patient who presents with a specific medical complaint of altered mental status.
13. Explain the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with an altered mental status.
14. Demonstrate the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with a general medical complaint.
15. Demonstrate the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with an altered mental status.
16. Demonstrate the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with seizures.
17. Demonstrate the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with an exposure to cold.
18. Demonstrate the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with an exposure to heat.
19. Demonstrate the steps in providing emergency medical care to a patient with a psychological crisis.

**Patient Moves and Equipment**

1. Demonstrate various emergency moves.
2. Demonstrate how to use and apply various emergency services equipment.