



# MARITIME SCHOOL OF PARAMEDICINE

## ACADEMIC CALENDAR

### ADVANCED CARE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM







# MARITIME SCHOOL OF PARAMEDICINE

## Advanced Care Paramedic (P3) Program

### COURSE CALENDAR

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Note: *The information in this calendar is subject to continual review, and may be subject to change following publication.*



**MARITIME SCHOOL OF PARAMEDICINE**  
**Advanced Care Paramedic (P3) Program**  
**COURSE CALENDAR**

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#### INTRODUCTION

The Maritime School of Paramedicine is owned and operated by St. John Ambulance NS/PEI Council. Established in 2001, Maritime School of Paramedicine exemplifies a commitment to education, professional development

#### PROGRAM GOAL & FOCUS

The goal of the Advanced Care Paramedic (P3) Program is to develop paramedics who possess sound knowledge and skills, an unwavering commitment to excellence in all that they do, and a deep sense of professionalism and caring. The program aims to meet the competency requirements of Emergency Health Services of Nova Scotia as well as the National Occupational Competency Profile as established by the Paramedic Association of Canada for Advanced Care Paramedics. Graduates will not only continue to be an asset to the profession of Paramedicine, but to their communities as well.

The program is designed to provide: 1) acquisition of concepts and theories, 2) the mastery of professional skills, and 3) the attainment of a professional attitude.

One of the key objectives of the program is to instill a commitment to lifelong learning. Because the medical field is constantly changing and evolving, an emphasis is placed on the development of self-directed learning skills. In addition to supporting the development of self-directed learning techniques, faculty serves as both academic advisors and facilitators.

The responsibilities of Paramedics have increased dramatically over the years. Consequently, it is no longer acceptable to simply accumulate a set amount of knowledge and skills. Today's students must be inquisitive and dedicated to continuously expanding their expertise and abilities. Such ongoing professional development helps to ensure a lifetime of challenge and enrichment.

#### PROGRAM OF STUDIES

The Maritime School of Paramedicine Advanced Care Paramedicine Program is offered in two unique formats, the first is through an on-site full-time program, and the second is through an off-site distance format.

##### On-site:

The onsite program is delivered over a 12 month period, for every hour of in class study time it is recommended that the student completes an extra ½ hour at home. Total didactic time is 756 hours with practical labs totaling 243 hours. Clinical time in the adult patient settings equals 268 hours, in the pediatric setting it equals 12 hours. To complete the clinical hourly requirement students will perform On the Job Training in the ambulance setting for 504 hours. To complete the onsite program a student must have completed 1783 hours of training.



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#### **Distance:**

The distance program is delivered in a much different format over a 12 month period; students will attend didactic and practical labs for 1 full week of every month. Once they complete the 12 months of didactic training they begin the process of completing their clinical time in both the hospital and ambulance setting. Students are given 12 months to complete their clinical training.

For every hour of in class study time, on the distance program, it is recommended that the student completes an extra 3 hours at home. Total didactic time is 756 hours with practical labs totaling 243 hours. Clinical time in the adult patient settings equals 268 hours, in the pediatric setting it equals 12 hours. To complete the clinical hourly requirement students will perform On the Job Training in the ambulance setting for 504 hours. To complete the onsite program a student must have completed 1783 hours of training.

### **CERTIFICATION**

Upon successful completion of the program, students will graduate with a diploma in Advanced Care Paramedicine (ACP) from the Maritime School of Paramedicine. The program has been approved by Emergency Health Services in Nova Scotia. The Maritime School of Paramedicine is registered under the Private Career Colleges Division of the Nova Scotia Department of Education as a Private Career College.

### **SCHOLARSHIPS AND BURSARIES**

St. John Ambulance NS/PEI Council offers Paramedicine Scholarships annually. For further information please contact the admissions office.



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### CURRICULUM SUMMARY

Module	Topic	On-Site			Off-Site		
		In Class	Self-directed Learning (Based 1:1/2 hours)		In Class	Self-directed Learning (Based on 1:3 hours)	
1	EMS Systems, Legalities, Ethics and Professionalism	36	12	48	19	21	40
2	Introduction to Anatomy and Physiology	36	18	54	7	21	28
3	Infectious Diseases and Safety	12	6	18	7	21	28
4	Patient Assessment Lab	6	3	9	7	21	28
5	Airway Control	18	9	27	7	21	28
6	Introduction to Pharmacology	18	9	27	7	21	28
7	Intravenous Cannulation and Phlebotomies	24	12	36	14	42	56
8	Trauma	24	12	36	14	42	56
9	Respiratory Disease	42	21	63	14	42	56
10	Cardiovascular Disease	72	36	108	21	63	84
11	Neurological Disease	72	36	108	21	63	84
12	Musculoskeletal and Burns	24	12	36	14	42	56
13	Digestive and Endocrine	24	12	36	14	42	56
14	Genitourinary and Specific Injury	24	9	33	7	21	28
15	Environmental	18	9	27	7	21	28
16	OBS	24	9	33	7	21	28
17	Pediatrics, Geriatrics and Special Needs	28	14	42	10	30	40
		502	239		197	555	
<b>Total Didactic</b>				<b>741</b>			<b>752</b>

Practical Lab	On-Site Hours	Off-Site Hours
1 Patient Assessment	18	18
2 Extrication and Lifting Techniques	6	6
3 Basic Airway Care	12	12
4 Advanced Airway Care	18	18
5 Respiratory Assessment	12	12
6a ACLS – Scenarios	12	12
6b ACLS – Written Examination	3	3
6c ACLS – Practical Examination	12	12
7 Neurological Assessment	18	18
8 Psychiatric Crisis	12	12
9 Musculoskeletal Assessment	12	12
10 Integumentary Assessment	12	12
11 Heat Related Injuries	6	6



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12	Gastrointestinal Assessment	12	12
13	Endocrine Assessment	12	12
14	Radiological and Lab Data	6	6
15	Genitourinary Assessment	12	12
16	Specific Injury Assessment	12	12
17	Environmental Injuries	12	12
18	Neonatal and Obstetrical Assessment	12	12
19	Special Needs Assessments	6	6
20	Terminal Illness	6	6
	<b>Total Lab Practice</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>243</b>

Adult Clinical Placement		On-Site Hours	Off-Site Hours
1	Emergency Department	108	108
2	Operating Room (Minimum 15 ETI)	24	24
3	Intensive Care/Coronary Care	36	36
4	Labour and Delivery (Minimum 3 8 hour shifts)	24	24

Total Clinical	192	192
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Practicum		On-Site Hours	Off-Site Hours
1	Ambulance Practicum (12 Weeks as 42 Hours)	504	504

<b>TOTAL PROGRAM HOURS</b>	<b>1680</b>	<b>1691</b>
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#### PROGRAM MODULES

##### **Module 1**

An overview relating to the history of Emergency Medical Services and the Ethics and Professionalism required for working in this field. Medical Terminology and documentation are covered as well as Legal Liabilities. Study and Research along with Leadership and Communication Skills are covered during this module as well.

##### **Module 2**

Study Anatomy and Physiology as it relates to the human body. This module provides an overview of life, Cellular Anatomy, the different human body tissues and the Immune System.

##### **Module 3**

This module on Infectious Diseases and Safety focuses on immunology, infectious diseases and how to be safe.

##### **Module 4**

Through practical labs students refine their skills on patient assessment, extrication and lifting techniques.

##### **Module 5**

During this module students will review airway anatomy and basic airway control, with the ultimate aim of developing advanced airway control techniques.

##### **Module 6**

Students are provided with the didactic information of contraindications, side effects and dosage parameters for a number of medications. Pharmacokinetics is an integral component of this module.

##### **Module 7**

The focus of this module is on shock and its management. Vascular anatomy is covered so students can learn how to perform intravenous cannulation. The human body's fluids, electrolytes and acid-base balances are covered during this module with the aim of having the student appreciate the appropriate use of IV fluids.

##### **Module 8**

Appropriate pre-hospital care for the trauma patient is covered during this module. Kinetics and principles of trauma care are covered as they relate to head, thoracic, abdominal and pelvic



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trauma. Students will also learn more about MCI, triage and critical incident stress debriefing during this module.

#### **Module 9**

Airway management is a key skill for all levels of pre-hospital care providers. During this module the students learn about the respiratory pathophysiology, how to assess a patient's airway and provide the appropriate medications. A practical lab is key to assisting the students in learning their new skills.

#### **Module 10**

With the use of didactic and practical lab training, during this module students learn about cardiac disease and patient assessment for such. Key components are cardiac anatomy and physiology and the related pathophysiology. Cardiac care will include electrophysiology, 12 leads use, defibrillation, synchronized cardioversion, transcutaneous pacing and cardiac pharmacology.

#### **Module 11**

Neurological disease and assessment are the focus of this module; neurovascular anatomy and physiology, as well as pathophysiology, are covered. Students learn more about assessing and managing the stroke, seizures and psychiatric patient.

#### **Module 12**

During this module students cover musculoskeletal, soft tissue and burn related injuries. Students have the opportunity in both the classroom and practical labs to complete musculoskeletal and integumentary assessments and the management for related injuries.

#### **Module 13**

Digestive/Endocrine assessments and management of related injuries/illnesses are the focus of this module. Students are provided with the opportunity to learn about the acute abdomen, diabetes, and how to interpret and relate radiological and lab data to the patient care.

#### **Module 14**

This module deals with the topics of Genitourinary and Specific Injury assessments and patient management through the use of didactic and practical training. Under specific injuries the students learn how to deal with injuries/illnesses of the ears, eyes and nose.

#### **Module 15**

This module focuses on environmental and toxicology injuries/illnesses and how to give appropriate pre-hospital care. Students also learn about aeromedicine and how it relates to scene response, interfacility transport and repatriation transports.



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#### Module 16

Focusing on neonatal and obstetrical assessment and management this module covers reproductive anatomy, gynecology and obstetrics. Students also learn about neonatal advanced life support.

#### Module 17

This module focuses on pediatric and geriatric patients and the special considerations that must be considered when providing care to these groups. This module, through the use of didactic and practical labs will also help the pre-hospital care provider to better prepare themselves to deal with the patients who have physical or mental challenges. Hematology/oncology emergencies and how to relate to the terminally ill patient are discussed as well.

#### Module 18

In this module, the use of on the job training in the clinical setting allows the pre-hospital care provider to put their training to practical use. Students will be supervised by preceptors in various hospital and ambulance settings. Students are required to complete 100% of the clinical training. The listed hours are a minimum requirement and the student may be scheduled extra hours to ensure the minimum standards are achieved.

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

To apply to the Maritime School of Paramedicine Advanced Care Paramedic program, a candidate must meet the following prerequisites:

- Successful completion of Grade 12 (Diploma or GED), with Math at the grade 11 or 12 university preparatory level and one science at the grade 11 or 12 university preparatory level
- Be physically and mentally able to perform all required duties
- Be in good health with all appropriate immunizations as verified by a completed immunization record (provided in application package)
- Supply a current copy of his/her Driver's Abstract, and
- Have no record of criminal offenses, as verified by a criminal record check. (A copy of the criminal record check must be supplied by the applicant. It can be obtained from the RCMP or any local police detachment.)

In addition, candidates *must* possess the following qualifications *either* at the time of application or before the final date for acceptance into the program:

- Be eligible for a Nova Scotia Class 4 Driver's License (or equivalent from other provinces), and
- Be registers as an Active Paramedic (or equivalent in other provinces) in order to register for the ACP program.



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Note: To receive a Driver's Abstract, you must contact Access Nova Scotia. Out-of-province applicants should contact their provincial/state Department of Transportation or Motor Vehicles.

**Ability to Travel:** Students accepted into the program must be willing and able to travel and/or reside in other locations in Nova Scotia during their clinical placements. The school will make every effort to accommodate student requests for placements so that students may reside with friends or family.

**Evaluation:** In addition to the minimum eligibility requirements listed above, applications for admission will be evaluated on a number of criteria. These include extracurricular activities, recreation/community involvement, and employment/work experience. Resumes should be well-organized, providing an accurate and comprehensive account of applicants' achievements, skills and interests.

#### MATURE STUDENT POLICY

Applicants who do not meet the basic admission requirements as detailed in Section 8 of the General Regulations of the Private Career Colleges Regulations Act and the Maritime School of Paramedicine Policies and Procedures Manual may be admitted to a program under Mature Student status provided the following are met:

- 1) The applicant is at least 21 years of age and has been out of school for a minimum of one year.
- 2) The applicant participates in an interview process with a designated admissions representative of the Maritime School of Paramedicine. In the process of the interview, the applicant will be required to provide the following supporting documentation:
  - a. School transcripts
  - b. Letter outlining future plans and the reasons they expect to successfully complete the program of studies.
  - c. Personal resume
  - d. Three (3) letters of reference.
- 3) The Maritime School of Paramedicine reserves the right to ask the applicant to participate in a standardized admission test in accordance with the admissions requirements for any of the Paramedicine programs offered by the school. The standardized test (e.g. the Canadian Adult Achievement Test "CAAT" or Test of Adult Basic Education "TABE") must be one that is approved through the Canadian Adult Test Centre. Confirmation of approval of the test must be forwarded to the Department of Education.



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#### ADMISSION AND SELECTION PROCESS

Admission to the program is very competitive, with enrollment limited to 20 students per course. Therefore, meeting minimum requirements will not guarantee acceptance. A waiting list will be maintained, recognizing that some candidates may change plans, opening seats for other applicants. Short-listed applicants will be contacted and must be available to participate in a final selection interview.

**In order to be considered, applications must be received with *all required* documentation attached.**

COMPLETED APPLICATIONS *must* include the following:

- Completed application form
- Completed immunization record
- Personal resume
- Two reference forms
- Copy of criminal record check
- Application Fee of \$40.00
- Official High School transcript and/or transcripts from other post-secondary institutions (i.e. universities or colleges if applicable). Please note that an official transcript is sent directly from the institution in a sealed envelope.
- Copy of Driver's Abstract (from Access Nova Scotia)

#### SELECTION PROCESS

Those candidates who have submitted the required information with their application will be invited to the school for the selection process. During the selection process candidates will complete written tests on Math/Comprehension and a Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) level evaluation; as well as an interview with faculty, all of which are scored. Candidates will also be awarded points for volunteer work (i.e. Firefighting, Life Guarding, or other community work) and instructor qualifications (instructor certificates must be provided and in good standing). Candidates will also be scored on a PCP level scenario and skills. Those candidates who receive the top overall marks will be selected for entrance to the school. Each year there is a tight competition for the seats, so candidates should prepare for the selection process.



**To obtain an application package, contact:**

Maritime School of Paramedicine  
88 Slayter Street  
Dartmouth, NS  
B3A 2A6

Office: (902) 463-5646  
Fax: (902) 469-9609  
Toll-Free: 1-800-565-5056  
Email: paramedicine@msop.ca

Or you may download all forms and information from our website:

**[www.msop.ca](http://www.msop.ca)**

**The Maritime School of Paramedicine will develop graduates who possess sound knowledge and skills, a deep sense of professionalism and caring, and an outstanding commitment to excellence -- delivering the highest standard of care to the public**