

Shelby County Ambulance Service

Emergency Medical Technician – level B (EMT-B) job description

EMT provides emergency onsite medical care and transportation for critically injured or ill individuals who require immediate medical assistance. Making sure every second counts, EMTs perform this basic and critical medical care out of an ambulance, using the tools and resources available within it.

Within the emergency medical technician job description, the goal of an EMT is to stabilize an individual and safely transport them to a medical facility that can further assist the patient. To ensure they provide the best possible care, though, EMTs typically work in pairs or teams with other EMTs rather than on their own.

Typical duties and responsibilities of an EMT include:

- Provide basic first-aid treatment as needed
- Respond appropriately to emergency calls
- Assess a person's condition and know how to provide proper medical care
- Put together an initial plan of care to quickly stabilize an individual in distress
- Provide life-saving medical interventions like CPR
- Determine where to transport a patient for continuing care
- Communicate clearly and effectively with other first responders and emergency medical staff and personnel
- Maintain 12- or 24-hour shift schedules and on-call hours
- Document medical care given to patients
- Report patient observations to appropriate medical professionals
- Requires excellent driving skills. May have to drive the ambulance in a quick and safe manner, navigating different road conditions, and adhere to traffic laws.

Working as an EMT requires a high level of physical fitness and problem-solving skills needed to work effectively in high-stress situations. The ability to think fast, and act quickly, is an essential skill in this profession. You will likely meet people in time of crisis, and they may need both physical and emotional care. Striking that balance can help you to be an effective EMT.

A few vital personal skills you need to work as an EMT include:

- Fast decision-making
- Problem-solving
- Empathy and understanding
- Effective communication
- Good listening
- Patience
- Compassion and caring
- Mental resiliency

Additionally, some critical technical skills EMT must possess that you will learn as part of your emergency medical technician training include:

- CPR
- Life support
- Vital signs
- Trauma skills
- EMT-B
- Various medical equipment found in an ambulance
- Emergency Medical Services (EMS) procedures and operations

At a minimum, you will need the following:

- Copy of your current license
- High school diploma or GED
- Completed and passed the EMT-B program accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)
- Passed the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) cognitive and psychomotor exams for the EMT-B program. Need copy of license.
- Current EMT-B License in the state of Iowa. Need copy of license.
- CPR certified. Need copy of CPR card.
- Pass a criminal background check

If any of the required certifications/licenses expire and the employee does not have a current certification, the employee will be pulled from the schedule until they have a current certification.

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS:

To perform this job successfully, an individual must be able to perform each essential duty satisfactorily. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Physical Requirements	Rarely (0-5%)	Occasionally (6-33%)	Frequently 34-66%)	Regularly (67-100%)
Climbing/Stooping/Kneeling/Bending			X	
Fine Motor Skills			X	
Grasping/Feeling		X		
Keyboarding				X
Lifting (up to 75 pounds)			X	
Lifting (75+ pounds)		X		
Pulling (up to 75 pounds)			X	
Pulling (up to 100 pounds)		X		
Pulling (100+ pounds)		X		
Pushing (up to 75 pounds)			X	
Pushing (up to 100 pounds)			X	
Pushing (100+ pounds)			X	
Sitting				X
Speaking				X
Standing/Walking				X

SENSORY AND VISUAL ACUITY REQUIREMENTS:

Must have acute depth perception, vision and hearing. Normal vision acuity required to perform all essential functions of position. Clerical skills necessary to read LED displays and type on computer. Ability to read pertinent printed material. Ability to identify and distinguish colors. Must have visual acuity to operate necessary tools and equipment.

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS:

Report documentation will be done according to requirements for billing purposes.

Handling of narcotics will be handled in a professional manner and according to steps documented per DEA regulations.

Please refer to the Shelby County Employee information handbook for questions and further clarification.