

# ADVANCED CARE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

PMA CONTINUES TO ANSWER THE NEEDS OF PRACTITIONERS WITH THE ADVANCED CARE PARAMEDIC (ACP) PROGRAM ACCREDITED BY ACCREDITATION CANADA

## PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Advanced Care Paramedic program was specifically designed to meet the needs of current PCP practitioners to advance their careers to provide Advanced Life Support skills. The program builds on the skills of the experienced PCP practitioner. Provision of ALS allows for additional therapeutic modalities and assessments to provide better patient care. The ACP provides advanced assessment skills, advanced airway skills, and is able to administer medications by various routes.



## MAJOR SKILLS

Through the course of the program, the graduate will learn various skills including scene assessment and basic hazardous material identification, assessment and management of the ill or injured patient utilizing basic and advanced procedures, medication administration, advanced airway skills and are able to work in a variety of environments from ground ambulance to air ambulance or within health care facilities. The program is based on the Health Professions Act, Schedule 18 - Paramedic Profession Regulations for the Advanced Care Paramedic.



## PREREQUISITES

Applicants must possess and submit:

- ◆ A program application form with current information, all required documentation, and program selection and assessment fee, as well as evidence of current CPR and CLEAR criminal record check including vulnerable sectors within 90 days to be eligible for the selection process,
- ◆ A current Primary Care Paramedic practice permit from the Alberta College of Paramedics,
- ◆ Letter of recommendation from two co-workers registered at the ALS level, and
- ◆ Certificate of completion of Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) or ITLS within the previous two years
  - ◆ Competency for entrants is assessed by completion of a practical scenario; personal interview and reference checks; MMI stations; mechanical, reading comprehension and spatial aptitude assessment and completion of the selection written examinations.

- PROGRAM INCLUDES:**
- √ **Advanced Care Paramedic Diploma**
  - √ **The Difficult Airway Course: EMS**
  - √ **Prehospital Trauma Life Support (Advanced)**
  - √ **Advanced and Basic Cardiac Life Support**
  - √ **Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (ALS)**
  - √ **Neonatal Resuscitation Program**
  - √ **Emergency Medical Dispatch - Medical Priority System**
  - √ **Pediatric Advanced Life Support**
  - √ **Geriatrics for Emergency Medical Services (ALS)**

## PROGRAM DELIVERY

The program is centred around assessment based management of the patient, with the course divided and presented in terms of body systems over a period of approximately 18 months. The delivery model allows the student to integrate various assessment and management modalities to implement an overall treatment plan. The program is delivered in a series of comprehensive lecture and practical sessions on a rotational basis, allowing for continued employment while building on current knowledge. The didactic portion of the program is presented over a period of 6 to 7 months divided into blocks. Students are in class for two straight weeks, including weekends, then return to their communities for 2 weeks to complete learning assignments and review material for the following sections. Practical experience and lab practice forms an integral component of the didactic portion and allows the student to gain a high level of competence and confidence in their ability to assess and manage the patient. The didactic portion is followed by an extensive hospital and ambulance practicum. The practicums allow the students to put their knowledge and experience to work, while allowing further learning.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

The Advanced Care Paramedic is responsible for the provision of basic and advanced life support skills to the ill or injured. Graduate ACPs work primarily in the ambulance profession with services run by Alberta Health Services, Fire Departments, private organizations or in an industrial setting. Career advancement for the ACP may include administration and management, public and community relations, research and design or instructional pursuits.

**POST-GRADUATE AFFILIATION**

Graduates are eligible to complete the Provincial Registration examination process and apply for registration with the Alberta College of Paramedics (ACP). Graduates of the Professional Medical Associates' Advanced Care Paramedic Program are also eligible to receive advanced credit (approximately 69 of 120 credits) toward a Bachelor's degree through a partnership with Thompson Rivers University.

**FEES AND EXPENSES**

Tuition fee (subject to change): \$24,500.00. Program fees include all associated certification fees through the program, as well as texts, study manuals, and learning assessments necessary for successful completion of the program. Depending on placement for clinical rotations, additional costs for travel and lodging may apply. Uniforms are not included in tuition.

**PROGRAM COMPLETION REQUIREMENTS**

A combined average of 85% must be achieved, with a minimum grade of 80% in individual courses.

**PROGRAM OUTLINE**

PREPARATORY ..... TERM 1  
 Roles and Responsibilities of the EMT-P ..... PARA 101  
 Legal and Risk Management for EMT-P ..... PARA 102  
 Crisis intervention and interpersonal skills ..... PARA 103  
 Scene Management and Rescue Operations ..... PARA 104  
 Communications ..... PARA 105  
 Introductory anatomy and physiology ..... PARA 106  
 Patient Assessment ..... PARA 107  
 Airway Assessment and management ..... PARA 108  
 Pathophysiology of shock ..... PARA 109  
 Introductory pharmacology ..... PARA 110  
 Introduction to EMS Research ..... PARA 111  
 Ambulance Practicum 1 - Intermediate Practicum Rotation AMB 101  
 EMERGENCIES OF THE CENTRAL NERVOUS SYSTEM ..... TERM 2  
 Anatomy and physiology of the central nervous system ..... PARA 201  
 Pathophysiology of the central nervous system ..... PARA 202  
 Assessment and management of the CNS ..... PARA 203  
 Pharmacology of the central nervous system ..... PARA 204  
 ENDOCRINE EMERGENCIES AND THE IMMUNE SYSTEM ..... TERM 3  
 Anatomy and physiology of endocrine and immune ..... PARA 301  
 Pathophysiology of the endocrine and immune systems ..... PARA 302  
 Infectious Diseases ..... PARA 303  
 Assessment and management of endocrine and immune ..... PARA 304  
 Pharmacology of the endocrine and immune systems ..... PARA 305  
 TRAUMA EMERGENCIES ..... TERM 4  
 Anatomy and physiology of the musculoskeletal system ..... PARA 401  
 Pathophysiology of trauma - Shock Trauma Resuscitation .. PARA 402  
 Assessment and management of the trauma patient ..... PARA 403  
 Prehospital Trauma Life Support Course - Advanced ..... PARA 404  
 RESPIRATORY EMERGENCIES ..... TERM 5  
 Anatomy and physiology of the Respiratory System ..... PARA 501

Pathophysiology of the Respiratory System ..... PARA 502  
 Assessment and management of the Respiratory System .... PARA 503  
 Pharmacology for the Respiratory System ..... PARA 504  
 CARDIOVASCULAR EMERGENCIES ..... TERM 6  
 Anatomy and physiology of the Cardiovascular System ..... PARA 601  
 Pathophysiology of the Cardiovascular System ..... PARA 602  
 Assessment and management of the CVS ..... PARA 603  
 Pharmacology for the Cardiovascular System ..... PARA 604  
 Advanced Cardiac Life Support Course ..... PARA 605  
 GASTROINTESTINAL AND GENITOURINARY SYSTEM ..... TERM 7  
 Anatomy and physiology of the GI/GU system ..... PARA 701  
 Pathophysiology of the GI/GU system ..... PARA 702  
 Assessment and management of the GI/GU system ..... PARA 703  
 OBSTETRICAL EMERGENCIES ..... TERM 8  
 Anatomy and physiology of pregnancy ..... PARA 801  
 Physiology of pregnancy ..... PARA 802  
 Neonatal Resuscitation and NRP Program ..... PARA 803  
 Pharmacology of obstetrical emergencies ..... PARA 804  
 SPECIAL POPULATIONS ..... TERM 9  
 Assessment and management of the Pediatric patient ..... PARA 901  
 Pediatric Advanced Life Support Course ..... PARA 902  
 Assessment and management of the Geriatric patient ..... PARA 903  
 ENVIRONMENTAL EMERGENCIES ..... TERM 10  
 Assessment and management of environmental ..... PARA 1001  
 Behavioral /Psychiatric Emergencies ..... PARA 1002  
 Basic Self-Defence and Violent Patients ..... PARA 1003  
 Toxicology and Substance Abuse ..... PARA 1004  
 SPECIAL SITUATIONS ..... TERM 11  
 Hazardous Material assessment and management ..... PARA 1101  
 Emergency Vehicle Operations ..... PARA 1102  
 Aeromedical Operations Theory ..... PARA 1103  
 Hospital Practicum ..... HOSP 101  
 Ambulance Practicum 2 - ALS Practicum Rotation ..... AMB 102

**For more information, please contact the office, or visit our website at [www.promedics.org](http://www.promedics.org)  
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