

Primary Care Paramedic

Program Outline

The Primary Care Paramedic (PCP) program at Oulton College prepares students to become skilled, responsive, and licensed emergency medical professionals who deliver life-saving care in dynamic, high-pressure environments. This diploma program emphasizes hands-on training, rapid decision-making, and compassionate patient care grounded in the standards of modern paramedicine.

The curriculum is informed by national competencies and provincial regulations, covering key areas such as patient assessment, trauma management, airway and cardiac care, pharmacology, and emergency operations. Students engage in realistic simulation labs and clinical placements, including ambulance ride-along, to gain experience in diverse emergency response scenarios.

The PCP program is delivered full-time and in-person for over 15 months. Upon successful completion, graduates are eligible to write the provincial licensing exam and apply for a licensure as a Primary Care Paramedic in New Brunswick or other Canadian provinces.

The program is nationally accredited and designed to meet the competency requirements established by the Paramedic Association of Canada, ensuring graduates are prepared to provide high-quality care and integrate seamlessly into professional paramedic teams across Canada.

Admissions Requirements

- Grade 12 Diploma, Adult Diploma or GED.
- Grade 11 or 12 Biology* with a minimum average of 65%.
- Grade 11 or 12 Math* with a minimum average of 65%.
- Grade 11 or 12 English* with a minimum average of 65%.
- 19 years of age prior to commencement of practicum.
- [Meeting](#) with an Admissions Advisor.
- Valid driver's license no later than 30 days after the program start date.
- Successful completion of the health science application process.

Courses marked with an asterisk () must be completed at the academic level.

International students whose first language is not English must submit proof of English language proficiency, unless they have completed a minimum of three years of study at a school where English is the language of instruction. Please see the [international application process here](#).

Career Opportunities

At Oulton College, our **Primary Care Paramedic Program** equips graduates to make a meaningful impact in their communities. This program paves the way for a variety of exciting career paths. With our thorough training and practical practicum placements, you'll develop the skills and experience essential for success in these critical and fulfilling roles. Here are just a few of the diverse opportunities you can explore:

- Ambulatory Care and Transportation
- Hospitals
- Community Paramedicine
- Military
- Organ and Tissue Programs
- Blood Donation Programs
- Fire Departments
- Government Departments and Agencies
- Manufacturing Firms
- Industrial Settings
- Other Private Sector Establishments
- Also, as Managers, Supervisors and Directors of Emergency Services

You Will Learn

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Vascular Access + Medication Administration
- Health Assessments
- Pathophysiology
- Pharmacology
- Medical Terminology
- Simple & Complex Skills
- Communication Strategies
- Medical Illness, Trauma Injuries
- Special Patient Considerations
- Theoretical + Practical Skills

Course Descriptions

Anatomy & Physiology

This primary care paramedic course introduces the sciences of anatomy and physiology and the basic structure, functions, and assessment of the human body in its state of wellness. Integration of systems and maintenance of homeostasis within the body will also be discussed.

Community Involvement

Primary care paramedic students are trained in the Medical First Responder Program, which allows them to provide medical coverage at public events. Students are required to obtain 20 medical and 20 non-medical volunteer hours. This will be done through the duration of their program and must be completed before term 3.

Pharmacology

This primary care paramedic course introduces the principles of pharmacology and the basic drug groups and uses. Proper terminology and the familiarization of their uses in planning and delivery of care will be discussed. Topics covered will include drug nomenclature, legal issues, pharmacokinetics and principles of pharmacology.

Vascular Access / Medication Administration

This theory course teaches the principles of medication administration. Primary care paramedic students learn how to administer medication via multiple routes, learn medication math calculations, as well as how to give injections and start IVs.

Skills Theory and Lab I

This course introduces the essential skills required to gather patient information, assess patient conditions, and initiate medical interventions. Upon successful completion, students will be able to demonstrate fundamental skills commonly used in patient care.

Students will have the opportunity to practice these skills in the lab setting, within the community, and through our on-call program. These competencies are essential for providing care in acute, long-term, and community settings. To complete the course and graduate, students must pass all components, including theory, lab, and practicum requirements.

Fitness I & II

Students will work on their strength and fitness to ensure that they are able to perform the physical functions of a paramedic. Students are assessed via the Paramedic Physical Abilities Test (PPAT) and must complete it successfully prior to beginning their preceptorship on the ambulance.

This will take place inside and outside of the Oulton College Gym.

Medical Theory I and II

Through an interactive classroom setting, students will gain knowledge of theory of organ systems and pathophysiology. Primary care paramedic students will gain an understanding of how the body functions in both normal physiological conditions as well as during disease process and shock states of multiple body systems, as well as learning to acquire and read EKGs.

Trauma Theory I and II

Primary care paramedic students will learn the anatomy of the human airway and how to use basic and advanced airway adjuncts and when to apply these skills. They will also learn about traumatic mechanisms of injury, trauma top major body systems, hemorrhage and various states of shock and how to treat them, as well as treating soft tissue injuries. Assessment and management of burns and patients with spinal, thoracic, abdominal, musculoskeletal and head and facial injuries.

Feedback

This problem-based course is based around the student's experiences during the labs and clinical phase of the program. Students review patient cases.

Students will also learn topics that do not fit into any specific course but are still related to the field of health care.

EMS Operations

This course introduces primary care paramedic students to Ambulance Operations and driving skills required to safely operate such a vehicle. The CEVO 4 emergency driving theory course and practical driving skills are included.

Evidence-Based Paramedicine (Research)

This course teaches the fundamentals of research to support students' understanding of innovations in paramedicine, and the evolution of best practices in patient care, for the primary care paramedic.

Lifestyle and Wellness

This theory course teaches the fundamentals of healthy living. It also fosters patients' learning and practice of self-care practices and how these relate to total patient health. This class will include in class theory as well as activities.

Professional Practice

Through an interactive classroom environment, the student will gain the basic skills and techniques necessary to communicate appropriately with staff, patients, clients, families and other health care providers and emergency personnel. Focus will also be given to the importance of proper documentation and reporting.

Skills Lab II

The lab experience will continue to be a time for students to integrate their knowledge and skills in providing simulated care to fellow students and simulation equipment. The level of care the

students will be able to provide will be of a higher level and their critical thinking will be tested with each scenario given.

Students will have the opportunity to practice these skills in the lab setting, within the community, and through our on-call program. These competencies are essential for providing care in acute, long-term, and community settings. To complete the course and graduate, students must pass all components, including theory, lab, and practicum requirements.

Special Patient Considerations

This primary care paramedic course is designed to provide the student with an understanding of the process of care that is required in the care of different patient populations, for example pediatric and geriatric patients.

Practicum - Clinical & Preceptorship

Students in the Primary Care Paramedic Program will engage in **18 weeks** of offsite placements to gain real-world experience in the daily responsibilities of a paramedic.

This experience is divided into two phases: first, a 6-week clinical placement at the hospital on various floors. Following this, students will spend an additional 12 weeks on an ambulance with a preceptor, actively applying their assessment skills and treatment techniques while working as part of a paramedic team.

This hands-on training fosters professional relationships and prepares students for diverse work environments. Completion of your practicum is essential for the graduation of this program.

Additional Training/ Certifications

[Non-Violent Crisis Intervention](#), CEVO certificate, Medical First Responder, and ICS-100.

Cost Breakdown

Please refer to your contract for the detailed cost/ tuition breakdown. Costs vary by year, so please ensure you are referring to the correct dates.