



Careers Newsletter October 2023

Welcome to the next edition of the Careers Newsletter, this month we will look at various careers in the Ambulance Service

October 2023

This Month's newsletter will focus on jobs in the Ambulance Service

Let's explore the world of the Ambulance Service and how you can build a Career in this field.

Who works in the Ambulance Service Team?

Specialist Paramedic
Paramedic
Ambulance Care Assistant
Emergency Care Assistant
Patient Transport Service Driver
PTS Call Handler
Emergency Medical Dispatcher



PARAMEDIC

When you're a qualified paramedic, no day is ever the same. You'll work in a range of emergency and non-emergency situations, using your judgement and skills to quickly access a patient's condition and make life-saving decisions. You'll be trained to resuscitate and stabilise patients using sophisticated techniques, equipment and drugs. In an emergency, you may use high-tech equipment such as defibrillators, spinal and traction splints, as well as administering oxygen and drugs.

You'll often work alongside the police, the fire and rescue services. Along with your patients, you'll also support their relatives, friends and members of the public, some of whom might be highly agitated. As a paramedic, you'll be the senior member of a two-person team, with an emergency care assistant or technician to support you. You may also work on your own using a motorbike or bicycle, or provide advice over the telephone from a control room or clinical hub.

How do I get to become a Paramedic?

The main route to becoming a paramedic is to study a BSc Paramedic Science/ Practice full-time degree at university. All universities set their own entry requirements in terms of subjects and grades.

If you don't have a degree but want to work as a paramedic, you can apply to be a trainee with the ambulance service, but you'll have to continue your education while you're working. At least five GCSEs in grade 4 or above, including English, Maths, and Science, are normally required.

Skills Builder Skills needed to work in the Ambulance Service

- Strong communication skills.
- Empathy and care for others.
- The ability to make swift decisions and stay calm under pressure.
- A good level of physical fitness.
- Navigational and driving skills.
- Resilience and stamina

PATIENT TRANSPORT SERVICE DRIVER / AMBULANCE CARE ASSISTANT

The role of the ambulance care assistant involves the transportation of non-emergency patients to and from hospital and clinic appointments and the patient's home.

You will make sure that patients are safe

A college course might give you some of the knowledge and skills required to be an ambulance care assistant.

You could take a level 2 certificate in health and social care or a T Level in health.

Entry requirements

Two or more GCSEs at grades 9 to 3 (A* to D), or equivalent, for a level 2.

Ambulance Care Assistant Apprenticeship

You could also become an ambulance care assistant by taking an ambulance support worker advanced apprenticeship. You'll usually need 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and Maths, for an advanced apprenticeship 4 or 5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and Maths for a T level apprenticeship.

Useful Websites

<https://nationalcareers.service.gov.uk>
www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/ambulance

Paramedic Skills

Paramedics require fine motor skills to perform medical procedures. By treating patients carefully, they can move them into different positions and protect them from further injury. Other duties that require fine motor skills include inserting IVs, checking pulses and dressing wounds.

Call Handler/Control Assistant

Call handlers, like emergency medical dispatchers have a vital role on the front line of the emergency ambulance service. They are based in a control room as part of a team with a supervisor, you will answer the 999 telephone calls to the ambulance service from the public and GPs.

Working quickly and calmly, you will take the essential details about the patient's condition and location, logging them onto the computer system. This information is then passed on to an emergency medical dispatcher to make important decisions about how best to handle the situation.

You might be dealing with a life or death emergency, such as a major incident, a heart attack or a drug overdose. In extreme cases you might have to talk to a member of the public through an emergency procedure, such as clearing an obstruction from someone's airway.

You could do a college course to get some of the computer and typing skills you'll need in this job.

You could do a level 2 award in touch typing or a level 2 ICDDL award in IT user skills.

OUR CORE VIRTUES



Awakening minds



Achieving dreams



Serving others



EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHER

As an emergency medical dispatcher, you will receive details of 999 calls to your computer screen requesting an ambulance. The information will have been collected by a call handler. Using your training to assess the type of emergency, you'll determine what response is needed and if appropriate, send the nearest ambulance, rapid response car, motorcycle or even a paramedic helicopter to the scene.

Your speed and accuracy could make the difference between life and death. While the crew is on its way, you will probably still be passing them further essential details so crew members can go straight into action when they reach the scene.

Emergency Care Assistant

In this role you could:

Drive to medical emergencies

Assess the risk to yourself and others and ask for more support if needed

Support the paramedic to carry out essential emergency care

Transfer patients into the ambulance and monitor their health

Record patient information and complete a handover report

Check and maintain the ambulance

You'll usually need:

5 GCSEs at grades 9 to 4 (A* to C), or equivalent, including English and maths, for an advanced apprenticeship

How do I become an Emergency Medical Dispatcher?

1. GCSEs grade 9 to 4 (A* to C) in English, maths and science.
2. Experience in customer service, like a call centre operator.
3. Map reading skills and knowledge of local geography.
4. An understanding of medical terminology.

You can get into this job through:

A college course
an apprenticeship or applying directly
To the ambulance service.