

2017

Excellence in Action Award

Jones County Junior College

Emergency Medical Technology Education (EMTE)

Health Science Career Cluster

OVERVIEW

Established in 1990, Jones County Junior College’s Emergency Medical Technology Education (JCJC EMTE) program has trained EMTs and paramedics to become knowledgeable, entry-level health care providers for over a quarter of a century. The program has strong relationships with both in-district secondary education providers and industry partners to ensure a seamless pathway is in place from high school to college and to an Associate’s Degree in Applied Science. With support from area high schools, career centers and industry partners, the program has transformed itself into the leading authority of emergency medical services (EMS) education and research in the Southeast United States.

The JCJC EMTE program is not based in or near any of Mississippi’s urban centers. Despite its rural location, it has grown into one of the largest programs in the state, a testament to its quality and the strength of its education and industry partnerships.

Postsecondary Students (Total JCJC students 4,786)	Statistics
Male	43%
Female	57%
Minority	35%

EXTENSIVE WORK-BASED LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

As a core programmatic element, all JCJC EMTE students are required to complete clinical internships in the field. Internships consist of 500-plus hours of training under the direct guidance of a paramedic, registered nurse, physician, doctor of osteopathy, or equally qualified health care provider. The clinical and field settings provide opportunities for students to begin to observe illnesses and injuries discussed in classroom, develop and fine-tune diagnostic skills, and put together the overall picture of patient care.

Each student must complete minimum competencies in a variety of procedures. These skills are taught in the classroom, practiced in the Human Simulation Lab and performed on live patients during clinical and field internships. The Human Simulation Lab offers a venue for students to develop and maintain clinical skills and competencies to augment patient safety and improve care.

Critical to these work-based learning experiences are the program’s network of approved preceptors – all of whom are employees of health care providers. Preceptors guide students during one-on-one encounters at clinical and field internship experiences, assist participants while at the Human Simulation Center and give valuable input on current changes in the business of emergency medicine.

Throughout the course of the program, students are evaluated on their mastery of skills by instructors, clinical/field preceptors, and members of the advisory committee, comprised of nine ambulance services, three hospitals, and the military installation at Camp Shelby. These evaluations take into consideration students’ skills and knowledge, but also whether they exhibit ethical and moral behavior when in contact with patients and providing patient care.

Jones County Junior College

BUILDING THEIR PIPELINE

The JCJC EMTE program knows that it is never too early to get students thinking about and working toward their future. Elementary school students may not yet have college or careers on their radar, so in an effort to expose these younger students to the possibilities ahead of them, the program staff of JCJC EMTE partner with local elementary schools for events and field trips, planting educational seeds as early as possible.

Similarly, program faculty serve as advisor partners to seven high schools and career technical secondary centers for health science programs. Starting in ninth grade, students are advised of preferred subjects and recommended course sequence by JCJC EMTE faculty and high school educators. Additionally, JCJC offers several classes that can be completed by a dual-enrolled high school student. Seven of these courses fall directly into the Associate’s Degree of Applied Science degree plan for EMTE.

With industry retirements looming and difficulty recruiting new families to the rural county, JCJC EMTE is committed to starting early to work with young people and build the talent pipelines from within.



PREPARED FOR SUCCESS

At the conclusion of any EMS education, prospective EMTs are required to take a national certification exam from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. The exam has a national average first time pass rate of roughly 60 percent. Ninety percent of JCJC EMTE program pass the exam on their first attempt. This pass rate places them at the forefront of EMS education in the Southeast United States, and particularly for rural institutions, which often face resource and retention challenges. JCJC EMTE is breaking the mold, and has become a standard bearer for successful rural CTE.

“The JCJC Paramedic staff are consistently involved in the community. When an attempt to establish an Army-specific program was unsuccessful, they implemented a paramedic program so that members of not only the Mississippi National Guard could attend but other people that have civilian careers. This program has exponentially enhanced the knowledge base of our current Medics.”

– Joseph R. Tullos; 1SG, MSARNG, MBTS Branch Chief; Camp Shelby Medical Battalion Training Site

Success By The Numbers



1,400

Clock Hours of Classroom Instruction



7+

Industry-Recognized Certifications Available



90%

First time Pass Rate on Professional Qualifying Exam



100%

Job Placement for Graduates

ADVANCE > CTE

State Leaders Connecting Learning to Work

CAREERTECH.ORG