

# I want to be a...Paramedic

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## **What do they do?**

Paramedics administer pre-hospital emergency medical care to people who suffered injuries or medical illnesses, and transport them for further medical care to hospitals or other medical facilities. They perform the following duties:

- Administer pre-hospital emergency care
- Administer medications and provide advanced emergency treatments
- Assess illness or injuries to determine emergency medical treatment
- Transport patients to hospital or other medical facility
- Record and document mechanism/nature of injuries and treatment provided

## **How much do they make per year?**

Paramedics typically earn between \$21.63 per hour to \$43.84 per hour in Canada, and varies depending on the province and region. In Ontario, paramedics can earn between \$26.00 per hour to \$44.00 per hour, with the median wage at \$37.91 per hour.

## **What are the requirements to work as a Paramedic?**

In Ontario, if you want to become a paramedic, you must first graduate from a recognized college Paramedic program (typically 2 years in length). Generally, the following prerequisites are required to be enrolled in the paramedic program at an Ontario college:

- Senior high school biology (grade 11 or higher)

- Senior high school science (other than biology)
- High school graduation diploma
- Current standard first aid certificate
- Current CPR C (basic rescuer level)
- Current immunizations
  - Hep B, (Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis), proof of immunity to Varicella TDP, flu shot (recommended), MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella)
- Free from all communicable diseases
- Class F Ontario drivers license
- Meet the medical requirements and physical requirements
- Be able to fluently read and write in the English language
- Be at least 18 years of age – prior to graduation of college

After successfully graduating from college with a Paramedic diploma, you must pass the provincial certification exam (Advanced Emergency Medical Care Attendant, i.e. A-EMCA). Candidates will have 3 attempts to pass the A-EMCA examination (70% score to pass).

Once you pass the exam, you may apply to work in an Emergency Medical Services (EMS), with your provincially licensed A-EMCA. Most paramedic services will require new recruits to complete some type of remedial training and may work for an ambulance service for up to 210 days while preparing.

#### **Useful Links:**

Ontario Paramedic Association: <https://www.ontarioparamedic.ca/>

Toronto Paramedic Services: <https://www.toronto.ca/city-government/accountability-operations-customer-service/city-administration/staff-directory-divisions-and-customer-service/toronto-paramedic-services/>

Peel Paramedics: <https://www.peelregion.ca/paramedics/>

York Region's Paramedics:

[https://www.york.ca/wps/portal/yorkhome/health/yr/paramedicservices!/ut/p/z1/jZDRT4MwEMb\\_Fh94HD06HNW3BnWUuWCyOFflokINAFKSh3Rv16ie1mi6L3d5fd9990hjnLEO3HSSjhtOtFM\\_YGvjoyuWZJsIM1CEgOFjKY4InB\\_E6CXLwB-KQql\\_0c\\_A\\_B5-SvBdMF2G7jrUK8F65e6K4yKO-FFa181eUg7UmXcpiC8Eur9Y6EwPZpRPdBBiFbngGMw1USxJBCkhFgD9HT9R1JAAtgMzCfvjWm-H4s7YolmWJZWUkrf9mp3HtXD\\_ceuDBOI6-MkY10i9N68FPktoMDuWXJOrb5\\_zjsdqxBS\\_eR3r1CZjFSKo!/dz/d5/L2dBISEvZ0FBIS9nQSEh/#.YFfXAK9Kg2w](https://www.york.ca/wps/portal/yorkhome/health/yr/paramedicservices!/ut/p/z1/jZDRT4MwEMb_Fh94HD06HNW3BnWUuWCyOFflokINAFKSh3Rv16ie1mi6L3d5fd9990hjnLEO3HSSjhtOtFM_YGvjoyuWZJsIM1CEgOFjKY4InB_E6CXLwB-KQql_0c_A_B5-SvBdMF2G7jrUK8F65e6K4yKO-FFa181eUg7UmXcpiC8Eur9Y6EwPZpRPdBBiFbngGMw1USxJBCkhFgD9HT9R1JAAtgMzCfvjWm-H4s7YolmWJZWUkrf9mp3HtXD_ceuDBOI6-MkY10i9N68FPktoMDuWXJOrb5_zjsdqxBS_eR3r1CZjFSKo!/dz/d5/L2dBISEvZ0FBIS9nQSEh/#.YFfXAK9Kg2w)

Professional Paramedic Association of Ottawa: <https://www.ottawaparamedics.ca/>