

Area of Interest: Public Safety and Legal Studies

Advanced Care Paramedic

Ontario College Graduate Certificate

Program Code: 3005X01FWO

1 Year

Ottawa Campus

Our Program

Elevating leadership while mastering advanced paramedic care.

The one-year Advanced Care Paramedic Ontario College Graduate Certificate program is accredited by Equal Accreditation Canada and adheres to the National Occupation Competency Profile for advanced care paramedic practice. It is designed to educate current Primary Care Paramedics (PCP) in all aspects of advanced care paramedicine.

Build on your existing knowledge and skills to develop greater critical-thinking processes, increased leadership qualities, and master advanced skills in respiratory care, cardiac care, pharmacology, trauma care, obstetrics and pediatrics care and medical emergencies.

The program is comprised of three components: a didactic and scenario practice portion which is scheduled three days per week for 14 weeks; a hospital clinical practicum which is approximately 200 hours spread over the second and third semesters; and a preceptorship (672 hours paramedic practicum) which is scheduled over a 17-week period. Students must take a comprehensive written examination and oral board examination with the program medical director at the end of the practicum.

The authority to practice as an advanced care paramedic student (ACP) is contingent on being in good standing with a Paramedic Service (if applicable) and upon certification by a medical director.

SUCCESS FACTORS

This program is well-suited for students who:

- Possess critical-thinking and analytical skills.
- Are interested in working in challenging and dynamic environments.
- Are able to demonstrate leadership to ensure appropriate and timely care.
- Have strong communication skills.

Employment

Graduates are eligible to write the provincially administered Advanced Care Paramedic Examination and, if successful, may be employed as advanced care paramedics in Ontario. Graduates may also find employment in other jurisdictions across North America. Opportunities may arise in aeromedical transport, critical care, hospital emergency rooms, emergency management and education.

Learning Outcomes

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

- Interact professionally with patients and others, adhering to relevant provincial and federal legislation and codes of conduct.
- Collaborate with a broad range of personnel such as employers, Primary Care Paramedics, Critical Care Paramedics, Communications Officers, firefighters, police officers, physicians,

- Collaborate with a broad range of personnel such as employers, Primary Care Paramedics, Critical Care Paramedics, Communications Officers, firefighters, police officers, physicians, allied health professionals and others.
- Lead an interdisciplinary team to ensure optimal patient care.
- Provide complete and accurate reports, in compliance with current legislation, regulations, standards and established policies and procedures.
- Analyze patient assessment findings critically, and infer a provisional diagnosis, using relevant theory and practices and complying with current legislation, regulations, standards, best practices and established policies and procedures.
- Evaluate patient condition continuously, anticipating changes and adapting interventions to provide safe and optimal care.
- Justify an intervention plan in accordance with ACP Medical Directives, best practices, evidence-based medicine and clinical finding.
- Perform basic and advanced life support skills safely and competently, including controlled medical acts, in accordance with established standards and Medical Directives.
- Employ preventative and therapeutic interventions, while maintaining safety of self and others, to promote optimal well-being of the patient, in compliance with current legislation, regulations, standards and established policies and procedures.
- Formulate strategies for self-evaluation and for improving proficiency in the practice of paramedicine.
- Identify and apply discipline-specific practices that contribute to the local and global community through social responsibility, economic commitments and environmental stewardship.

Program of Study

Level: 01	Courses	Hours
PAR5000	Foundations for Advanced Care Paramedic Practice	31.0
PAR5002	Advanced Airway Management, Respiratory Care and Communications	32.0
PAR5003	Advanced Cardiac Care	44.0
PAR5004	Advanced Care for Medical Emergencies	36.0
PAR5005	Advanced Care for Trauma and Environmental Injuries	25.0
PAR5006	Skills and Scenario-Based Practice	149.0
Level: 02	Courses	Hours
PAR5011	Hospital Practicum	200.0
Level: 03	Courses	Hours
PAR5015	Critical Appraisal of Research	32.0
PAR5021	Acp Preceptorship	672.0
PAR5022	Comprehensive Examinations	9.0

Fees for the 2023/2024 Academic Year

Tuition and related ancillary fees for this program can be viewed by using the Tuition and Fees Estimator tool at <https://www.algonquincollege.com/fee-estimator>.

Further information on fees can be found by visiting the Registrar's Office website at <https://www.algonquincollege.com/ro>.

Fees are subject to change.

Additional program related expenses include:

- The certification fee for the Advanced Care Paramedic examination administered by the Ontario Ministry of Health is \$100 (subject to change).
- Base Hospital student certification is \$500.
- Mandatory Non-Violent Crisis Intervention course is \$110 (subject to change).
- Textbooks, manuals, and materials (including scrubs for the hospital portion) cost approximately \$2,300.

Admission Requirements for the 2024/2025 Academic Year

Program Eligibility

- A two-year Ontario College Primary Care Paramedic Diploma and an Advanced-Emergency Care Assistant (A-EMCA or equivalent) certificate issued by the Ministry of Health and Long Term Care, Emergency Health Services Branch Ontario are required for acceptance into the Advanced Care Paramedic program.
- Applicants with pending status are eligible to apply.
- All applicants must complete an assessment through the Test Centre, and will be required to pay an examination fee. Results from the assessment will be utilized to establish minimum eligibility and applicant ranking. Applicants with a 1,000 hours of experience, working as a land or air paramedic, will have 10 points added to their test score, provided that the minimum test score has been met.
- To obtain the 10 points, a signed letter from the employer must be submitted on Paramedic Service letterhead at the time of application attesting that the candidate has worked a minimum of a 1000 hours as a land or air paramedic.
- Applicants must possess a valid Ontario Class F driver's licence or equivalent prior to the start of classes.
- Applicants with international transcripts must provide proof of the subject-specific requirements noted above and may be required to provide proof of language proficiency. Domestic applicants with international transcripts must be evaluated through the International Credential Assessment Service of Canada (ICAS) or World Education Services (WES).
- IELTS-International English Language Testing Service (Academic) Overall band of 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each band; OR TOEFL-Internet-based (iBT)-overall 88, with a minimum of 22 in each component: Reading 22; Listening 22; Speaking 22; Writing 22; OR Duolingo English Test (DET) Overall 120, minimum of 120 in Literacy and no score below 105.
- Accepted applicants must submit a Health Assessment Form and provide an Immunization certificate prior to entry into the program.
- Applicants must submit proof of mask fit testing quantitative only.
- Applicants are required to submit a recent Police Records Check.

Police Records Check Documentation:

Though not an admission requirement, applicants must note important information listed below regarding Police Records Check program requirements.

Successful completion of clinical placement is a requirement for graduation from the Advanced

Care Paramedic program. Agencies that provide placement opportunities require you to have a clear Police Records Check for Service with the Vulnerable Sector (PRCSVS). Your acceptance for placement is at the discretion of the agency. If you register in the program without a clear PRCSVS and as a result are unable to participate in placement, you will not be able to graduate.

Clinical Placement Eligibility:

To be eligible for placement, you must submit proof of a clear PRCSVS, which will be retained on your departmental file and used only for purposes related to your placement. You will be required to disclose the contents of the PRCSVS, including all notations, to the placement agencies.

It is your responsibility to obtain the PRCSVS from your local Police Department prior to the deadline identified by your Department and to pay any associated costs. It may take a long time to obtain this documentation; please submit your application as early as possible.

Hospital and Field Practicums require Health and Safety, WHMIS and OWHSA training, an approved Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCI) course, as well as High Risk Personal Protective Equipment training prior to placements. There are costs associated with training that should be anticipated by the students, which are not covered by tuition fees. Should you require further information, contact the Program Coordinator.

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Should you require further information, contact the Program Coordinator.

Application Information**ADVANCED CARE PARAMEDIC
Program Code 3005X01FWO**

Applications to full-time day programs must be submitted with official transcripts showing completion of the academic admission requirements through:

ontariocolleges.ca
60 Corporate Court
Guelph, Ontario N1G 5J3
1-888-892-2228

Applications are available online at <http://www.ontariocolleges.ca/>.

Applications for Fall Term and Winter Term admission received by February 1 will be given equal consideration. Applications received after February 1 will be processed on a first-come, first-served basis as long as places are available.

International applicants applying from out-of-country can obtain the International Student Application Form at <https://algonquincollege.force.com/myACint/> or by contacting the Registrar's Office.

For further information on the admissions process, contact:

Registrar's Office
Algonquin College
1385 Woodroffe Ave
Ottawa, ON K2G 1V8
Telephone: 613-727-0002
Toll-free: 1-800-565-4723
TTY: 613-727-7766
Fax: 613-727-7632
Contact: <https://www.algonquincollege.com/ro>

Additional Information

In order to apply and complete placements, candidates must be in good standing with their Base Hospital and home paramedic service throughout the entire program.

Every effort is made to accommodate student requests for hospital and paramedic placements; however, due to high demand for some venues, students may be required to complete their placements in other areas across Ottawa or Ontario.

Advanced Care Paramedic students are required to complete their preceptorship with their current paramedic service employers. Exceptions will be reviewed on an individual basis. Students may incur additional costs and delays in graduation due to local administrative and legislative differences specific to those hospital or paramedic services.

Any additional or ancillary cost arising from special placement requests (e.g., preceptorship fees)

are the responsibility of the student.

Students are responsible for costs related to the hospital clinical and paramedic placement sites, including transportation and parking costs.

Contact Information

Program Coordinator(s)

- Curtis Farrell, <mailto:farrelc@algonquincollege.com> , 613-727-4723, ext. 2452

Course Descriptions

PAR5000 Foundations for Advanced Care Paramedic Practice

An introduction and foundation for advanced care paramedic practice is provided. Emphasis is on concepts in medical physiology and pathophysiology, pharmacology, medication administration, and roles and responsibilities. An introduction to Point of Care Ultrasound is provided. Learning is consolidated through scenario-based practice.

Prerequisite(s): none

Corerequisite(s): PAR5006

PAR5002 Advanced Airway Management, Respiratory Care and Communications

Students build on existing knowledge of airway management and respiratory care. Students acquire skills and knowledge of advanced airway assessment, management and treatment. Oral/nasal tracheal intubation, laryngeal mask application, needle and surgical airway procedures, respiratory system monitoring and ventilation strategies are covered. Learning is consolidated through scenario-based practice.

Prerequisite(s): PAR5000

Corerequisite(s): PAR5006

PAR5003 Advanced Cardiac Care

Students build on existing knowledge of emergency cardiac care and management. Students learn to interpret cardiac dysrhythmias and 12-lead electrocardiograms, apply electrotherapy and administer emergency cardiac medications. Management and treatment of cardiac emergencies are based on Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) and Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) standards. Learning is consolidated through scenario-based practice.

Prerequisite(s): PAR5000 and PAR5002

Corerequisite(s): PAR5006

PAR5004 Advanced Care for Medical Emergencies

Students build on existing knowledge of management and treatment of medical emergencies. Areas of focus include diabetes, seizures, cerebro-vascular accidents, obstetrics, pediatrics, psychological disorders, geriatrics and communicable diseases. An introduction to Community Paramedicine (CP) is provided. Discussions are based on the roles of a CP, social determinants of health, and community needs assessment. Chronic disease management and palliative care are also examined. Learning is consolidated through scenario-based practice.

Prerequisite(s): PAR5000 and PAR5002 and PAR5003

Corerequisite(s): PAR5006

PAR5005 Advanced Care for Trauma and Environmental Injuries

Students build on existing knowledge of trauma and environmental emergencies. Emphasis is on kinematics, rapid assessment and advanced care treatment. Learning is consolidated through scenario-based practice.

Prerequisite(s): PAR5000 and PAR5002 and PAR5003 and PAR5004
Corerequisite(s): PAR5006

PAR5006 Skills and Scenario-Based Practice

Newly acquired theoretical knowledge and advanced paramedic skills are integrated. Students apply critical thinking, advanced assessments and interventions in simulated emergency cases. Areas covered include foundations for paramedic practice, advanced respiratory care, advanced cardiac care, medical emergencies and advanced care for traumatic/environmental injuries.

Prerequisite(s): none
Corerequisite(s): PAR5000 and PAR5002 and PAR5003 and PAR5004 and PAR5005

PAR5011 Hospital Practicum

Students integrate knowledge and perfect skills that they have practised and have been evaluated on in simulations. Advanced assessments, reporting, advanced airway management, and intravenous therapy are performed in a hospital setting with direct supervision from doctors, nurses and approved clinical educators. Students perform skills in the adult and pediatric emergency departments, adult and pediatric anesthesia departments, critical care/intensive care units, respiratory therapy departments and specialized departments.

Prerequisite(s): none
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR5015 Critical Appraisal of Research

Critical appraisal of research is an integral part of modern-day paramedicine. Students critique a variety of research topics related to paramedic practice. Using online tools, study guides and facilitator support, students acquire a fundamental understanding of research appraisal.

Prerequisite(s): none
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR5021 Acp Preceptorship

Students complete a placement in a paramedic service with an experienced preceptor/mentor. Students apply, integrate and consolidate skills and knowledge acquired throughout the program. Successful completion of the preceptorship is contingent upon meeting all of the National Occupational Competencies for ACP practitioners in a preceptorship environment. Controlled medical acts can only be performed with the written permission of a medical director.

Prerequisite(s): none
Corerequisite(s): PAR5022

PAR5022 Comprehensive Examinations

The student is scheduled to write a comprehensive examination in preparation for the Ontario Advanced Care Paramedic Licensing process. The student is also scheduled for a one-hour oral board examination and is asked to respond correctly to case-based questions posed by the medical director of the program.

Prerequisite(s): none
Corerequisite(s): PAR5021