Area of Interest: Public Safety and Legal Studies

**Paramedic**

Ontario College Diploma

2 Years

Ottawa Campus

**Our Program**

*Bring your leadership to the dynamic field of emergency medicine.*

Graduates from this top-rated Paramedic Ontario College Diploma program are ready for success in the workforce. Paramedics fill a critical role in our health care system with employment opportunities in rural and urban paramedic services. This program combines applied and theoretical experiences to provide you with the necessary skills.

In this program you learn all aspects of emergency medicine, how to deal with emergencies, and develop the means to communicate with patients, family members and healthcare professionals. In the final term of the program, you get the chance to put your knowledge and skills into practice through a paramedic practicum experience. It is in this setting that you experience a wide variety of calls and are able to display proficiency working as a necessary member of a team. This 420-hour practicum provides you with the opportunity work and learn alongside active paramedics.

The program is delivered through:

- in-class theory
- online learning
- practical/laboratory courses
- high-fidelity simulation
- hospital clinicals, and
- practicums

After graduating, you may be employed in Paramedic Services throughout Ontario and Canada. Graduates may also choose to continue their studies to obtain advanced training to practice at higher levels of paramedicine.

**SUCCESS FACTORS**

*This program is well-suited for students who:*

- Are high academic achievers with proven postsecondary success.
- Are mature individuals with excellent communication skills.
- Possess strong leadership and time management skills.
- Are looking for a professional career that is dynamic and challenging.
- Are able to work effectively in challenging environments and in stressful situations.

**Employment**

Graduates are eligible to write the Ministry of Health licencing exam Advanced Emergency Medical Care Attendant (A-EMCA). Experience and further training may lead to opportunities as advanced and critical care paramedics. In addition, the Paramedic diploma has proved valuable to those
seeking employment as firefighters and police officers.

Learning Outcomes

The graduate has reliably demonstrated the ability to:

- Communicate and interact effectively and appropriately with patients and others.
- Assess patients using relevant theory and practices and in compliance with current legislation, regulations, standards, and best practice guidelines.
- Establish patients’ treatment and transport priorities based on assessment findings.
- Implement preventive and therapeutic patient management strategies to maintain and promote patients’ well-being in compliance with current legislation, regulations, standards, and best practice guidelines.
- Integrate and perform delegated controlled medical acts in a simulated, clinical, and field setting.
- Evaluate in an ongoing manner the effectiveness of patient management strategies used and adapt or change strategies to provide optimal care for patients.
- Report and document patient information completely, accurately, and in a timely manner, in compliance with current legislation, regulations, standards, and applicable policies and procedures in a simulated, clinical, and/or field setting.
- Ensure personal safety and contribute to the safety of partners, patients, and others.
- Ensure the operational safety and preparedness of an ambulance and its equipment and operate an ambulance-type vehicle in a simulated setting.
- Collaborate with a broad range of personnel such as first responders, paramedics, emergency services personnel, health care professionals and other allied health care workers.
- Integrate and meet legal, ethical, and professional responsibilities while providing optimal care for patients.
- Identify and apply discipline-specific practices that contribute to the local and global community through social responsibility, economic commitment and environmental stewardship.

Program of Study

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<td>FIT4610</td>
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<td>PAR3618</td>
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<td>PAR3619</td>
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### Fees for the 2019/2020 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](https://www.algonquincollege.com/fee-estimator).

Further information on fees can be found by visiting the Registrar`s Office site at [https://www.algonquincollege.com/ro](https://www.algonquincollege.com/ro).

Fees are subject to change.

Additional program related expenses include:

The certification fee for the A-EMCA examination set by the Ministry of Health is approximately $250. Textbooks, manuals, and printing cost approximately $2,000 in year one and $800 in year two. A uniform and supplies cost approximately $1,200. Some supplies can be purchased at the campus store. Visit [https://www3.algonquincollege.com/etextbooks](https://www3.algonquincollege.com/etextbooks) for information about books.

### Admission Requirements for the 2020/2021 Academic Year

#### College Eligibility

- Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD) or equivalent. Applicants with an OSSD showing senior English and/or Mathematics courses at the Basic Level, or with Workplace or Open courses, will be tested to determine their eligibility for admission; OR
- Academic and Career Entrance (ACE) certificate; OR
- General Educational Development (GED) certificate; OR
- Mature Student status (19 years of age or older and without a high school diploma at the start of the program). Eligibility may be determined by academic achievement testing for which a fee of $50 (subject to change) will be charged.

- Be advised that all candidates must meet BOTH College and Program eligibility.

#### Program Eligibility

- English Grade 12 (ENG4C or equivalent) with a grade of 65% or higher.
- Mathematics Grade 12 (MAP4C or equivalent) with a grade of 65% or higher.
- Biology Grade 11 or 12 with a grade of 65% or higher.
- Chemistry Grade 11 or 12 with a grade of 65% or higher
- A valid Ontario Class F driver`s License.
• All applicants must complete an assessment through the Test Centre, and will be required to pay the current fee of $50 (subject to change). Results from the health program assessment will be utilized to establish minimum eligibility and also ranked, with points added for post-secondary credentials. The highest ranked applicants will be given priority admission. The health program assessment can only be written once per academic cycle.

• International applicants must provide proof of the subject specific requirements noted above along with proof of either: (IELTS / TOEFL) IELTS-International English Language Testing Service (Academic) Overall band of 6.0 with a minimum of 5.5 in each band; OR TOEFL-Internet-based (iBT) Overall 80, with the minimum of 20 in each component: Reading 20; Listening 20; Speaking 20; Writing 20.

• Applicants with international transcripts must provide proof of the subject specific requirements noted above and may be required to provide proof of language proficiency.

• Ontario Class ‘F’ driver’s licence, or equivalent of the Ontario Class F driver’s licence must be submitted no later than June 1st. Please see the Ministry of Transportation’s guidelines and requirements for further information on the link below: http://www.mto.gov.on.ca/english/handbook/bus/section1-3-3.shtml.

• International Applicants:
  International applicants who meet the program eligibility requirements are required to complete preparatory courses (4-months in duration): Introduction to Canadian Health Studies (ICHS). Students who successfully complete the introduction will then proceed to their original health program of choice. The ICHS requires applicants to submit an academic IELTS score.

• Please click this link for more information: https://www.algonquincollege.com/healthandcommunity/ICHS/.

• First Aid Certificate and Current Basic Cardiac Life Support Certificate (C.P.R. - Level C).

• Applicants must submit a Health Assessment Form and provide an Immunization certificate prior to entry into the program. In order to progress in the program, students will be required to pass a physical fitness test measuring aerobic capacity, strength, and flexibility.

• Police Records Check Documentation:
  Successful completion of clinical placement is a requirement for graduation from the Paramedic program. Agencies that provide placement opportunities require 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.

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. These courses will be provided during the program of study. There are costs associated with this training that should anticipated by the students, which are not covered by tuition fees. Should you require further information, contact the Program Coordinator.

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• A valid Ontario Class F driver’s License.

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Ontario Class `F` driver`s licence, or equivalent of the Ontario Class F driver`s licence must be submitted no later than August 1st. Please see the Ministry of Transportation`s guidelines and requirements for further information on the link below: http://www.mot.gov.on.ca/english/handbook/bus/section1-3-3.shtm.

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Application Information

PARAMEDIC
Program Code 0620X01FWO

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

Students currently enrolled in an Ontario secondary school should notify their Guidance Office prior to their online application 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 please visit this link for application process information: https://algonquincollege.force.com/myACint/.

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
Email: AskUs@algonquincollege.com

Additional Information

Programs at Algonquin College are Bring Your Own Device (BYOD). To see the BYOD requirements for your program, please visit: https://www7.algonquincollege.com/byod/.

The Paramedic program is an intensive program of study delivered at the Woodroffe Campus in current facilities.

The Paramedic program is an integrated program of study, which builds on the base knowledge and skills of each previous term. Consequently, all courses in each level must be successfully completed in order to progress to the next level. A maximum of three years is allowed to complete the program.

For more information, contact Ashley Murfin, Program Coordinator, at 613-727-4723 ext. 6126 or murfina@algonquincollege.com.

Course Descriptions

ENL1423T Communication in Healthcare

Students learn effective communication skills, as well as documentation, including protocols and industry standards for documentation including charting, ambulance call reports and incident
Paramedic reports. Students learn to apply medical-legal legislation, regulations and policies created by federal, provincial and municipal governments to the emergency healthcare industry. In addition, skills for testifying at inquests and trials are developed. Students also learn how research plays an integral role in advancing patient outcomes and prehospital care in general.

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

FIT4606 Physical Education II

Students develop a general and job-specific level of fitness. Emphasis is placed on profession specific lifting requirements. Cardiovascular fitness and flexibility are also stressed. In addition, students benefit from the development, implementation and monitoring of a personal training program. Other components include the promotion of a healthy lifestyle, highlighting nutrition and stress management through sports and physical activity.

Prerequisite(s): ENL1423T and FIT4610 and PAR3618 and PAR3619 and PAR3621 and PAR3623 and PAR3638
Corerequisite(s): none

FIT4610 Physical Education I

Students are provided with a job-specific level of fitness in order to safely perform the daily physical tasks of a professional paramedic. The focus is on the safe usage of all lifting and moving equipment utilized by paramedics, emphasizing cardiovascular fitness, strength and flexibility. Students will learn how to interact with others in groups or teams in ways that contribute to effective working relationships and the achievement of goals, ensuring personal safety and contributing to the safety of partners, patients, and others through effective communication.

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

GED0620 General Education Elective

Students choose one course, from a group of general education electives, which meets one of the following five theme requirements: Arts in Society, Civic Life, Social and Cultural Understanding, Personal Understanding, and Science and Technology.

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

MVM4626 Emergency Vehicle Operation

Both theory and in-vehicle driving sessions emphasize driver communications, perceptions, effective vehicle operation, hazard avoidance and skid control. Emphasis is placed on defensive and safe driving techniques.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR3600 Pharmacology

Drug sources, drug categories and classifications, drug indications and adverse reaction, interactions and toxicity are examined. Drug dosage calculations and routes administration are included. The principles of drug legislation, paramedic responsibilities, pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics are covered. Intravenous therapy and maintenance are also taught.

Prerequisite(s): ENL1423T and FIT4610 and PAR3618 and PAR3619 and PAR3621 and PAR3623 and PAR3638
Corerequisite(s): none
PAR3601 Emergency Medicine I

The focus is on the epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiological processes, resulting clinical features, complications, and patient management of pediatric, adult and geriatric diseases and injuries commonly seen in emergency medicine. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking skills associated with the provision of a differential diagnosis based on patient assessment findings and focused incident and past histories.

Prerequisite(s): ENL1423T and FIT4610 and PAR3618 and PAR3619 and PAR3621 and PAR3623 and PAR3638
Corequisite(s): none

PAR3602 Emergency Medicine II

The focus is on the epidemiology, etiology, pathophysiological processes, resulting clinical features, complications, and patient management of pediatric, adult, and geriatric diseases and injuries commonly seen in emergency medicine. Emphasis is placed on developing critical thinking skills associated with providing a differential diagnosis.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corequisite(s): PAR3608

PAR3608 Paramedic Simulation I

Through simulated scenarios and small group discussions, students integrate critical thinking skills and didactic knowledge to explore assessment and treatment pathways for adult, geriatric and pediatric patients with medical and traumatic emergencies.

Prerequisite(s): PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corequisite(s): PAR3602

PAR3609 Paramedic Simulation II

Students are able to experience low frequency, high acuity emergency call types in a high fidelity simulation setting. Students are provided the opportunity to demonstrate: leadership as the attendant in charge of a health care team; clinical reasoning through differential diagnosis; sound judgment in patient management and treatment; adaptability in response to changes in presentation. Through scenarios, students use critical thinking skills to explore assessment and treatment pathways for adult and pediatric patients with medical emergencies including cardiac, respiratory, shock, toxicology, and altered mental states.

Prerequisite(s): MVM4626 and PAR3602 and PAR3608 and PAR3630 and PAR3631 and PAR3634 and PAR3640 and PAR3648
Corequisite(s): none

PAR3615 Anatomy and Physiology II

Students develop essential study skills to master anatomy and physiology. Students participate in small group learning, creating mind maps and taking part in micro teaching sessions. Students are provided an opportunity to discuss complex physiology of their choosing based on the Anatomy and Physiology lectures.

Prerequisite(s): none
Corequisite(s): none

PAR3618 Patient Care Laboratory I

Students apply selected assessment and intervention skills for the provision of pre-hospital emergency care in simulated laboratory settings. The focus is on primary and secondary survey, vital signs, aseptic technique, bandaging, splinting, and the use of various immobilization devices. Students also apply selected practical skills in various simulated laboratory settings. They integrate skills, recognize complications and minimize them, and provide comprehensive and accurate
Paramedic reports following simulated scenarios.

Prerequisite(s): none  
Corerequisite(s): PAR3619

**PAR3619 Theory of Patient Care I**

The student learns selected theory behind the assessment and intervention skills required for the provision of pre-hospital emergency care. The student learns the foundations of the primary and secondary patient survey, the theoretical basis of equipment used in the pre-hospital environment, kinematics of blunt and penetrating traumatic injury, the vital signs, aseptic technique, hand-washing and gloving, wound assessment, wound cleaning, hemorrhage control, wound dressings, orthopaedic assessment and management principles.

Prerequisite(s): none  
Corerequisite(s): PAR3619

**PAR3620 Theory of Patient Care II**

Students gain foundational knowledge to support practical labs, focus on patient assessment and intervention techniques for management and treatment. Specific areas include orthopaedic spinal assessment and management; oxygen therapy and delivery systems, O2 sat and end-tidal CO2 monitoring, gas laws, regulators and flowmeters; airway management, adjunct airway management devices suctioning procedures; and manual and mechanical ventilation, as well as indications and care for chest tubes, urinary catheterization and ostomy drainage.

Prerequisite(s): ENL1423T and FIT4610 and PAR3618 and PAR3619 and PAR3621 and PAR3623 and PAR3638  
Corerequisite(s): PAR3622

**PAR3621 Mastering Anatomy and Physiology**

Students develop essential study skills to master anatomy and physiology. Students participate in small group learning, creating mind maps and taking part in micro teaching sessions. Students are provided an opportunity to discuss complex physiology of their choosing based on the Anatomy and Physiology lectures.

Prerequisite(s): none  
Corerequisite(s): PAR3623

**PAR3622 Patient Care Laboratory II**

The student continues to apply selected assessment and intervention skills for the provision of pre-hospital emergency care in simulated laboratory settings. A continued focus on primary assessment and intervention, and the introduction of oxygen therapy and ventilation, investigation of chief complaint, secondary patient assessment and intervention, spinal immobilization, lifting techniques and patient monitoring and reporting. Skills of drug administration are introduced. In simulated scenarios, emphasis is placed on the ability to competently problem-solve practical skills in the provision of emergency care, along with demonstrating both leadership and effective communication skills.

Prerequisite(s): ENL1423T and FIT4610 and PAR3618 and PAR3619 and PAR3621 and PAR3623 and PAR3638  
Corerequisite(s): PAR3620

**PAR3623 Anatomy and Physiology I**

Students develop essential knowledge of the structure, function and physiology of the human body in addition to the acquisition of appropriate medical terminology through a system for analyzing and building medical words by using Latin and Greek prefixes, suffixes and word roots. Interrelated body systems are explored through the connections between form and function. An emphasis on developing reasoning of physiological processes is integrated throughout. The basis for an understanding of pathological conditions is provided.
Prerequisite(s): none
Corerequisite(s): PAR3621

PAR3630 Theory of Patient Care III

Focus is on clinical reasoning skills that apply to patient assessment and development of a patient management plan. Using prioritization and differential diagnosis, students determine effective treatment plans based on the information available. Emphasis is placed on adapting treatment to meet the changing needs of patients.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corerequisite(s): PAR3630

PAR3631 Patient Care Laboratory III

The student is presented with tutorial materials which require problem-solving skills. The learning is contingent on the students’ input, which is derived from their clinical rotations in both hospital and ambulance, as well as other self-directed study. Case study presentations are based on a patient complaint-based approach. Topics include (but are not limited to) the unconscious patient, the patient with chest pain, the patient with dyspnoea, the patient with abdominal complaints, the multi-system trauma patient, the psychiatric and the violent patient.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corerequisite(s): PAR3630

PAR3634 Paramedic Practicum I

Valuable practical field experience is emphasized. Under direct supervision of a paramedic crew the student participates in the performance of basic patient assessment and intervention skills. The student is given an opportunity to improve and gain competence in patient communication skills, including a focused event history and past medical history; assessment and interpretation of vital signs; provision of safe lifting techniques; providing skills, such as oxygen therapy, splinting and bandaging, CPR and spinal immobilization. The student develops leadership and teamwork skills, demonstrates initiative and motivation. The student is also able to integrate their theoretical and laboratory experience into the practical setting. The student demonstrates professionalism through compliance with patient confidentiality, through dress and comportment, working under stress and taking responsibility for actions, adapting to shift work, by maintaining base knowledge, and through compliance with documentation and reporting.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR3638 Professional Development

Professions are complicated far beyond the skills needed to do the work. It is imperative to comprehend labour relations, legislation, ethics, continuing education and confidentiality. Students consider the demand within a profession to be critical thinkers, new technology specialists, researchers, even client advocates. They also address the importance of inter-professional, inter-agency relations and strive to envision their role as leaders and agents of change in their chosen career field. Guest speakers, inter-professional online group activities and projects and self-directed research lead to broader considerations of the scope of their chosen profession. An observation ride-along with a Paramedic Service is facilitated.

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

PAR3640 Hospital Clinical Practicum

Practical clinical experience is provided such that students apply the knowledge and skills related
to patient assessment, evaluation and management in a controlled and supervised environment. Rotations are done in both adult and pediatric emergency departments, obstetrics and other selected sites. In addition, students gain an understanding of the roles and responsibilities of other healthcare members in acute care settings, as well as the diagnostic and therapeutic procedures with the hospital setting. Students gain an understanding and appreciation for the continuity of care that is an essential aspect of emergency medicine. Students also develop important clinical reasoning skills, which aid in differential diagnosis of acute care patients.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR3641 Paramedic Practicum II

A concentrated period of field practical experience is provided. Students experience a wide variety of calls and demonstrate competence in working as an integral member of a team. Students also demonstrate competence in: scene management; patient interviewing techniques; physical assessments; critical thinking and clinical reasoning and patient management. They also demonstrate leadership, an ability to multi-task and delegate, an ability to adapt effectively to changing circumstances, as well as an ability to cope with stress through the nature of calls and the nature of shift work. Finally, competence in reporting and medical documentation is demonstrated.

Prerequisite(s): MVM4626 and PAR3602 and PAR3608 and PAR3630 and PAR3631 and PAR3634 and PAR3640 and PAR3648
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR3646 Paramedic Consolidation

Students relate and integrate theoretical concepts previously learned in clinical and field placements. Students participate in interprofessional scenarios and workshops with other healthcare professionals. Through a complaint-based approach students are presented with multi-dimensional case studies. Emphasis is placed on critical thinking and clinical reasoning in order to provide a sound management plan based on a provisional and differential diagnosis. Comprehensive evaluation is based on theoretical exams, and simulated practical scenario, which demonstrates leadership, multi-tasking, delegation and sound clinical judgement and intervention.

Prerequisite(s): MVM4626 and PAR3602 and PAR3608 and PAR3630 and PAR3631 and PAR3634 and PAR3640 and PAR3648
Corerequisite(s): none

PAR3648 Medical Directives

Students acquire the skills, knowledge and abilities necessary to perform advanced assessment and intervention to both trauma patients and the critically ill. This includes: advanced airway management, starting and monitoring IVs; cardiac monitoring with arrhythmia and 12 lead ECG interpretation; defibrillation; and administering medication based on Ministry of Health ALS/SPSC. The student also becomes familiar with the equipment used by advanced care paramedics.

Prerequisite(s): FIT4606 and PAR3600 and PAR3601 and PAR3620 and PAR3622 and PAR3624 and PSY4705
Corerequisite(s): none

PSY4705 Psychopathology

The scientific discipline of psychopathology begins in the 20th century and provides a framework for classifying and treating mental disorders. Historical, theoretical and ethical components explore the foundations, ethical issues, competing theories and treatment strategies for mental disorders. Students also gain knowledge of crisis theory, intervention models and local resources.

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