# MCHENRY COUNTY COLLEGE PARAMEDIC PROGRAM

# STUDENT HANDBOOK

#### **Program Mission:**

To educate, prepare, validate, and support our students to ensure future delivery of quality and competent pre-hospital patient care.







## Paramedic Student Manual

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#### Who's Who: Program Contacts

Instructional Staff					
Brandy Weirich	Lead Instructor	(815) 276-4460 (cellular)	Brandy.weirich@nm.org		
	Program Coordinator	(815) 759-8046 (office)			
Scott Wessel	Asst. Instructor	(815) 790-5848 (cellular)	swessel@mchenry.edu		
	Compliance Coordinator				
McHenry County College Ad	ministrative Staff				
Dr. Dawn Katz	Dean of Social Sciences and	(815) 455-8783 (office)	Dkatz15@mchenry.edu		
	Public Service				
Wes Crain	Program Chair, Fire Science	(815) 479-7811 (office)	wcrain@mchenry.edu		
Northwestern Medicine Administrative Staff					
Elizabeth DePouw	EMS System Coordinator	(815) 759-8042 (office)	elizabeth.depouw@nm.org		
	Program Administrator	(847) 767-9442 (cellular)			
Cindy Tabert	Asst. EMS Coordinator	(224) 654-0160	Cynthia.tabert@nm.org		
Dr. John Pacini	EMS Medical Director	(815) 759-3100 (office)			
Diane Klier	Administrative Associate	(815) 759-8040 (office)	Diane.klier@nm.org		
		(815) 759-8045 (fax)			

#### **Maintenance of EMS Licensing**

Students are responsible for maintaining a valid EMT license in good standing through the Illinois Department of Public Health at all times during the paramedic program. EMS licenses which are suspended or revoked constitute an immediate expulsion from the program. Students must notify the lead instructor within 24 hours of receiving notice of a change in license status. Further, students must maintain active participation in the McHenry Western Lake County EMS system, including all required continuing education hours.

#### To be completed by the student:

IDPH EMT/AEMT License #	EMT/AEMT License Expiration Date	Anticipated Paramedic Licensing Date	Will you need to renew your EMT license before becoming licensed as a paramedic?

#### **Program Goal**

To prepare competent entry-level paramedics in the cognitive (knowledge), psychomotor (skills), and affective (behavior) learning domains with or without exit points at the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician and/or Emergency Medical Technician, and/or Emergency Medical Responder levels."

#### Paramedic Licensing

The State of Illinois requires that all new paramedics be certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT). Students who complete the McHenry County College Paramedic Program, and all requisite requirements, are eligible to sit for the NREMT exam. Instructions on sitting for the exam will be provided near the conclusion of the course.

Students who sit for and pass the NREMT written and psychomotor exams may apply to the Illinois Department of Public Health for paramedic licensure within the State of Illinois. Paramedics may not practice unless licensed by the state. All testing, licensing, and application fees are the responsibility of the student.

#### **Program Completion**

Students must achieve passing grades in all course modules, pass all module final exams, complete 100% of the clinical requirements, and successfully document performance of all required skills. Completion of Module IV (Field Internship) varies per student and relies upon attainment of multiple live-patient interactions in various categories. Students are required to pass the course cumulative exam and final psychomotor assessment at the completion of the Capstone Internship in Module 4. Failure to meet any of the benchmarks above will disqualify the student for licensure in the State of Illinois.

#### **Program Accreditation**

The McHenry County College Paramedic Program is accredited through the Committee on Accreditation for EMS Programs (CoAEMSP). Accreditation status may be verified at <a href="https://www.coaemsp.org">www.coaemsp.org</a>.

#### Policies to Control

Students enrolled in the McHenry County College Paramedic Program operate beneath and within the managerial oversight of multiple entities. Students are bound by the following policies:

- 1. McHenry County College Paramedic Program Student Manual
- 2. McHenry County College Student Code of Conduct (www.mchenry.edu/conduct/index.html)
- 3. McHenry County College Policies and Statements (www.mchenry.edu/policy/index.html)
- 4. All applicable policies and conduct for students participating in clinical opportunities within a Northwestern Medicine facility or other clinical affiliate as applicable.
- 5. All policies and procedures of individual EMS agencies or fire departments in which the student participates in pre-hospital ride time.

#### Schedule Changes / Cancellations

Students are required to sign up for RAVE alerts through MyMCC (<a href="www.mchenry.edu/mymcc">www.mchenry.edu/mymcc</a>) in addition to any other communication methods utilized by the instructor(s) and college. College closures due to weather or other campus related incident will be communicated via a RAVE alert. Other changes related specifically to the course, such as cancellations, reschedules, or location changes, will be communicated via email to the email address provided by the student.

#### Professional and Academic Integrity

Students will be held to the highest standards of professional and academic integrity. Students should refer to the aforementioned policies for detailed expectations, and the following list shall be attached hereto as an illustrative list of conduct which may result in disciplinary proceedings, up to and including expulsion from the program and/or college.

- 1. Any act of dishonestly, including accidental, minor, or inconsequential acts, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Plagiarism
  - b. Falsification of clinical documentation, including times, experiences, skills, etc.
  - c. Forgery, alteration, or misuse of any document, record, or instrument of identification.
  - d. Furnishing false information to any official, instructor, administrator, or preceptor.
- 2. Disruptive, disrespectful, discriminatory, or predatory behavior toward instructors, students, preceptors, staff, administrators, or other program affiliates.
- 3. Abusive conduct, including verbal, physical, or psychological abuse, typically characterized as intimidation, threats, harassment, hazing, coercion, and/or conduct that threatens or endangers the health or safety of any person.
- 4. Intentional damage, misuse, abuse, or theft of property owned partially or wholly by, or on loan from, McHenry County College, Northwestern Medicine, or any clinical affiliate.
- 5. Violations of federal, state, or local law, statute, or ordinance, to include, but not be limited to:
  - a. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
  - b. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act
  - c. Any criminal act incompatible with EMS licensure according to the policies of the Illinois Department of Public Health.
- 6. Use of audio or video recording devices in the classroom or clinical environment without expressed consent of the instructor or clinical coordinator/manager.
- 7. Repeated violation of classroom rules or etiquette, including, but not limited to:
  - a. Interruptions
  - b. Phone or pager use
  - c. Leud or indecent behavior, including spitting, belching, or flatulence.
- 8. Failure to maintain a passing grade in the course or failure to complete clinical requirements in a timely manner.

#### **Disciplinary Proceedings**

Students in violation of the policies, procedures, or expectations contained herein may be subject to the disciplinary proceedings set forth below. Generally, the principle of progressive discipline will be considered, except that the instructor or any program official may skip one or more steps depending on the severity of the infraction.

**Step 1: Instructor and Student Conference**. For minor infractions, the instructor will notify the student of the infraction and discuss expectations for future conduct.

**Step 2: Written Warning.** Documentation of the infraction will be memorialized in writing and a copy will be provided to the student and the student's sponsoring agency representative. A copy will be retained in the student's file for the duration of the program. Students may, at their discretion, submit a written response to the reprimand, which shall be attached to the reprimand and retained in the student's file for the duration of the program.

<u>Step 3: Program Probation.</u> Students found guilty of repeated infractions, disruptive behavior, or who are not meeting minimum academic benchmarks, may be placed on program probation for the remainder of the Module. Concurrent with the notice of program probation, the student will work collectively with the instructor and their sponsoring agency representative to develop a performance improvement plan (PIP). Program probation will expire upon the sooner of: (1) fulfillment of the performance improvement plan, or (2) the end of the Module in which program probation began.

To maximize student success, students placed on program probation will meet with the Student Success Committee, which is comprised of various representatives of the program, including Northwestern Medicine and McHenry County College. Committee members include:

- 1. Lead and Assistant Instructor
- 2. Sponsoring Agency Representative
- 3. EMS Department Chair
- 4. Dean of Social Sciences & Public Services
- 5. MCC Student Conduct Officer
- 6. Medical Director

Step 4: College and/or Program Expulsion, Suspension or Withdrawal. Repeated infractions, failure to complete a performance improvement plan, inability to meet minimum course requirements, operating outside the approved scope of practice, or conduct deemed egregious or significant, may be referred for expulsion, suspension or withdrawal from the program and/or college. Proceedings related to expulsion, suspension, or withdrawal from the program will be handled according to the MCC Student Code of Conduct.

#### **Classroom Conduct**

The following list shall establish minimum expectations for student conduct in the classroom, and where silent, also include common sense expectations consistent with industry standards of the fire service, emergency medical services, and adult education institutions.

- 1. Department or agency uniforms provided by the sponsoring agency, or uniform shirt provided by the program, are required in the classroom and clinical setting, unless noted otherwise by the instructor.
- 2. Cellular phones, pagers, radios, and other electronic communication devices must be silenced in the classroom and clinical setting.
- 3. Students are expected to be on time to class, including return to class following mid-class breaks. The classroom door will be locked at the beginning of class and at the end of each break. Students not in the classroom at the time the door is closed will not be permitted to return until the following break. The student will be counted as absent for any classroom time missed as a result of this section.
- 4. Students should feel encouraged and simultaneously encourage others, to ask questions and participate during class, so long as participation is not disruptive.

#### **Communication Policy**

Communication between students and instructors is paramount to a successful learning experience. Typically, this communication occurs in the classroom during class hours. However, from time to time, it may be necessary to contact the instructor outside of class hours. As we continue to barrel through an age of constantly evolving technology and social media, it is important that guidelines be established to protect the privacy and personal life of both the students and the instructors. The following has been set forth to govern communication outside of the classroom.

#### **Phone**

Although instructors are not required to provide a phone number other than the office at McHenry County College, each instructor at his or her discretion may elect to provide students with a secondary number for contact. It is important for students to recognize that this secondary number may be that of a home phone or a cellular phone. Contact at this number should only be used in the event of an emergency where the instructor must be reached immediately. The hours within which a call may be placed to a secondary number will be specified in the Acceptable Communications section of this document. Text messages shall be governed in the same manner as a phone call.

#### **Email**

Email has become a widely accepted form of communication. Email is the preferred method of communication outside of the classroom. Each instructor has an email address provided by McHenry County College for students to use to make contact. Due to ease of access, an instructor may elect to provide a different email address for contact. It is important to remember that only class related material may be discussed through email and in no circumstance should an instructor's email be used for solicitation, SPAM, or any other non-class related purpose.

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#### **Social Media**

We live in an age where social media websites are a part of many people's lives. In order to maintain a strictly professional relationship, communication on a personal social media websites shall be strongly discouraged between a student and an instructor. It is understood that after a program has ended, students and instructors may want to remain in contact. It shall be at the discretion of the instructor whether to allow communication on a social media website after the program has concluded. Nothing in this section shall prohibit an instructor or student from creating and managing a social media forum to be used strictly for content and purposes germane to the program. When participating in social media, the following best practices are recommended: Think twice before posting, strive for accuracy, be respectful, remember your audience and identify your views as your own.

#### **Privacy**

The contact information contained in this document is personal and confidential information provided by the instructor, to the students, for the purpose of communicating topics directly related to the associated class. Dissemination of this information to any person outside of the classroom without the direct authorization of the instructor is strictly prohibited. At any time, the instructor may prohibit any student from contact using personal or alternate forms of communication.

#### FERPA – Family Educational and Privacy Act

Instructors at MCC are bound by the rules of the Family Education and Privacy Act. This act protects the student's right to privacy with respect to the student's education records. Disclosure of the student's education records will typically only be performed with the eligible student physically present. Requests for disclosure of information by an authorized representative or by an eligible student whom is not physically present must be done in writing and submitted directly to the instructor. Prior to providing the requested information, the instructor may need to verify with MCC that an authorized representative is indeed authorized to receive the information. At no time will educational records be discussed with anybody by phone or email unless allowed by FERPA. This **excludes** the sponsoring agency.

#### Acceptable Communications:

Instructor Name	Text Messaging Allowed?	Text Messaging Hours	Phone Calls Allowed?	Phone Call Hours	Preferred Email	
Brandy Weirich	Yes	0700-1700 hrs	Yes	0800-1600 M-F	Brandy.weirich@nm.org	
brandy Weirich	103	0700-1700 1113		24hrs - Emergen	24hrs - Emergency	Brandy.Weirieri@iiii.org
Coatt Massal	Voc	0700 1700 hrs	Voc	0800-1600 M-F	sweesel@wfrd.org	
Scott Wessel	Yes	0700-1700 hrs	Yes	24hrs - Emergency	swessel@wfrd.org	

#### Financial Responsibility

Payment for tuition, lab fees, technology fees, and other expenses implemented by McHenry County College is a requirement of the program. Payment arrangements, including financial aid and scholarships, must remain current at all times during the program.

Additionally, students may incur other expenses associated with participation in the program. These expenses may include, but are not limited to: meal expenses, travel expenses (fuel, tolls, parking), uniform expenses, application fees, licensing fees, and third-party expenses for online education, such as Heartcode ACLS, Heartcode PALS, ITLS, MyBRADYLab®, EMS Testing, and others.

#### **Attendance Policy**

Attendance is mandatory during all class sessions, labs, clinicals, or specialty events. In the event of illness and/or other unforeseen circumstance, students may request to be excused from a class, lab, or clinical, at the discretion of the instructor. Excused absences must be requested in advance of the absence. Students are responsible for scheduling their own makeup work. In some instances, such as skills lab testing days, students who miss the class, excused or otherwise, may be prohibited from advancing in the course or practicing certain skills until the testing lab is completed and the student demonstrates proficiency. Any absence during supplemental courses contained within the curriculum, included ITLS, ACLS, PALS, and others as assigned by the instructor, will require the student to seek outside training to make up the course at the student's sole expense.

While students are expected to request duty relief at their respective EMS agency or fire department well enough in advance of a class, lab, or clinical, in rare circumstances students may be required to respond to an emergency call for service through their employer which causes them to be late for class. In these instances, students must present written documentation to the instructor, signed by their supervisor, which details the cause of the student's tardiness.

This course implements a zero-tolerance policy for unexcused absences. The first unexcused absence will immediately place the student on Academic Probation. A second unexcused absence may result in withdrawal from the course. Missed clinical opportunities, including cancelled clinical, are subject to the attendance requirements of this section. Section 4 – Scheduling, in the Paramedic Clinical Manual, outlines scheduling limitations for clinical opportunities. The table below outlines limitations for absences (excused and unexcused). For each absence in excess of the limits set forth in the table below, the student's grade for the module will be decreased by one letter grade.

Module	Max. Absences Allowed
Module 1	4*
Module 2	2*
Module 3	2*
Module 4	0*

<sup>\*1</sup> absence = 4 hours. An 8-hour class/lab missed = 2 absences. Absences will be recorded in ¼ hour (15 minute) increments, to include tardiness.

#### Curriculum Guide

The program utilizes multiple curriculum delivery resources designed to enhance the student's educational experience. Although some material is provided or assigned directly by the instructor, students are encouraged to utilize all resources, including optional and supplemental offerings.

<u>Textbook Requirements:</u> The program uses two textbook series through Pearson Education. Textbooks are used extensively in the course and are required. Old or prior versions of the textbooks are not permitted. Textbooks may be purchased through the MCC Bookstore or through a vendor of the student's choosing.

Paramedic Care: Principles & Practice, Volumes 1-5, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition. (Cherry, Porter, Bledsoe)

ISBN: 0134572734

Basic Arrhythmias, 8<sup>th</sup> Edition (Walraven)

<u>Online Learning Management Systems:</u> To support multiple learning styles and for ease of access to multimedia resources, the program utilizes several learning management systems. Access to each is required.

Canvas: MCC uses Canvas as its main learning management system. All core material, including assignments, course resources, attendance tracking, and gradebook are managed through Canvas, which is linked from the student's MyMCC account (<a href="www.mchenry.edu/mymcc">www.mchenry.edu/mymcc</a>). Access to Canvas is provided by MCC to all registered students. Requests for technical assistance with accessing Canvas should be directed to the MCC Help Desk.

MyBRADYLab®: The publisher of the textbook series, Pearson, provides a multimedia-rich learning management system, which includes interactive games, flashcards, videos, podcasts, audio reviews, audiobooks, e-texts, quizzes, tests, and much more. Access to MyBRADYLab® is paid for by the student and may be purchased concurrent with the physical textbook series from the MCC Bookstore or online via <a href="https://www.mybradylab.com">www.mybradylab.com</a>.

EMS Testing: EMS Testing is a developmental tool used to expose students to adaptive test taking and assess ongoing knowledge of course material throughout the program. Access to EMS Testing, <a href="https://www.emstesting.com">www.emstesting.com</a>, will be granted by the instructor.

<u>Curriculum Delivery:</u> Learning objectives will be met using a combination of didactic classroom sessions, psychomotor-focused labs, and self-study assignments. It is impractical for 100% of the course objectives to be delivered through the classroom or lab. Students are required to complete all self-study assignments to fulfill all of the learning objectives. Material assigned through self-study will be included in psychomotor and written examinations.

The instructor uses a variety of delivery models to appeal to all learning styles. Students are encouraged to communicate their individual learning styles to the instructor, while remaining patient as the instructor works to meet the needs of each individual student.

<u>Learning Domains:</u> Curriculum is delivered to meet the educational objectives of three learning domains: cognitive, psychomotor, and affective. As such, students will be assessed (tested) to ensure competency in each domain.

The cognitive domain evaluates the student's knowledge of the subject material. This material is typically objective in nature and is most frequently assessed using quizzes, exams, or scenario-based testing.

The psychomotor domain examines the student's ability to perform hands-on tasks or skills correctly and proficiently. For instance, while knowing the proper dose of a medication is considered cognitive, the ability to draw the medication into a syringe and administer it properly is psychomotor. This domain is also considered objective when evaluating competency.

The last domain is affective. This domain targets the student's perception or general understanding of right vs. wrong, or the student's ability to value certain aspects of patient care. This domain is considered subjective although student competency is guided by generally accepted ethical standards within the industry. The student's attitude, work ethic, and communication abilities fall within the affective domain.

<u>Evaluations and Assessments:</u> Student competency will be evaluated frequently throughout the course. Competency must be demonstrated prior to performing skills in the clinical environment. Students will be required to demonstrate competency through a combination of written examinations, hands-on skill assessments, scenario-based critical decision making, and general performance evaluations by preceptors in the clinical environment.

Prior to a final competency exam, students will participate in a series of quizzes meant to evaluate progress and identify areas requiring improvement. Quiz performance is graded but is not intended to evaluate competency. Students should incorporate quiz results into their study plans.

<u>Makeup Quizzes, Exams, Assignments:</u> All makeup work is the responsibility of the student and must be completed immediately. Missed quizzes or exams may be taken in the MCC Testing Center, subject to hours and availability of the testing center. A fee is charged by the testing center and is the responsibility of the student. Quizzes or exams may be made up in the classroom, outside of class hours, subject to the discretion and availability of the instructor.

<u>Academic Requirements:</u> Students must maintain a passing grade (75%) in all academic categories in order to remain eligible to participate in clinical experiences. Further, a passing grade of 75% is required on each Module Final Exam prior to enrolling in the next module. The course uses the following grading scale. Grades are rounded to the nearest 1/100<sup>th</sup> of a percent.

Passing: A = 93.00% - 100.00% B = 84.00% - 92.99% C = 75.00% - 83.99%

Failing: D = 67.00% - 74.99%

F = <67.00%

Weighted Averages: Final grades are calculated per module and weighted according to the table below.

	Homework	Quizzes	Exams	Module Final Exam	Clinical
Module 1 (EMS-120)	15%	15%	30%	40%	Pass/Fail
Module 2 (EMS-121)	15%	15%	30%	40%	Pass/Fail
Module 3 (EMS-122)	20%	10%	30%	40%	Pass/Fail
Module 4 (EMS-123)	*Pass/Fail	*Pass/Fail	*Pass/Fail	*Pass/Fail	*Pass/Fail

<sup>\*</sup>All content for Module 4 will be pass/fail, where a grade of A will be awarded to students who meet all Module 4 requirements and a grade of F will be awarded to students who fail to meet all of the Module 4 requirements.

Scores are computed each module and a final grade for that course is attached to the student's transcript. For purposes of valedictorian and salutatorian, combined averages from all four modules are used.

<u>Program Requirements:</u> The table below outlines the minimum number of didactic and clinical hours required to complete the course.

	Module 1	Module 2	Module 3	Module 4
Didactic:	251	156	99	47
EMS Ride Time:	125	125	125	125
Emergency Department:	30	30	30	N/A
Triage:	8	N/A	N/A	N/A
Respiratory Therapy:	5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Operating Room:	5	N/A	N/A	N/A
Air Medical:	N/A	8	N/A	N/A
Intensive Care:	N/A	8	N/A	N/A
Burn Unit:	N/A	8	N/A	N/A
Cath Lab:	o: 4 N/A N/A		N/A	N/A
Monitor Room:	m: 2 N/A N/A		N/A	
Labor and Delivery:	N/A	N/A	10	N/A
Pediatrics:	N/A	N/A	8	N/A
Alternative:	N/A	N/A	N/A	25
Total Module Hours:	430 hours	335 hours	272 hours	202 hours
Total Prerequisite Hours:	Biology 110 – 32 hours			
Total Program Hours:	1,266 hours			

<u>Work Quality:</u> The McHenry County College Paramedic Program holds students to the highest standards of academic and professional conduct. Likely, the paramedic program will be substantially different from most other vocational training courses students have participated in previously. As a college course, students are expected to generate college-level work when submitting assignments and completing course requirements. Students may be required to write papers, cite sources, develop multimedia presentations, and engage in public speaking. McHenry County College offers tutoring and other educational resources to students to ensure the quality of work submitted is commensurate with educational standards for college students.

<u>Virtual Meetings:</u> This program may, as required or by instructor preference, conduct didactic classroom sessions virtually using a video conferencing platform. Use of this platform is available at no cost to the student and is subject to the following rules and guidelines.

- 1. **Attendance:** Attendance requirements are enforced in the same manner as in-classroom sessions, including absences, tardiness, etc. In order for a student to receive credit for their attendance, the student must be on camera and routinely participate in discussion.
- 2. **Dress Code:** Students are expected to dress in a manner appropriate for a classroom environment and representative of their sponsoring agency.
- 3. **Participation:** Students are expected to participate through chats, polling, or voice discussion during each virtual classroom session.
- 4. **Time and Efficiency:** Students must adhere to the following rules to ensure a productive and efficient learning environment.
  - a. Chat conversations, voice questioning, and other interaction must be limited to relevant coursework only. Side conversations, jokes, and other distracting communication is prohibited.
  - b. Questions directed at the instructor through chat should begin with \*\*\*QUESTION\*\*\* to attract prompt attention and reply.
  - c. When possible, questions unrelated to the material being discussed in class should be emailed to the instructor prior to the virtual class.
- 5. **Conduct:** Students shall not share images, GIFs, videos, or other multimedia during the virtual class, unless invited to do so by the instructor.
- 6. **Policies to Control:** All other classroom policies, expectations, and guidelines shall apply equally to virtual classes and in-person classes.

<u>Simulation/Scenario Policy:</u> The use of simulation in education enables the student to practice necessary competencies and skills in a simulated environment, which accommodates errors and learning opportunities, without risk to the patient or student. Simulation affords students an ability to experience situations outside of the clinical environment to foster clinical reasoning and critical thinking. This interactive environment allows for self-assessment and promotes professional growth. To maximize simulation effectiveness, the following expectations shall apply:

- 1. Simulations should be treated as if they are a real-life encounter.
- 2. Students shall inventory and inspect their equipment in preparation for simulations, consistent with industry standards.
- 3. If assigned, preparatory work shall be completed by students in advance of the simulation.

#### A successful simulation includes:

- 1. A clearly defined team leader.
- 2. Effective communication with patients, bystanders, team members, and instructors.
- 3. Use of standard precautions consistent with industry standards.
- 4. Comprehensive assessment, differential diagnosis, and a comprehensive treatment plan.
- 5. Students shall verbalize all key learning objectives to demonstrate understanding and competency, ie: confirming the 6 rights of medication.

#### **Clinical Guidelines**

<u>Objective:</u> In an effort to enhance the learning for each student, a clinical component is required for each of the Paramedic Modules. The goal of this experience is to provide the student with direct patient contact to gain experience with assessment and advanced skill proficiency in a controlled, supervised, clinical environment. In addition, the clinical exposure will reinforce the patient care theories presented in the classroom.

Students should reference the Paramedic Clinical Manual for a complete and comprehensive list of expectations, requirements, and guidelines for completing the clinical component of the course.

Successful completion of the clinical requirements assigned to each module is required prior to enrolling in the next module. Students unable to complete clinical requirements due to injury or illness may apply for an extension of deadlines or a grade of "Incomplete" for that module. Appropriate determination will be at the discretion of the instructor concurrent with established guidelines set forth by MCC.

<u>Skills Competency:</u> Students will be provided with a skills book which outlines procedures that must be followed to demonstrate proficiency in individual skills. Replacement copies of the skills book are \$10.00 which will be charged to the student.

Prior to performing a skill in the clinical environment, the student must demonstrate competency in the classroom and receive formal authorization from the instructor. When performing skills in the clinical environment, students must do so under the direct supervision of an approved preceptor. Performing skills without direct oversight of an approved preceptor constitutes operating outside the scope of practice and may be subject to disciplinary action through MCC, McHenry Western Lake County EMS, and the Illinois Department of Public Health.

<u>Approved Preceptors:</u> When performing prehospital ride time with the student's assigned EMS agency or fire department, the student may only perform skills under the direct supervision of a licensed paramedic in good standing with the McHenry Western Lake County EMS System for a period of at least one year.

Hospital preceptors must be a registered nurse or doctor employed by the hospital system in which the student is participating in clinical. Exceptions include specialty clinical, where a student will be assigned to a subject matter expert related to the field of student, ie: Respiratory Therapist.

<u>Clinical Prerequisites:</u> Prior to commencement of clinical participation, students must provide proof of upfront and ongoing compliance of the following:

- 1. Student Health Physical free from exclusionary criteria which would prohibit clinical participation.
- 2. Vaccination(s) required by the clinical agency, program, or college.
- 3. Proof of current BLS CPR certification
- 4. Passing grade of 75% in all modules.

#### **Capstone Requirements**

Module IV (EMS-123) serves as the Capstone portion of the program and evaluates the student's competency in patient care. Students must have met all clinical and academic requirements of Modules I, II, and III prior to beginning the Capstone.

In addition to academic requirements set forth in EMS-123, including but not limited to ACLS, PALS, and ITLS certification, each student must meet the following objectives for the Capstone:

- 1. Complete 20 pre-hospital emergency calls as the \*team leader from time of dispatch to transfer of care at the hospital.
- 2. Successfully pass a final psychomotor assessment which objectively evaluates overall competency.
- 3. Successfully pass the final program written exam.

\*To qualify as a team leader, "The student has successfully led the team if he or she has conducted a comprehensive assessment (not necessarily performed the entire interview or physical exam, but rather been in charge of the assessment), as well as formulated and implemented a treatment plan for the patient. This means that most (if not all) of the decisions have been made by the student, especially formulating a field impression, directing the treatment, determining patient acuity, disposition and packaging/moving the patient (if applicable). Minimal to no prompting was needed by the preceptor. No action was initiated/performed that endangered the physical or psychological safety of the patient, bystanders, other responders or crew."