

# **Common Course Outline**

## **EMST 220**

### **Paramedic Foundations**

**2 Credits**

## **The Community College of Baltimore County**

### **Description**

#### **Paramedic Foundations**

Introduces a variety of topics such as paramedic roles and responsibilities, medicolegal issues, life span development, therapeutic communication, illness and injury prevention; introduces 12 lead electrocardiography acquisition and interpretation.

Prerequisites: EMST 105, EMST 110, EMST 210, EMST 211, EMST 212, EMST 213, EMST 214.

### **Overall Course Objectives**

Upon completion of this course the student will be able to:

1. Identify the key elements necessary for effective EMS system operations.
2. List the benefits of membership in professional EMS organizations.
3. Describe the benefits of continuing education.
4. Differentiate among professionalism and professional licensure, certification, and registration.
5. Describe the paramedic's role in a patient care situation as defined by the U.S. Department of Transportation.
6. Describe the benefits of each component of off-line (indirect) and on-line (direct) medical direction.
7. Outline the role and components of an effective, continuous quality improvement program.
8. Describe the basic structure of the legal system in the United States.
9. Relate how laws affect the paramedic's practice.
10. Describe the four elements involved in a claim of negligence.
11. Describe measures paramedic's may take to protect themselves against claims of negligence.

12. Describe the paramedic's responsibilities with regard to such issues as patient confidentiality, consent, refusal of care, patient transportation, resuscitation situations, crime and accident scenes.
13. Detail the components of the narrative report necessary for effective legal documentation.
14. Describe the physiological and psychosocial development of patients in various stages of human development, including infancy, toddlers and preschoolers, school-aged children, adolescents, early adulthood, middle adulthood, and late adulthood.
15. Describe the components of wellness and associated benefits.
16. Discuss the paramedic's role in promoting wellness.
17. Outline the benefits of specific lifestyle choices that promote wellness, including proper nutrition, weight control, exercise, sleep, and smoking cessation.
18. Describe ECG monitoring techniques that permit 12 lead ECG interpretation.
19. Explain the relationship of the 12 lead ECG tracing to the heart's electrical activity.
20. Describe, in sequence, the steps in 12 lead ECG interpretation.
21. When shown an 12 lead ECG tracing, identify the: rhythm, site of origin, possible causes, clinical significance, and prehospital management that is indicated.

### **Major Topics**

Paramedic Roles and Responsibilities  
Medicolegal Issues  
Life Span Development  
Therapeutic Communication  
Illness and Injury Prevention  
12 Lead Electrocardiography

### **Course Requirements**

Students registered for EMST 220 must maintain advanced life support affiliation with a Maryland volunteer, career, or commercial ambulance company at all times while enrolled in the CCBC Essex EMT Program.

Mastery level for all written examinations is 75%.

**Other Course Information**

This course is offered during the Summer only.

Successful completion of this course, in combination with EMST 221, 222, 223, and 224 is required for the student to be eligible to sit for the National Registry of EMT's Paramedic examinations.