



CAREER OF THE WEEK

Job title: Paramedic

Job title: Paramedic	Paramedics deal with emergencies, giving people life-saving medical help.
Entry requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You'll need a foundation degree, diploma of higher education (DipHE) or degree in paramedic science or paramedic practice. ➤ two or three A levels, including a science, along with five GCSEs (grades 9-4), including English language, maths and science ➤ or BTEC, HND or HNC which includes science subjects ➤ You could start as a student paramedic, a trainee technician or an emergency care assistant for an ambulance service. ➤ Working as a volunteer community first responder with an organisation like St John Ambulance or an NHS ambulance trust, may help you to get onto a training course. ➤ Your local ambulance trust has information about the services in your area. ➤ To become a paramedic you'll need: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ to register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC) ➤ a driving licence, including C1 category entitlement ➤ to pass a medical check ➤ an enhanced background check which your employer will arrange for you ➤ The College of Paramedics has more information about becoming a paramedic.
Skills required:	<p>You'll need:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ excellent driving skills ➤ the ability to think and act quickly under pressure ➤ practical skills and the ability to follow procedures ➤ excellent communication skills
What you'll do:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Most paramedics work for NHS ambulance services. You'll deal with a range of situations, from minor wounds and substance misuse to serious injuries from fires and major road, rail and industrial accidents. <p>Your day-to-day tasks could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ checking a patient's condition to decide what action to take ➤ using electric shock equipment (a defibrillator) to resuscitate patients ➤ carrying out surgical procedures like inserting a breathing tube ➤ giving medicines and injections ➤ dressing wounds and applying supports for broken bones ➤ delivering babies ➤ working closely with the police and fire services ➤ keeping accurate records and checking equipment
What you'll earn:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Starter: £23,023 (qualified paramedic) ➤ Experienced: Up to £28,500 ➤ Highly Experienced: £36,644 (specialist paramedics and team leaders) <p><i>These figures are a guide.</i></p>
Working hours, patterns and environment:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ You'll usually work 37.5 hours a week on shifts, including nights, weekends and bank holidays. ➤ You'll wear a uniform including protective clothing. ➤ You'll work on an ambulance, or as a specialist you may work on your own, using a car, motorbike or bicycle. ➤ The job is physically and emotionally demanding.
Career path and progression:	<p>With around 3 years' experience, you could become a team leader or a specialist paramedic or emergency care practitioner.</p> <p>You could also move into operations management, education and training, research or human resources.</p>

Useful websites:	https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/ https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/career-planning/course-finder https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/allied-health-professionals/roles-allied-health-professions/paramedic
Financial Support	You'll be entitled to receive at least £5,000 a year towards funding your studies while at university. Depending on your personal circumstances, you might be entitled to more. Find out more about financial support while at university.