National Ambulance Service

Recruitment Information Pack

Building a Better Health Service
The National Ambulance Service (NAS) is the statutory pre-hospital emergency and intermediate care provider for the State. In the Dublin metropolitan area, ambulance services which are funded by the HSE are provided by the NAS and Dublin Fire Brigade.

The NAS mission is to serve the needs of patients and the public as part of an integrated health system, through the provision of high quality, safe and patient-centred services. This care begins immediately at the time that the emergency call is received, continues through to the safe treatment, transportation and handover of the patient to the clinical team at the receiving hospital or ED.

The NAS responds to over 300,000 ambulance calls each year, employs over 1,600 staff across 100 locations and has a fleet of approximately 500 vehicles. In conjunction with its partners the NAS transports approximately 40,000 patients via an Intermediate Care Service, co-ordinates and dispatches more than 800 aero medical / air ambulance calls, completes 600 paediatric and neonatal transfers and supports Community First Responder Schemes.
National Ambulance Service

Operations

ICO  Student Paramedic  Paramedic  Advanced Paramedic

Once Paramedic qualification has been achieved, you are eligible for further promotions, position such as Paramedic Supervisor and Ambulance Officer.

National Ambulance Service

NEOC

National Emergency Operation Centre

Emergency Call Taker  Emergency Medical Dispatcher

Once Emergency Medical Dispatcher qualification, has been achieved with adequate experience, you are eligible for further promotion positions such as Control Supervisor and Control Manager.
The Intermediate Care Operative (ICO) post is designed to provide a comprehensive and dedicated Patient Transport/Intermediate Care Service within the National Ambulance Service.

Some of the Clinical/Patient Care Responsibilities include:

- Safe transportation of non-emergency patients to hospital and any other location as required.
- Deliver care to patients in an emergency situation while awaiting the arrival of or in support of Paramedics or above up to their level of competence i.e. Emergency Medical Technician.
- Provide safe and secure transportation of specialist teams including multiple incubator situations using specialised moving and handling equipment.
- Provide the logistical, support and transport needs of retrieval and transport medicine teams.

Eligibility Criteria for the Grade:

- Current registration on the Emergency Medical Technician Register held by the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC)
- Possess the National Qualification in Emergency Medical Technology and the PHECC EMT Practitioner’s Licence
- Hold of a current, full, unendorsed Class C1 driving licence – *(Note Irish 78 Restriction is not acceptable)*
- Possess the requisite knowledge and ability, including a high standard of suitability, for the proper discharge of the duties of the office
Recruitment for Student Paramedics is advertised on HSE.ie/jobs, and publicjobs.ie. Successful applicants will undertake a training programme as well as ongoing training processes thereafter. Once qualified and licensed to practice by the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC), candidates will be offered positions at the grade of Paramedic at various locations throughout the NAS.

The Paramedic Training Programme is a two year full time programme comprising of:

- An initial twelve weeks training in the National Ambulance Service College (NASC). Here students learn both the theory and the skills necessary to function as an operational paramedic.
- an additional four weeks experiential module in various hospital departments such as maternity, coronary care, theatre and the emergency department.
- Five weeks experiential ambulance placements as an observer.
- Two further weeks in the classroom cumulating in the first stage PRE-Hospital Emergency Care council NQEMT Paramedic examination. This consists of both theory and practical examinations.

On successful completion of the programme as outlined above, students progress to a twelve week undergraduate internship based on an emergency ambulance, working under the supervision of a mentor. Following this, students return to the NASC for a further two weeks training and consolidation cumulating in the second stage PHECC NQEMT examinations. This consists of both a theory and practical element.

On successful completion of these assessments the student progresses to a Post Graduate Internship; where the Student Paramedic is allocated a position in one of the NAS areas and undertakes working as part of an Emergency Ambulance crew. The Student Paramedic gains experience in the dynamic role under the guidance of fully qualified paramedics and the Education and Competency Assurance Officer in that area.

Eligibility Criteria for the Grade:

1. (i) Possess a minimum of six passes in the Leaving Certificate Examination Ordinary Level or higher including Mathematics and a Science subject (i.e. Physics, Chemistry, Biology, Agriculture Science) *
   *A Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) EMT Certificate is acceptable in lieu of Science subject
   Or (ii) an equivalent qualification
   Or (iii) A Degree at QQI L7 or above from a recognised Higher or Further Education Institute

2. Be the holder of a full unendorsed Class C1 Driving Licence on application. (Note Irish 78 Restriction is not acceptable)
The PHECC Registered Paramedic is responsible for the care, treatment and movement of patients and maintaining self, vehicles, equipment and station in a manner fit to respond to that role.

Some of the Clinical/Patient Care Responsibilities include:

- Attend to cases of trauma and sudden illness and respond to emergency calls in a prompt and timely manner
- Deal with emergencies as required in line with PHECC Clinical Practice Guidelines and NAS Standard Operating Procedures
- Attend to patients and where appropriate to their relatives or companions in a professional, courteous and compassionate manner using best practice including compliance with Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Show leadership in the completion of audit, evaluation & development of clinical records including Patient Care Report Forms

Eligibility Criteria for the Grade:

1. (i) currently be registered on the Paramedic Division / Advanced Paramedic Division of the Register as held by the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council
   Or (ii) Hold an equivalent qualification as validated by PHECC

2. Be the holder of a full, unendorsed, Class C1 driving licence
   (Note Irish 78 Restriction is not acceptable)

Note: If you did not qualify as a Paramedic in Ireland, you will need to first contact the Pre Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) in order for them to review your qualification and provide you with the equivalent Irish grade. You will then be able to apply for campaigns that launch at that grade through the National Recruitment Service.
The PHECC Registered Advanced Paramedic is responsible for the care, treatment and movement of patients and maintaining self, vehicles, equipment and station in a manner fit to respond to that role. Paramedics must have a minimum of two years paramedic registration experience in order to be eligible to apply for this training programme.

Some of the Clinical/Patient Care Responsibilities include:

- Advanced Paramedics, as clinical leaders should develop positive working relationships with other staff and stakeholders; internal and external, to ensure seamless delivery of care and to optimise outcomes for their patients
- Attend to cases of accident and sudden illness and respond to AS1, AS2 and AS3 calls in a prompt and timely manner
- Deal with emergencies as directed
- Attend to patients in a professional courteous and compassionate manner using best practice including compliance with Clinical Practice Guidelines

Eligibility Criteria for the Grade:

Annually a staff notice is circulated by the Education and Competency Assurance Team inviting eligible staff to participate in the qualifying process to progress to the Advance Paramedic Programme.

Staff must have a minimum of two years registration as a paramedic (including the post graduate internship) and prior to the closing date of applications for Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) exam.

Following successful completion of the HSE National Ambulance Service Selection Process, candidates will be panelled and their applications forwarded to UCD for consideration against the University’s academic requirements.
The Emergency Medical Call Taker (EMCT) is responsible for the efficient and effective call taking of Emergency, Intermediate Care and related calls and requests in order to meet service users’ needs in a timely manner and within the framework of policies, procedures and guidelines.

The initial training for an Emergency Medical Call Taker is 14 weeks. The first 5 weeks are classroom and computer laboratory based. During this period the student undertakes the International Academies of Emergency Dispatch IAED diploma course. This course is the standard in 58 countries for emergency call taking.

The student will learn. CPR, how to use an AED, Anatomy and physiology, map reading, medico-legal responsibilities, standard operational procedures, clinical directives, how to use the software programmes and much more.

The second stage of training is on site in NEOC working on a one to one basis with an experienced ECT mentor for 4 weeks.

Week 10 is a week of practical and theoretical assessments with the final 4 weeks where the students EMCT will work under the supervision of a senior control Supervisor.

The EMCT has a key role in delivering an effective response to emergencies within an established set of performance indicator response times. They should in line with the PHECC EMS Dispatch Standard, comply with all call categorisation as determined by a Medical Priority Dispatch System. The EMCT also provides appropriate pre arrival and post-dispatch instructions in response in a prompt and timely manner.

**Eligibility Criteria for the Grade:**

(a) Candidates must possess the requisite knowledge and ability, including a high standard of suitability, for the proper discharge of the duties of the office

(b) Have previous experience in word, excel and email and accurate data entry/input

(c) Basic typing speed of at least 25 wpm by touch typing
The Emergency Medical Dispatcher (EMD) is part of a team that operates in the National Emergency Operations Centre. The purpose of the post is to manage efficiently and effectively all emergency vehicles, intermediate care vehicles, other national ambulance service resources and community first responder services to meet service user needs in a timely manner and within the framework of policies, procedures and guidelines.

The EMD is also responsible for managing other community based services and emergency management services when required and to assist in the communication needs of the Health Service Executive (HSE). The EMD has a key role in delivering an effective response to emergencies within an established set of key performance indicator response times.

**Eligibility Criteria for the Grade:**

A) (i) have successfully completed an emergency service Call Taker course accredited by PHECC

And (ii) hold current Advanced Medical Priority Dispatch System certification by closing date of relevant campaign

B) Candidates must possess the requisite knowledge and ability, including a high standard of suitability, for the proper discharge of the duties of the office
Please note while best efforts have been made to ensure all the information in this booklet is as up to date, one should note, that changes to job specifications and eligibility criteria may vary from campaign to campaign.

The Job Specification and other information documents that are supplied with all advertisement campaigns will be deemed the most appropriate guidance to that specific grade advertisement.

All recruitment to the National Ambulance Service is completed as per the guidelines and procedures of HSE HBS National Recruitment Service.

You can register your interest for specific grades by emailing talentpool@hse.ie. When a competition for this grade of staff is about to be launched you will receive an email notification, alerting you to the campaign advertisement.

You can also register for alerts on www.publicjobs.ie where all our recruitment campaigns are advertised.

Campaigns are also advertised on the HSE website at: http://www.hse.ie/eng/staff/Jobs/Job_Search/Patient_and_Client_Care/
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CARE COMPASSION TRUST LEARNING