

Frequently Asked Questions- EMS Corps Spring 2023 Cohort

- **What are the minimum requirements for applicants?**
 - High School Diploma or GED
 - Young Adults 18 – 26 years of age
 - Able to meet the EMT background guidelines (Please see State of California EMS Authority EMT Background Guidelines provided in the [EMS Corps Application](#))
- **What if my high school diploma is from a different country?**
 - Diplomas from other countries are acceptable.
- **What if I am just outside the age range? Is there any flexibility?**
 - Applicants above the ages of 26 can apply and determinations will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- **Can 17 years olds join?**
 - Applicants must have their high school diploma or GED by the time they begin the training and must be at least 18 years of age by the time they complete the program. Many ambulance companies require their emergency medical technicians (EMTs) to be at least 21 years of age, so applicants between the ages of 18 and 20 typically obtain other jobs in the healthcare sector first.
- **Is there job assistance after the program?**
 - EMS Corps provides job performance coaching and job placement assistance to assist trainees in accessing employment. San Mateo County Health can also provide support to connect graduates with existing local employers in the emergency medical services field.
- **Why is the program focused on EMTs rather than other medical professions like medicine?**
 - Becoming an EMT is often the first step of a long and fulfilling career in medicine, healthcare, and/or other emergency response careers. Graduates from EMS Corps go on to become doctors, fire fighters, health professionals, and other safety workers. Creating opportunity for entering these career pathways is an important part of building a more inclusive health and emergency response workforce.
- **What is the timeframe and schedule of the program?**
 - The Spring 2023 EMS Corps is a 5-month rigorous program that will *likely* run from February 2023 through July 2023; however, the exact schedule is still being determined. It will likely include 4 days of virtual classes during the week, with in-person skills-based training on Sundays. However, this could change as the schedule is still being determined.
- **How will the program be structured to ensure safety during COVID-19?**
 - The EMS Corps program will adhere to COVID-19 precautions and safety protocols at all times. Students will be required to wear a mask when they are in class. Temperature will be checked daily, prior to entering the class. Students will be required to stay home if feeling sick or exposed to COVID-19. For in-person trainings, students will attend in small cohorts to comply with safety and health standards.

- **Can you tell me more about the training?**
 - The cohort will have one virtual class and four in-person classes. The virtual class will be focused on life coaching. One in-person class will be focused on case management, physical training, and professional development. The remaining three days in-person will be focused on EMT training.
- **Where will in-person trainings take place?**
 - In-person trainings will be held at 1000 San Leandro Blvd. in San Leandro, right next to the San Leandro BART station.
- **Can students work during the program?**
 - Students can work part-time as long as it does not interfere with class or study time. It is a rigorous program that will include online assignments, quizzes and lectures. We do not recommend students to work full-time.
- **How much does the program cost?**
 - The program is free. Students will receive a grant of \$5,000 to complete the training.
- **What additional supportive services are included?**
 - Students from San Mateo County will receive wraparound services provided by the EMS Corps program including mentorship, coaching, and academic tutoring that aim to address socio-economic barriers to training and employment experienced by disadvantaged youth.