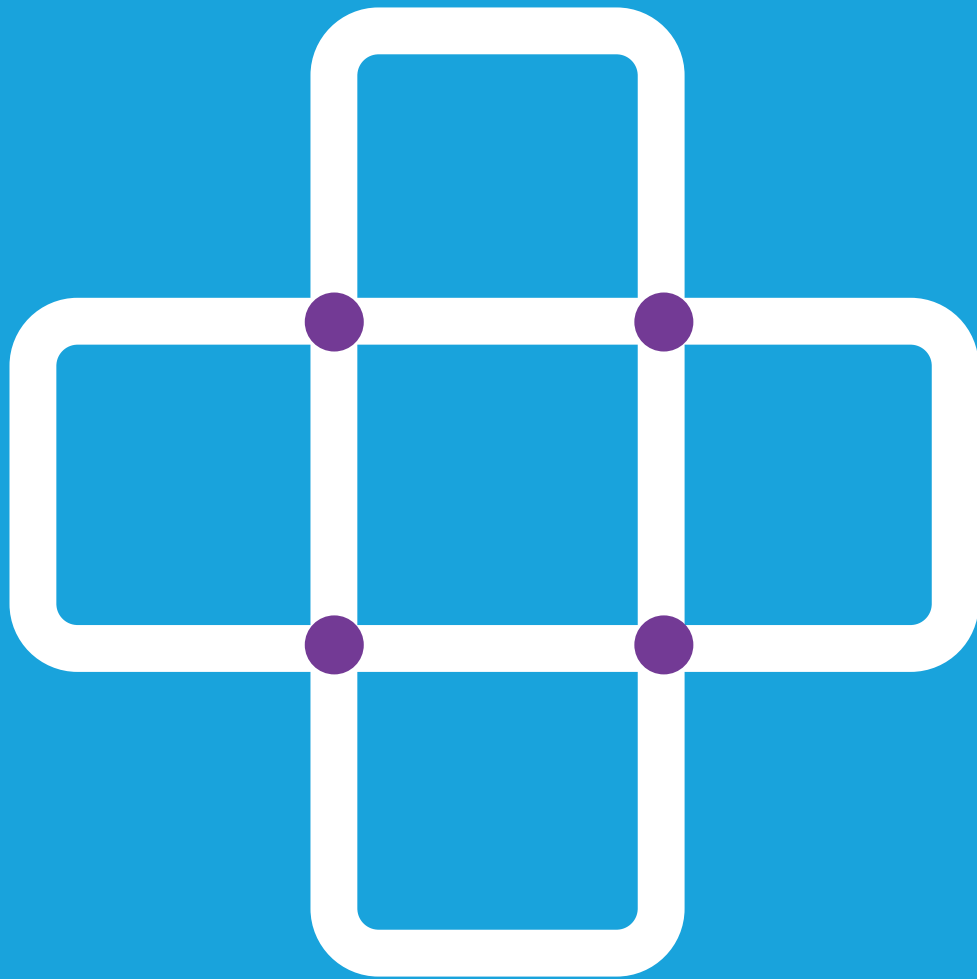


# Emergency Care Career Guide

A guide for emergency medical technicians, paramedics.



# Finding Your Way to a Career: Emergency Care

Emergency medical personnel play a vital role in keeping communities safe and responding to emergent medical situations. These individuals are often first on the scene during unexpected medical emergencies and administer initial medical care until the patient can be transported to a medical facility. Emergency medical personnel frequently work out of ambulances providing mobile health care and also can be found providing medical services at large events.

## How to use this document to learn more.

As one of the Top 100 Hot Jobs for 2022, EMT & paramedic are promising occupations for job seekers in West Michigan. To find out if this is the right career choice, use this Career Map to examine:

- Who might enjoy this kind of work.
- Qualifications needed in this career field.
- Growth potential and levels of pay.
- Valuable skills for this type of work.
- Common tools and technology used in this work.
- Occupations, responsibilities, and other job titles.

This information is drawn from national data and insights from West Michigan employers. It is meant as a starting point for job seekers and career coaches to work together in the exploration of meaningful and fulfilling careers.



## Exploring Occupations in Emergency Care

Emergency medical personnel are essential in medical emergencies as the first individuals providing care to a patient. As emergency medical personnel you might administer medication, implement advanced life saving techniques, and operate diagnostic equipment. You may also drive vehicles to transport individuals and collaborate with health care professionals to plan treatments.

# The Path to Success

## Who might enjoy this type of work?

People who enjoy working in the EMT & paramedic field tend to enjoy:

- Following set procedures and routines.
- Working with data and details more than with ideas.
- Having a clear line of authority to follow.
- Working with, communicating with, and teaching people.
- Helping or providing service to others.
- Activities that include practical, hands-on problems and solutions.

People who do well in this work generally perform well in such areas as:

- Responsibility
- Teamwork
- Adaptability
- Achievement
- Decisiveness

## Qualifications needed in this career field.

Most people working as an EMT or paramedic require post secondary education or certification.

Sample certifications include:

**Both:** CPR, National Incident Management (NIMS)

**EMT:** Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS), Pediatric Advanced Cardiac Life Support, Pre-Hospital Trauma Advanced Life Support.

## Growth potential and levels of pay.

In the West Michigan counties of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa, there were 855 EMT & paramedic jobs in 2020. That number is projected to grow by at least 9% to 934 by 2025.

## Valuable skills for this type of work.

Tasks and functions performed by a EMT & paramedics include:

- Assisting and caring for others.
- Documenting/recording information.
- Communicating with supervisors, peers, or subordinates.
- Getting information.
- Making decisions and solving problems.

## Common tools and technology used in this work.

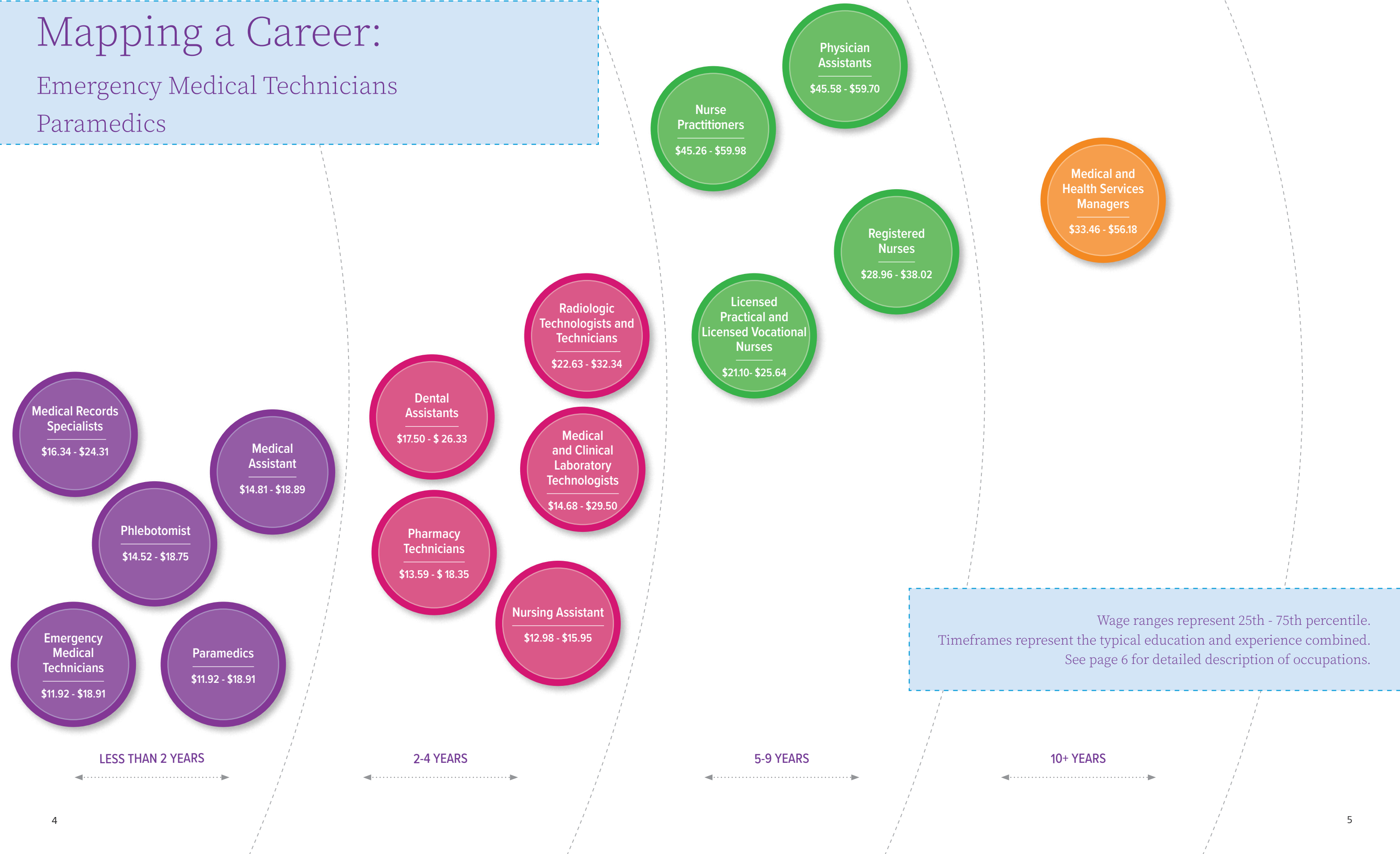
Tools: ambulances, defibrillators, hypodermic needles, oxygen masks, spine boards

Technology: medical health information software, diagnostic and procedural coding software, appointment scheduling software

# Mapping a Career:

Emergency Medical Technicians

Paramedics



# Emergency Care: A Field Guide

## Occupations, responsibilities and other job titles.

### Emergency Medical Technicians

Assess injuries and illnesses and administer basic emergency medical care. May transport injured or sick persons to medical facilities.

**Examples of locally used job titles:** emergency medical technician (EMT), first responder

### Paramedics

Administer basic or advanced emergency medical care and assess injuries and illnesses. May administer medication intravenously, use equipment such as EKGs, or administer advanced life support to sick or injured individuals.

**Examples of locally used job titles:** first responder, flight paramedic, paramedic



West Michigan Works! is part of the statewide Michigan Works! system and the workforce development agency in West Michigan. We serve the employers and job seekers of Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Montcalm, Muskegon and Ottawa counties.

We partner with employers, educators, economic developers and community organizations to create a qualified workforce that meets our region's current and future talent needs and fuels our shared economic future.

Learn more at: <https://www.westmiworks.org/>



CareerPoint helps students and job seekers find their place in the world of work by matching interests and abilities with training, support, and meaningful and rewarding careers.

By providing training and tools, CareerPoint supports the workforce professionals who help people navigate the West Michigan job market.

CareerPoint promotes evidence-based coaching to help students and job seekers discover and follow pathways to rewarding careers. This model follows seven steps to each participant's success.

Learn more at: <https://talnetcareerpoint.org/>