

# EMT vs. EMT-P What's the difference?

An **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)** is trained and certified in basic life support (BLS) practices. All Aromas Tri-County Fire District personnel are required to be EMT's. An **Emergency Medical Technician Paramedic (EMT-P)** is trained on all the requirements to become an EMT as well as several hundreds of hours more. EMT-Paramedics are highly trained, skilled professionals licensed in advanced life support (ALS) practices. Currently there are NO EMT-P's assigned to the Aromas Tri-County Fire District. Training and skill requirements are one of the main differences between EMT's and EMT-Paramedics. A comparison of eligibility, training requirements, scope of practice and certification provisions is listed.

Eligibility- 18 years old

Minimum Training Requirements -

**160 Hours Total**

136 Didactic

24 clinical

10 BLS patient contacts

Minimum Scope of Practice -

- Patient Assessment
- Advanced First Aid
- Transportation of ill and injured people
- Use of adjunctive breathing aids, Oxygen administration (BLS Airway)
- Automated External Defibrillator (AED)
- Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR)
- Bleeding control including tourniquets.
- Pulse Oximetry
- Humidifiers
- Continuous positive airway pressure.

Certification Provisions -

- Certified locally, valid statewide
- 2 year certification with skills competency verification every 2 years
- 24 hour Continuing Education Units

Eligibility- 18 years old, HS diploma, EMT certificate, CPR card.

Minimum Training Requirements -

**1090 Hours Total**

450 hours Didactic & skills lab

160 hours hospital clinical training

480 hours field internship

40 ALS patient contacts

Minimum Scope of Practice -

- All EMT skills
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Basic & Advanced airway including:
  - Laryngoscope, Endotracheal Intubation, Needle thoracostomy & cricothyroidotomy, Naso/orogastric tube insertion/suction
- Intravenous (IV) access
- Pharmacology of at least 25 medications
- Administer medications & solutions via various routes.
- Utilization & monitoring of electrocardiographic (ECG) devices.
- Advanced Cardiac Life Support
- Pediatric Advanced Life Support
- Prehospital Trauma Life Support

Certification Provisions -

- Licensed by the State, valid statewide, local accreditation
- 2 year licensure
- 48 hour Continuing Education Units every 2 years
- Maintain currency of required certifications (CPR, ACLS, PALS) every 2 years

