Key Information - What you need to know

‘Intensive’ EMT Basic

Pre-requisites – Students must:

- Be a minimum of 18 years of age
- Have a High School Diploma or GED
- Have current documentation of vaccination from (MMR) Mumps, Measles and Rubella, (HBV) Hepatitis B, and Tuberculosis (PPD) screen in last year. Students who started the HBV series meet the requirements
- Have no criminal record of felony charges
- Have completed a background check with CastleBranch (see attached form and directions)

169 course hours – Preparation for:

- Scope of Practice Exam for NCOEMS and NREMT (Practical Examination for EMT-B)
- Computer-based Testing dates may be chosen 24 hours after course completion at a number of computer-based testing sites through Pearson Vue
- Eligibility for Written Exam Registration for NCOEMS (NC EMT-B is a 4-year certification) begins 14 days after close of course.

Course costs include – (Housing and books are additional):

- Experienced Instructional Staff, certified as NREMT-B to NREMT-P
- The National Center for Outdoor & Adventure Education is an accredited EMS school recognized by the North Carolina Office of Emergency Medical Services
- Small class size, with a maximum of 18-20 students
- Required course textbook – AAOS, “Emergency Care and Transportation of the Sick and Injured” 11th Edition (you are required to purchase this book)
- American Heart Association Healthcare Provider CPR 2-year certification
- Clinical uniform shirt
- Clinical malpractice insurance
- All course equipment is provided for student use
- Access to all course equipment after class hours for study and practice
- Min of 12-18 hours of clinical experience on ambulances
- Weekly quizzes for material highlights and retention
- Mid-course performance evaluation
- Learn additional advance life support assist skills that increase your abilities
If you are interested in obtaining your wilderness upgrade for your EMT-B certification, please inquire by emailing or calling. We offer several of these courses throughout the year and are confident that we can find a course date that will fit with your schedule.

**Student expectations of our courses:**

- Our instructors know the materials and teach the curriculum to individual learners
- Our pass rate for NREMT is greater than 90%
- Our pass rate for NC EMT is near 100%
- Our classroom learning focuses on clear information and practice
- Realistic scenarios meld the curriculum pieces for big picture understanding
- Class hours from 8AM – 5PM, M-F
- Clinical hours will be Saturdays and Sundays

Students can expect classroom lecture, instructor demonstrations, some multi-media presentations, scenarios, and homework assignments including text readings, quizzes, and instructor-guided practice as primary teaching modalities. *The first two weeks of this course are extremely intense as we share a significant portion of the course material.* The design that we find makes our students most successful is to go hard and heavy at the start, then review and teach the closing topics during the last week as we prepare for testing.

**Expectations of our students:**

- Students are required to attend all course lectures, skill sessions and clinicals
- Students are expected to participate 100%
- Students are expected to be accountable for an 80% average on all course exams
- Students are expected to retest any exams less than 80%
- Students are expected to be punctual to class and to clinical rotations
- Students are expected to ask for help when they are uncertain
- Students are expected to behave as community members at our campus

On the first day of our course, students will sign a contract agreeing to the statements above (This contract is available for view along with the other course files).
**FAQ's**

**Q:** When do we sign up for clinical?

**A:** You will be assigned a clinical ride-along site and time during the first week of class.

**Q:** What is the average age of students?

**A:** On average between 18 and 30 – but we commonly have older students as well.

**Q:** What kind of time off do we get during class?

**A:** Time off depends on your clinical schedule and your evening time management. Students generally have very little free time during our course.

**Q:** Should I buy the workbook for the course text?

**A:** We recommend that you do although it is not required.

**Q:** In the event that I do pass my first NREMT exam attempts will the school assist me with resources and recommendation for retesting?

**A:** Yes, we monitor all test scores from our students and serve as a resource later.

**Q:** Who takes the EMT-B Intensive course?

**A:** The EMT-B certification is required by many rescue and law enforcement entities, lifeguards, ski patrol, athletic trainers, as well as recreational guides and of course ambulance medics. Many folks come to us for a strong foundation in EMS training before they go on to advanced training. Most of our students take the EMT-B Intensive in combination of the Wilderness upgrade for EMT’s from WMTC for to support oversees travel expeditions or recreational employment stateside.

**Q:** If I have a current WFR does that upgrade me to a WEMT?

**A:** It depends. If you have successfully completed one of our WFR courses and your certification has not yet expired, then yes; you will automatically upgrade to a WEMT until the original WFR certification expires. Your wilderness upgrade (WEMT) expiration date is the same as your original WFR certification expiration date.

If you received your WFR certification from another provider, you will need to contact that provider after completing your EMT-B course and provide them with proof of successful
completion of the EMT course. That provider will determine whether or not you may be upgraded to a WEMT.

**Q:** Are financial scholarships available for the EMT-B course?

**A:** No, not at this time.

**Q:** Is college credit available for this course?

**A:** Yes. It is common for students enrolled in other universities to submit paperwork to the completed by our administration to receive appropriate credit.

**Q:** What is the cost for the Intensive EMT-B?

**A:** At our 17-acre campus in Southeastern North Carolina (about 1 mile from the beach), the cost of tuition is $1,950.00 (plus an optional $200.00 for course housing if students plan to live on campus). At other collaborative sites prices may vary slightly.

**Q:** Are meals included?

**A:** No. A grocery store, several coffee shops, fast-food, and casual dining options are within walking distance from our campus. We provide both refrigerated and dry food storage space as well as some utensils, a coffee maker, hotplate, microwave, and toaster oven for students to prepare meals on site.

**Q:** What are my housing options at the base?

**Q:** You can bring your own tent, or stay in one of our ‘rustic’ cabins. There is no power in the cabins and each one sleeps four students. The same price of $200.00 applies regardless of whether or not the student wishes to camp or stay in a cabin. Housing includes shower access, pavilion for cooking and kitchen cleanup area and trash removal. Please let us know what your preference is when you register.

**Q:** What are my options if I stay off campus?

**A:** Contact our office and we can recommend hotels and campgrounds close by.

**Q:** Can I come to the course with my wife, husband, girlfriend or significant other?

**A:** Yes, but we discourage exclusive relationships which are often taxed under intense conditions like our course.
Release/Assumption of Risk
All participants will be asked to read and sign a release acknowledging the inherent risks that are involved in any of NCOAE’s courses or programs. Minors will have a parent or guardian sign on their behalf.

Eligibility
Participants must be of sound health and able to walk 6-8 miles a day and/or display adequate swimming skills in water-based courses. Although our trips are designed to travel at a leisurely pace and much of the day is occupied with classroom and practical time, this request serves to mark an appropriate level of physical fitness.

Deposits and Refunds
1. A non-refundable, 10% tuition deposit required to hold a spot in a course.
2. Full tuition payment due 30 days before course start.
3. Registration within 30 days of course start requires full tuition at registration.
4. Cancelations and Course Transfers:
   More than 30 days prior to course start, funds paid minus the 10% admission fee are refundable.
   Cancelations within 30 days prior to course start, all funds are forfeited.
   Transfers: Within 30 days prior to course start, 50% of tuition is transferable the remainder is forfeited.
   Transfers must be made to courses (at the base, ONLY) within one calendar year of original course enrollment, or funds will be forfeited. Funds may not be transferred to an outside, sponsored course. Only one transfer per student is authorized. All funds are forfeited under any and all circumstances in any attempt to cancel or transfer a second time, under the originally registered/enrolled course or training.
   Transfers within 15 days prior to courses start, all funds are forfeited.
   If NCOAE cancels a course due to low enrollments, funds paid are transferrable or 100% refundable.
   To Cancel or Transfer, you must: Send a certified letter to NCOAE base (9809 River Road, Wilmington, NC 28412) and follow up via email (info@ncoae.org) to let us know that the letter is in the mail.
Community Living
Much of the instruction will be led as a participatory and hands-on activity, with micro-lecturettes for specific topics and workshops. In a Base course, each person is expected to participate fully within the class context, as well as in the living community during non-class times. This includes participating in general chores like classroom power cleans, collecting and maintaining classroom gear and equipment, but also include managing personal living needs within the context of the group, and assisting others with their needs as they become apparent. In a Backcountry Classroom setting, each person will be responsible for helping out as an active part in the group’s everyday camping tasks including: cooking, cleaning, equipment set up and break down, water purification, etc. Living with other people in close conditions requires practice in understanding and tolerance. All participants should be prepared to work within the group’s dynamics.

Drugs and Alcohol – This is a ZERO TOLERANCE policy
No controlled substances or alcoholic beverage are permitted on NCOAE property or during courses. Violation of this policy will result in immediate expulsion from the program with no fee or tuition reimbursement.

All participants under the influence of a prescription medication must inform the administration on their health forms, and the course instructors will also have access to that information. Medications and health issues should not disqualify you from a program; instructors need to know how to help you in the event that you need it. We encourage participants to bring all medications needed during trip/course hours. Your instructor will help make travel accommodations for needed items (Ex. Bee sting kits, inhalers, etc.).

Travel To and From NCOAE’s Base
If you plan to fly or take a bus instead of driving your own vehicle, make your plans with the following in mind: Do not make airline reservations before thirty days from the course, when we commit to or cancel a course based on the enrollment. Please be aware that you are responsible for arranging your own transportation to our base. You may take an Uber Cab or a Taxi from Wilmington International Airport. If you would like to ride-share with other students, let our office know when you plan to arrive, and this information will be shared with other students who are flying in. More detailed information for travel considerations can be found at NCOAE.org on the registration page (travel considerations are found in a tab at the bottom of the page).
We frequently have people attend our courses from all over the country and internationally, and they often come without a personal vehicle. Our campus is in close proximity to almost anything you may need. It’s easy to share a ride and expenses with other classmates to grocery stores, clinical sites, beach, or river areas, all of which are within easy access of our base in Wilmington.

**Parking at NCOAE**

NCOAE’s 17-acre campus is squeezed in between the Cape Fear and the Atlantic Ocean. Much of the campus is wooded, so parking is limited. If you are coming with a friend or small group, please try to carpool to limit the number of vehicles.

**Facility**

Please bring an extra pair of “inside” shoes, slippers, or sandals for use in the classroom. We ask folks to remove their “outside” shoes upon entering, in order to cut drastically down on cleanup, and for hygiene reasons we would like people not to go barefoot.

Lodging is available for an additional charge of $200.00, which provides access to indoor plumbing and hot showers, indoor/outdoor cooking, eating, and cleanup areas, compost and trash/recyclables. Space is limited, so please reserve in advance for either camping or cabin living. If you are not paying to stay at the Base, you will not have access to the amenities.

NCOAE base camp has ‘rustic’ cabins for EMT students. These cabins are equipped with two bunk beds in each one with memory foam mattress’s. There is no power down at the cabins. If you are attending an EMT course in December or February, be sure to bring a warm sleeping bag (or 2)

There is plenty of space for personal camping available on the 17 acres if you choose to bring your own setup for sleeping (tents, hammocks, etc.).

The classroom has two bathrooms, a coffee maker, refrigerator, microwave, and toaster oven, hot plates and more available for students to share in the classroom. Be considerate of others and keep refrigerated items to a minimum – we are close to town and it’s easy to make a trip to a grocery store every few days to restock. Bring a Rubbermaid box or crate for food storage; several bins are available for folks who are flying in and can’t transport one with them. Some folks bring a camp stove and cook under the pavilion, just beside the ‘Cave.’ There are two outdoor showers with hot/cold water behind the ‘Cave.’
Tobacco
Class times are inappropriate for tobacco product use (chew, cigarettes, etc.). During 10 minutes breaks, lunch, and after class there will be a designated area in which you can use tobacco. At our base we ask folks to smoke, etc. in the parking lot only. Violation of this request can result in immediate expulsion from the course with no fee or tuition reimbursement. Please field dress your butts and dispose of them in the appropriate receptacles – the nicotine in the filters in not only dangerous to you, but highly toxic to the wildlife in our Steward Forest. If your nicotine needs interfere with class attendance, you should investigate other nicotine alternative (the patch, gum, or other).

Transportation
In courses that continue in other locations, participants are responsible for transportation to the destination. We will arrange carpools to program sites when we are together as a class. At all times we attempt to find suitable parking option; however, NCOAE assumes no responsibility for vehicles left unattended.

Safety
It is our primary mission to provide outdoor adventure programming while paying close attention to plans for risk management. The outdoors and outdoor activities are inherently dangerous. We have chosen equipment and program sites carefully. Our instructors are outdoor professionals who hold current certification in Wilderness First Responder, Wilderness EMT, and professional level CPR. In the event of an accident, NCOAE staff will aid in medical care of the ill or injured until EMS arrives or evacuation is executed. Any costs of medical care and evacuation beyond the initial medical care given by our staff, is the sole responsibility of the ill or injured.

Pets
Please leave your animal companions at home. No animal will be tied outside of a vehicle or kept inside of a vehicle during our courses. If you do arrive with an animal, we will direct you toward a kennel for the duration of your course. If this is unacceptable, we will ask that you dis-enroll in the course. Cancellation policies will be in effect.

Phones/Computer/Faxes
NCOAE courses are designed with outdoor recreationists and professionals in mind. There is no phone or computer available for personal use. A phone is available if the office should you need to
call 911 in an emergency, or for incoming emergency calls. We do request that cell phones be turned off during class hours.

Wi-Fi connectivity is available at our base with your own computer equipment. The University of North Carolina at Wilmington and Cape Fear Community College are both just a few miles away with a computer lab and has pay phones available. There are several locations just a few miles from base and where you can also access the web for a fee.

You may receive or send faxes from our office for a fee of $0.25/page. This service is available for faxing needs pertaining to class administration, ONLY. The post office and several businesses in Wilmington have faxing service available for personal or personal business needs.

**Harassment**

Students, staff, or administrators will absolutely not tolerate harassment of any kind during courses and after course hours on NCOAE property. It is your responsibility to report any misconduct to the administration of NCOAE. If you are suspected of harassing others you will be asked to leave, and your tuition will not be refunded.

**Down Time**

NCOAE is just a few miles from two colleges and several coffee shops, which allows computer access. Our campus is also just couple minutes from Carolina Beach, a few miles from downtown Wilmington with a variety of grocery stores, restaurants, and fast food places. NCOAE campus is only a couple minutes away from great surfing, sea kayaking, canoeing, fishing or just a nice sunset study session on the beach!

**Clinicals and Ride Times for EMT-Basics**

Currently, students receive a minimum of 12 hours in the back of an ambulance. Per new National and State regulations, EMT-Basics will be required to ride for a minimum of two (2) twelve (12) hours shifts (total of 24 hours) to meet the preceptorship guidelines.

Students are responsible for their own transportation to and from clinical sites, anywhere from 30 to 90 minutes away from the NCOAE campus. We have great partnerships with several Ambulance Services and Emergency Rooms where past students have performed in a professional manner under the guidance of the Paramedics, Nurses, and Doctors. These clinical sites do not get paid or get additional benefits for allowing you the opportunity to learn there. In fact, some go above and beyond to give every opportunity to the student if he or she works well with their system and expectations.
Clinicals are a hit-or-miss opportunity; emergencies do not happen when planned, which requires EMS to be a dynamic profession. Some shifts are slow and students do no more than wash the ambulance, change bed linens, and study. These are good opportunities to get in extra study time or to capitalize on your exposure to equipment and highly trained professionals who are not involved with immediate patient care. Most healthcare professionals are very open to helping students who take the initiative to ask pertinent questions, or to find out what equipment is what and how to use all of it. Other shifts are very busy with call after call, or patient after patient. You may be called into assisting with CPR while Paramedics are getting medications and AEDs ready, or your may get to assess vital signs and lung sounds on sick or injured people. You may be asked to pull manual traction on fractures while doctors apply casts, or to observe in surgery. Everything you see will prepare you for the real world of EMS and your new role in it.

Clinical opportunities will be offered on the weekends, during the EMT course. You will not be required to stay longer than your 12-hour shift (for each shift).

It is important to arrive on time and in the right clothing to conform to approved dress codes. During your first week of class, you will be issued a uniform top which identifies you with NCOAE as an EMT-Basic student.

**Other required / acceptable clothing is as follows:**

- A white t-shirt to wear under your top if weather is cool
- Bring your jacket or raingear if you will be on an ambulance
- Dress slacks, or nice dark pants navy or black in color, with belt (NO jeans, Carharrts, shorts or sweats)
- Black utility boots (NO hiking boots)
- Shoes with decent traction: crocs or new cross trainer (NO heels)
- All clothing needs to be fresh, clean, and free of stains, frays, or tears. Your clinical preceptor will assess your appearance when you walk through their door and if you do not meet these minimum standards you may be asked to leave.

A professional personal appearance is important when you are taking care of other people. In addition to the above dress code, personal hygiene is mandatory. All bodies must be clean and neat, freshly shaved (neat facial hair is acceptable), and free from odors and strong perfumes. Long hair must be pulled back, and body art or tattoos must be concealed. Some sites may require the removal of excess jewelry or non-traditional piercings.
Safety
Even observing, there is always the possibility of contact with body fluids. Appropriate clothing and appearance helps reduce the risk of exposure. Your instructor will explain the latest infectious disease concerns and precautions. Host sites require you to have completed, or at least begun, a Hepatitis B series before your program. You should also have received all childhood immunizations. Due to an increase in tuberculosis diagnoses, all healthcare workers should have PPD (TB) testing on a regular basis. As a requirement for observations, EMT students must provide proof of a PPD test within six months prior to the start of their course. We ask that you have the PPD testing completed and the Hepatitis B series at least begun before your arrival and that you bring proof for each from the attending doctor or clinic.

Required Background Check
Due to a recent policy, procedure and protocol changes, NCOAE and clinical partners, are requiring all students to obtain a background check before attending clinical at their facilities. Without one, you will not be allowed to complete your clinical work. These new regulations are beyond our control and we apologize for any inconvenience. Please be aware that clinical work is not a requirement of the state or national registry exam. However, we at NCOAE have always felt that clinical work enhances your learning experience and help to better you as a practicing EMT so, we have made them a graduation course requirement when slots for our students are available. The background check is completely confidential, and will automatically be transferred directly to the database at NCOAE, releasing you for clinical. The cost of a background check varies depending upon the state you live in (NCOAE has no control over this cost). To obtain your background check, please follow the instructions found in the release section of your registration packet/email. This will walk you through all the necessary steps needed to obtain your background check for your clinical program. Please follow the directions carefully and feel free to contact the NCOAE office at 910-399-8090 if you have any trouble accessing the website.

Once you have finished, please forward the confirmation email you receive from CastleBranch to info@NCOAE.org and we will take care of the rest!
EMT-B Class & Gear Lists

Base Camp:
If you are camping:
- Tent, tarp, or sleeping system
- Personal sleeping and living gear

If you are staying in the bunkhouse:
- Sleeping Bag
- Pillow
- Sheet to cover mattress (twin fitted or loose sheet to tuck in)

And the following items:
- Stove, fuel, cooking gear
- Food storage crate(s)
- Outdoor shoes (shoes are mandatory at all times!)
- Headlamp for night travel on trails
- Towel and shower shoes
- Cash for laundry, groceries, etc.
- Sunscreen

Classroom:
- Notebook, pens, two #2 pencils (for testing)
- Pocket notebook (for scenarios and clinicals)
- Crazy Creek chair if you don’t want to sit at a table
- Indoor shoes (shoes are mandatory at all times!)
- 2-3 sets of old, beater clothing that can be completely destroyed with shears and moulage. This is ONLY if you are staying for the Wilderness Upgrade for EMT’s WEMT (stage blood and makeup)

Clinical Visits:
- Closed-toed shoes in good condition
- Running shoes or Crocs for ER in good condition
- Black boots for EMS
- NO heels, sandals, hiking boots, or old athletic shoes
- White T-shirt to wear under clinical top
- Clinical Uniform Polo (you will be issued a polo in the first week of class)