



Columbia Gorge Community College

building dreams, transforming lives

Enhancing Emergency Medical Training in the Pacific Northwest: Columbia Gorge Community College Partners with The National Center for Outdoor & Adventure Education to Provide Intensive EMT Training Program

The Dalles, Oregon, 9/8/2023. Columbia Gorge Community College (CGCC), with locations in The Dalles and Hood River, Oregon, announced today a partnership with a worldwide leader in outdoor education and urban and wilderness medicine training, the National Center for Outdoor & Adventure Education (NCOAE).

This is one of the newest partnerships developed by CGCC to provide high-quality education beyond the walls of traditional classrooms. It will provide the delivery of NCOAE's groundbreaking 21-day intensive EMT training course in the Pacific Northwest. The inaugural course delivered under the agreement—a hybrid program comprised of 10 days of virtual instructor-led training and eleven days of hands-on, practical skills training—is now concluding in Tygh Valley in Wasco County, Oregon.

"The announcement of this partnership strengthens our leadership and accelerates our growth," said Zac Adair, co-founder and executive director of NCOAE. "We are proud to have successfully navigated the process of qualifying our training for delivery in the State of Oregon and now look forward to helping people coast to coast prepare for and pass their National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam."

There has never been a more pressing time for high-quality EMT training. According to the American Ambulance Association, the crippling shortage of emergency medical technicians (EMTs) is resulting in longer 911 response times for ambulances to reach patients in need of emergency services.

"We are excited to collaborate with NCOAE to provide this unique training to students from a variety of backgrounds," Ken Talley, Community Education and Customized Training Coordinator for CGCC, said of the partnership. "It allows CGCC to support NCOAE efforts to provide an accelerated EMT program, while CGCC continues to offer our traditional college credit EMT courses. Through this

partnership we are better able to meet the needs of more students and communities.”

NCOAE's 21-day intensive EMT training course satisfies eligibility requirements for several certifications and covers topics including patient assessment, body systems, medical emergencies, trauma, medication administration, automatic defibrillation, environmental medicine, and toxins. The course also meets all initial EMT education requirements for the National Registry of EMTs, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), and the State of Oregon's Health Authority standards.

EMT certification is required by many rescue and law enforcement entities, lifeguarding organizations, ski patrol units, athletic trainers, recreational guides, and ambulance medics.

Upcoming Sessions:

The next session runs September 28th to October 20. Registration is *closed* with a full roster of 12 students.

Registration is *now open* for the October 26th to November 17 session. There are only *4 spots left*.

About the National Center for Outdoor & Adventure Education (NCOAE)

Since launching its first courses in Pisgah National Forest in North Carolina in 2009, NCOAE has grown into a global outdoor and adventure education provider. It is committed to creating and facilitating wilderness-based experiences that foster personal growth, professional development, and acquisition or improvement of technical outdoor and urban or wilderness medicine skills. Accredited by the Association for Experiential Education (AEE) and the Commission on Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE), NCOAE provides courses and training throughout the United States and as far away as Patagonia and other destinations across the globe. For additional information on programming, visit: www.NCOAE.org

About Columbia Gorge Community College

Columbia Gorge Community College is a leading educational institution dedicated to providing accessible, high-quality education and training that empowers

individuals and promotes community success. With a commitment to academic excellence and student success, CGCC offers a wide range of programs and services designed to meet the diverse needs of its students and the communities it serves. For more information about CGCC, visit: www.cgcc.edu

Contacts:

Ken Talley, CGCC. (541) 506-6031. ktalley@cgcc.edu



Allie Hilbruner, NCOAE. (910) 399-8090. allie@ncoae.org

