

# Skyline College

## Emergency Medical Technician

### Program Review

### Executive Summary



### Short Summary of Findings

The Emergency Medical Technician program has been a provider of trained and qualified first responders for over 30 years. The program has also been providing students with important occupational skills and a path to employment. Students typically enrolled in the program are either interested in working as Emergency Medical Technicians, applying to Paramedic or Fire Science programs, or working in another area that requires some emergency preparedness. In addition to the Emergency Medical Technician-Basic program, a refresher class and basic CPR classes are offered in the department.

The EMT Program typically has higher retention and success rates than the College average. This retention and success is found across all student groups. The graduates are typically successful in passing the newly required national registry examination. Results from the class of Spring 2006 show an 82% pass rate on the National Registry Examination. The faculty are dedicated and love what they do. They are working professionals and yet continue to devote a significant amount of time to this program.

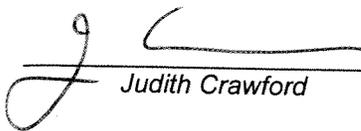
### Three Strengths of the Program

- Strong support from local industry and first responders
- A long established history of providing EMT training at the College and in this county
- Dedicated faculty that continue to modify the program to meet current practices and prepare students for emergency medical care employment or continued education

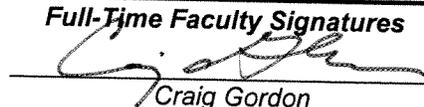
### Three Suggestions for Improvement

- Thirty years of sharing a cramped lab space must and is coming to an end. The College must not pull back on financial support for creating appropriate facilities
- The program is without a full-time faculty member. If the College wishes to see this program and its offerings expand a full-time faculty member will be required once again.
- The College will need to increase the budget for short-term temporary staff to assist with the lab, lab testing and scenarios

#### Full-Time Faculty Signatures

  
Judith Crawford

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Craig Gordon

  
Craig Gordon  
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Submitted on: September 30, 2006

**SKYLINE COLLEGE  
EMERGENCY MEDICAL CARE  
PROGRAM REVIEW SELF STUDY**

**PART A: Overview of Program**

***1. State the goals/ focus of this program and how the program contributes to the mission and priorities of the College and District.***

The Emergency Medical Care Program provides career and technical training to students as Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT) – Basic and cardiopulmonary resuscitation. The program has strong ties to the first responder community in San Mateo County and provides students with access to a community college based EMT program. The program has been located at the College for thirty years and has developed strong community partnerships.

The EMT program meets the mission/goals of the College by providing an accessible high quality program. It also meets the goals of the District by providing career and technical education that provides employment or career advancement for graduates.

**Specific Program Objectives:**

- To provide curriculum and certificates for Emergency Care – particularly EMT-Basic that meet the needs of the students and First Responder community
- To provide activities and hands-on instruction based on local needs and national registry standards
- To provide appropriate training to students to pass the national certification examination and meet local skill expectations
- To provide refresher classes for EMT's as required by accreditation

***2. Discuss how this program coordinates, impacts, and/or interacts with other programs in the College.***

The Emergency Medical Care program provides Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation classes for students in many other health related programs. In addition the Respiratory Therapy and EMT program have shared labs for their entire time on this campus and share common equipment.

***3. If the program utilizes advisory boards and/or professional organizations, describe their roles.***

The EMT program utilizes an advisory board. This Board consists of selected members from the first responder community, employers and the San Mateo County Emergency Services Department.

The major role and responsibility of the Advisory Board is:

- To review the program on a regular basis and to provide industry insight into employment trends
- To recommend additions and changes to the curriculum
- To make suggestions related to the effectiveness of the program in preparing students for employment
- To assist the program in acquiring equipment and supplies
- To assist the program in providing students with clinical rotations

***4. Explain how this program meets the needs of our diverse community.***

The EMT program reflects the diversity of Skyline College and the faculty work very hard to ensure that all students benefit from the job opportunities and from the self-esteem that comes from completing this program. The perception by many is that the program would be mostly men, but in both 2002 and 2003 the class was 51% female. That number was lower at 36% in 2004

***5. If the program has completed a previous self-study, evaluate the progress made toward previous goals.***

The program has not completed a prior self-study

## **PART B: Curriculum**

***1. Describe how the courses offered in the program meet the needs of the discipline(s) and the students. (This may be answered through descriptive narrative evaluation or quantitative research).***

The curriculum is quite prescribed. California Code of Regulations - Title 22 lists the topics and skills that must be covered in accredited EMT Programs. In addition in 2006 San Mateo County began requiring that all EMT's certified in the county must not only have certificates from accredited programs, but also pass the National Registry Examination of Emergency Medical Technicians. The necessity of passing this examination has also driven the curriculum, the type of testing and the lab practicum for the program.

The results from the most recent graduates from the National Registry Examination show an 82% pass rate for Skyline Graduates

***2. State how the program has remained current in the discipline(s).***

The present program director is a practicing paramedic. The instructional aides are also practicing EMTs. This allows both to bring to the classroom real world experience, the newest equipment and supplies and updates in care.

In addition all faculty and aides in the program must take continuing education credits to maintain active credentials. The program uses guest lecturers for specialty areas such as child birth.

**3. *If the student population has changed, state how the program is addressing these changes.***

To assist the students in skill building and completing the practicums, the program changed to allow for more hands-on laboratory classes, group work and scenario based labs.

**4. *All courses in this program should be reviewed and, if appropriate, modified every six years. If this has not occurred, please list the courses and explain.***

N/A

**5. *If external accreditation or certification is required, please state the certifying agency and status of the program.***

The EMT- Basic program and the Continuing Education Provider Program is fully accredited by the San Mateo County Emergency Medical Services Department of the Health Services Agency.

**6. *Discuss plans for future review and program modification.***

The primary development in the program has been the moving away from a "home grown" program with objectives and classes determined by the Program Director to following the curriculum of the National Registry. This has somewhat created standardization of the curriculum but ensures that students will be able to pass certification examinations and receive credentials. The other major change was to delineate more clearly lecture and lab for the courses. Prior to 2003 the program was set up with students coming all day for one day/week. The same material was presented 2-3 times/week. The program was modified to have all students attend lecture in the evening and then an all day lab one day/week. This ensured all students participated with the same lectures. It also increased the lab time. Prior to this students often were shorted lab time as lecture was always "squeezed" into the day. These two changes are being evaluated and appear to be very successful. Evaluation will be continued.

The program has recently placed an increased emphasis on skill development. The increase lab hours and scenario based labs has accomplished this. Over the last two years the program has included a staged emergency event requiring the students to triage and practice their skills.

The EMT program has considered expanding classes to the High Schools and offer the program to those turning 18 during the program, but lack of staff time and availability will make this very difficult.

## **PART C: Faculty and Staff**

***1. List major development activities completed by faculty and staff in this program in the last six years and state what development is needed or proposed by faculty in this program.***

The director has attended a required conference for EMS faculty sponsored by the National Association of EMSD Educators. The course is based on the department of Transportation Curriculum.

***2. Describe the orientation process for new faculty and staff ( include student workers such as tutors and aides).***

Most of the new staff are skills preceptors (instructional aides) that work with students during lab activities. These staff have for the most part been graduates of the program. They are typically quite familiar with the College and Program. The lead preceptor will typically orient them to labs, equipment, testing and expectations

***3. If recruitment of new and/or diverse faculty is needed, suggest recruitment techniques.***

N/A

## **PART D: Facilities, Equipment, Materials and Maintenance**

***1. Discuss the effectiveness of the facilities, equipment, equipment maintenance, and materials for the program to meet its goals and focus. Include if they impact success and if they are accessible to all students.***

The facility has been the greatest problem in the program for many years. Sharing a very small space with respiratory therapy, CPR, medical terminology and every healthcare program offered over the years has been impossible. This will be rectified with the new construction projects! The program typically has most of the equipment and supplies to support the program.

***2. List projected needs.***

See budget requests

***3. Describe the use of technology in the program and discuss if technology is current and comparable to other college and business or industry.***

The program uses digital equipment consistent with that used in the field. The program uses available simulators. A local ambulance operator has also recently offered to donate a working ambulance for student use.

***4. If appropriate, describe the support the program receives from industry. If the support is not adequate, what is necessary to improve that support?***

Local ambulance companies provide clinical ride-alongs for students. In addition local hospitals allow students clinical training in the Emergency Departments. They typically both provide supervision for these students. Support from local industry has been very good.

## **PART E: Budget Request**

***1. What resources (staff, facilities, equipment and/or supplies) will be needed in the next six years?***

- The program has been without a full-time faculty member since 2003. For this program to grow, expand to additional sites a full-time coordinator needs to be retained
- Additional funding needs to be allocated for lab preceptors. Accreditation standards require one-preceptor for every 10 students when practicing/testing lab skills. The present budget lasts for only one semester

***2. If appropriate, discuss methods the program could share resources with other programs in the College and District.***

The program presently shares facilities with other healthcare programs. In addition the program shares equipment with Respiratory Therapy. In the new lab design the program will also share facilities with Pharmacy Technician.

**Skyline College Program Review**  
**Worksheet for Enrollment, Performance and WSCH/FTE**  
**Emergency Medical Technician**

***Weekly Student Contact Hours – WSCH***

Report the 3 previous **Fall** semesters with the most recent on the right.

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Year	2004	2005	2006
WSCH	529	588	633

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**Please comment on program enrollment and expected trends.**

The EMT Program has been at capacity for the last five years. There will continue to be strong demand for the program both to meet the need for EMT's and as a prerequisite for paramedic programs and many fire science classes. In addition many other workers in public service have been required to have the skills taught in EMT-Basic

***FTE and WSCH/FTE (LOAD)***

Report the previous 3 Fall semesters with the most recent on the right

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	2004	2005	2006
FTE	1.04	1.11	1.06
WSCH/FTE	509	529	597

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**Please comment on the comparison of this program to College trends.**

The EMT program is equally efficient as judged by WSCH/FTE as the College, but considering that it has no full-time employees is considerably more cost-effective.

***Retention and Success***

Report data on program retention and success rate with the most recent on the right.

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	2002	2003	2004
Retention	97%	99%	90%
Success	64%	96%	81%

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**Please comment on the programs success and retention rate. Include factors that affect the rates and how college services are used to provide multiple avenues for student success.**

In 2002 offered under the EMT department were a number of one day seminars from on topics ranging from domestic violence to hazardous materials. These classes were offered on Saturday. The low success rate may be related to students not withdrawing and being required to have grade awarded. The typical success and retention rate for the EMT program is closer to that found in 2003 and 2004.

Looking at the success rate for specific populations provides mixed results with no apparent trends. Example; The success rate of 18-22 years olds n=64 in 2002 was 45%, but was 92% in 2003, n=13 and 81% in 2004, n=27. Ethnicity also showed no trends. Example in 2002 the success rate for African-American students was 67%, n= 6 and Hispanic students 43%, n=47. In 2004 the success in African American students was 50%, n=4 and Hispanic students 93%, n=14.

Something that occurred in 2002 is making the data somewhat difficult to evaluate. The present faculty members were not here at that time.

## COURSE OUTLINE & PREREQUISITE CHECKLIST

1	2	3	4		5	6	7
Prefix & Number	Title	Review Date	Transfer		G.E.	Prerequisites, Corequisites, Recommendations	Validated
			csu	uc & csu			
EMC 410	Emergency Medical Tech - B	9/2006				Prerequisite: Completion of EMC 425 or a valid Healthcare Provider CPR card	x
EMC 415	Emergency Medical Technician Basic - Refresher	9/2006				Prerequisite: California EMT B Certificate that is current or has not been expired for more than four years	x
EMC 425	CPR – Healthcare Provider	9/2006					
EMC 665	Selected Topics in Emergency Medical Care	9/2006					

**Skyline College Program Review  
Certification of Course Outline & Prerequisite Review**

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**Faculty Signatures**

  
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Judith Crawford

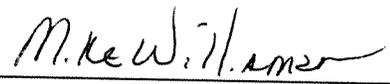
  
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Craig Gordon

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**Date Submitted:** Mike Williamson

**Division Dean:**   
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*(Additional faculty signature lines may be added to this form as needed.)*

