



News Release

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NMCC to offer EMT course in St. John Valley to provide additional option for displaced workers in the region and meet community need

St. John Valley - Northern Maine Community College will expand its class offerings in the St. John Valley to offer residents of the region, especially those impacted by lay-offs and downsizing, an opportunity to train in a different career field. NMCC will offer a session of its Basic EMT class at the St. John Valley Technology Center in Frenchville during its upcoming Spring Semester.

The course, which will begin on Saturday, January 16, will be held on Saturdays through May. Course instructors will be paramedics Karen Boucher and Kurt Soucy.

The entry level course prepares ambulance and rescue personnel, police officers, and firefighters to administer pre-hospital emergency care. In addition, a lab component that accompanies the five-credit offering provides practice in patient assessment, airway management, CPR, automatic external defibrillation, oxygen delivery, dressings, and shock control. The course follows the US DOT national curriculum for EMS training. Students who successfully complete the course are eligible to sit for the national registry examination.

According to Daryl Boucher, coordinator of NMCC's EMS program, the course offering will provide an option for displaced workers and others in the St. John Valley looking for a career change or additional training, as well as help meet an immediate local need.

"The ambulance services in the St. John Valley are in need of licensed personnel to assist with emergency calls and coverage," said Boucher. "The course will be available for dual enrollment for high school students, as well as displaced workers."

Students successfully completing the course will be able to provide basic emergency care to ill and injured individuals; effectively manage airway, breathing, or circulation problems; effectively manage trauma patients; develop a plan of care for patients with various medical conditions; appropriately document patient case work; list the medical and legal considerations in providing emergency care; and meet all of the objectives established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians for EMT-Basic.

In addition to the class session being conducted in Frenchville, the clinical component of the course will also be offered locally.

“Clinical opportunities will be completed with local ambulance services, therefore students will get to precept with a potential future employer. As a result, they will already know the ‘ropes’ so to speak,” said Boucher.

For more information on the Basic EMT class being offered in Madawaska, contact Boucher at 768-2756 or by e-mail at dboucher@nmcc.edu. To register for the course, call the St. John Valley Adult and Community Education Collaborative, NMCC’s St. John Valley Center partners at 728-6314 or 834-3536.

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