

# CAREERS IN ACTION

ADULT, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANATEE COUNTY

**Students:  
Need excitement?  
(Try EMS!)**

**LEARN today, EARN tomorrow, SHAPE your future NOW** [www.ManateeACT.com](http://www.ManateeACT.com)

## Emergency!

It is 2:00 a.m. and you are sound asleep—at work. Suddenly the blue lights come on, the beeper goes off, and a voice over an intercom starts spewing information. What do you do? You wake up immediately, fly out of bed, pull on a regulation jumpsuit adorned with reflector tape, grab your laptop, and race to the printer for your “rip-n-run,” a printed version of the call you are responding to. Next you hop in the truck, contact the dispatcher, and set your map for the location of the rescue call.

All of this in less than a minute!

If you can't wait to find out what happens next, then perhaps a career in Emergency Medical Services (EMS) may be just what you are looking for. To find out more, investigate the many programs in health-related occupations and public service fields at Manatee Technical Institute's (MTI) East campus. At MTI East, you might meet Jay Bush, the EMS Program Director and a paramedic instructor.

“Being a technical school gives us an advantage,” Jay said recently. “Our EMS programs have extensive hospital, clinical, and field internships. Clinicals include rotations through several local hospital emergency departments, mental health facilities, and ride-alongs with Manatee County and St. Petersburg EMS. In addition, adjunct teachers from the paramedic community support our program with an intense amount of lab skills and skills assessments on campus. Graduates of our program have a 90% pass rate of the Florida State Paramedic licensure exam.”

“Average is not good enough,” Jay continued. “We enhance our curriculum so our students are better prepared to enter the competitive market. Employers like to see MTI Paramedic graduate on job applications, and I want my students to have the extra edge so they can get better jobs.”

“Top quality teaching supported with tutoring and mentoring produces top quality paramedics,” added MTI Paramedic instructor Gina Harp. “We invest 100% into teaching and developing our students, and in turn they give us 100%—plus more—which plays a large role in their success.”

“EMS is a dynamic field that is continually changing,” Gina said. “We change to adapt and we continue to work in the field to maintain our skills.”

Fellow instructor and MTI EMT and Paramedic alumni Keith Lock returned to MTI to teach. “I like interacting with the students because I've been there,” he said. “In this field, students are like sponges. They have enthusiasm to learn. By combining my experience with the curriculum, I provide my students with a well-rounded education in the field of emergency medicine.”

For a solid career in Emergency Medical Services, MTI's strong leadership, commitment to students, and industry connections are a trifecta for success!

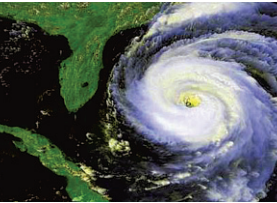
# JOBS



**Emergency Medical Technicians and Paramedics**  
Salary: \$22,100 – \$35,500  
Workplace: Emergency services  
Hours: 24 hours



**Firefighters**  
Salary: \$31,800 – \$50,900  
Workplace: Emergency services  
Hours: 24 hours



**Emergency Management Specialists**  
Salary: \$40,400 – \$67,100  
Workplace: Hurricane centers, service agencies  
Hours: 24 hours



SkillsUSA is a national partnership of students, teachers, and industry which helps its members become world-class workers, leaders, and responsible citizens. Manatee Technical Institute has claimed the national championship in the SkillsUSA competitions for seven straight years.

MTI EMS Program Director Jay Bush and EMS instructor Gina Harp.



MTI EMS instructors Keith Lock and Gina Harp work on their skills in the simulator lab as EMS Program Director Jay Bush refers to the OSHA manual.

## PARENT CORNER

- Discussion starter: Talk to your child about what kinds of careers will always be in demand, regardless of changes in the economy. (Hint: health care!)
- When an ambulance or fire truck passes you on the road, take advantage of a teachable moment. Talk to your child about the careers involved (dispatcher, fire fighter, EMS, EMT, mechanic, etc.). Also, discuss possible situations that might require a 9-1-1 call.
- “Our leadership is strong, in touch with the needs of current students, and always looking to the future,” Keith Lock, MTI EMS Instructor. For further information contact MTI Recruiter Donna Puhlovich at 941-752-8100, ext. 234.

## FCAT reading comprehension QUESTION

★ How do EMS students gain real-world experience before graduating?

Answer: Through clinical experience in hospital emergency departments and mental health facilities, and ride-alongs with county EMS personnel.

### What's on the WEB?

- [www.manateetechnicalinstitute.org/east\\_camp](http://www.manateetechnicalinstitute.org/east_camp)
- [www.emsvillage.com](http://www.emsvillage.com)
- [www.jems.com](http://www.jems.com)



**EdVantage Strategic Objective #2: Each student will articulate personal goals, create plans to achieve those goals, and exhibit progress toward their attainment.**



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