

Program Planning Summary
State Board for Technical and Comprehensive Education
(Not to exceed three pages in length)

1. College: **Midlands Technical College**
2. Award: **Associate in Health Science**
3. Major: **Emergency Medical Technology**
4. Designation (Check one)
 - a. New Program Proposal
 70 Number of credit hours
 - b. Program Modification
 _____ Number of credit hours
5. Proposed Date of Implementation: **Summer 2008**
6. Justification of Need:

The purpose of the proposed Associate Degree in Health Science, with a major in Emergency Medical Technology (EMT) is to provide students the opportunity to pursue training in a discipline of health science which is in high demand. The program will target both students wishing to enter the EMT field and those already in the field who desire to advance their career.

Currently, there are no college-based, credit-granting EMT programs in Midlands Technical College's (MTC) tri-county service area, which includes Fairfield, Lexington, and Richland counties. In MTC's service area, as is true in many other parts of the state, entry level EMT is offered through the Continuing Education Division. However, the existing program has not been able to produce sufficient graduates to meet the local workforce needs. At present, advanced training is offered through the South Carolina Midlands Emergency Medical Service Management Association (Midlands EMS). Students receiving training through Midlands EMS are not eligible for student tuition assistance or scholarships to offset the cost of their training. The lack of tuition assistance often presents a financial hardship for students, which has resulted in fewer students advancing in the EMT field.

The United States Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics (2006-2007), reports that employment of emergency medical technicians and paramedics is projected to "grow much faster than average through 2014 as paid emergency medical technicians replace unpaid volunteers." The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a growth rate of 27% or greater over the ten year period of 2004 – 2014. At the local level, information obtained

from CCBenefits, a commercial research organization, projects increased need for emergency medical technicians through the paramedic level. MTC anticipates a need for 441 Emergency Medical Services workers between 2008 and 2010 in the college's tri-county service area. This number represents new positions as well as positions that become available due to attrition.

7. Anticipated Program Demand and Productivity:

The proposed program is expected to generate an enrollment of 30 full-time students the first year. Program enrollment for the second and third years will include 50 full-time students (30 first year students and 20 second year students). These projections are based on anticipated interest in the courses and the available opportunities in the EMT field. Additionally, the student enrollment figures are based on trends noted in other rigorous health science programs currently offered at MTC, which have shown an attrition rate of approximately 33%.

8. Assessment of Extent to Which Proposed Program Duplicates Existing Programs in the State:

Currently, there are five technical colleges approved to offer an Associate Degree in Health Science, with a major in EMT: Florence-Darlington Technical College (FDTC), Greenville Technical College (GTC), Horry-Georgetown Technical College (HGTC), Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College (OCtech), Technical College of the Lowcountry (TCL), and Trident Technical College (TTC). Each of these colleges serves a unique area. None of these colleges are within a reasonable commute of the target students for the proposed program at MTC. The distance to other colleges coupled with the high demand for graduates in the Midlands area indicates a program at MTC would not duplicate the efforts of its sister institutions and would meet a critical need in the local community.

9. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Existing Programs at the Proposing Institution:

MTC's Health Sciences Department provides a number of programs of study for students wishing to pursue careers in the healthcare industry. The existing healthcare programs have a long history of success in training graduates for entry into the workforce. The college currently offers associate degree programs in Dental Hygiene, Health Information Technology, Medical Laboratory Technology, Physical Therapist Assistant, Radiological Technology, and Respiratory Therapy. The college offers diplomas in Expanded Duty Dental Assisting, Pharmacy Technician, and Surgical Technology. In addition, the college offers certificates in Community Pharmacy Technician, Limited General Radiological Technology, Medical Assisting, Nuclear Medicine Technology, and Medical Records Coding.

All of the health science programs currently offered at MTC for which program accreditation are available have met the requirements and are fully accredited. MTC has a robust history of student success in its health science programs as evidenced by successful national credentialing and state board examination completion. The college's

job placement of health science graduates remains high with several programs reporting 100 percent placement.

10. Relationship of the Proposed Program to Other Institutions Via Inter-Institutional Cooperation:

Although the proposed degree program is designed to be independent of programs offered at the other technical colleges, the proposed program will use common courses as noted in the existing EMT programs. Additionally, the proposed program is designed in the order of the South Carolina Technical College System (SCTCS) state program model for an Associate Degree in Health Science, with a major in EMT.

11. Total Costs Associated With Implementing the Proposed Program (General Estimates Only):

MTC is the recipient of a Federal Department of Labor, Employment Training Administration grant (DOLETA). The grant was awarded to meet local workforce needs, identified specifically are those needs in Emergency Medical Services. Funds from this grant will provide a significant portion of the start-up cost for the supplies and equipment needed for the proposed program.

Estimated Cost by Year			
CATEGORY	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Program Admin/faculty	56,450.00	58,143.00	59,787.00
Supplies and Materials	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
Equipment	50,000.00	-	-
Library Resources	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
Total Estimated Cost	114,450.00	66,143.00	67,787.00

(Signature of College President)

(Date)