



ACADEMIC RIDE ALONG PROGRAM

Rules and Regulations

The ride-along program is a privilege offered by Charleston County EMS (CCEMS) offering current EMT, paramedic, or other DHEC approved program taught in the tri-county region to be eligible for ride-along status. Its primary purpose is to educate students in the medical field and provide clinical requirements for courses. Ride requests other than from approved academic or contractual sources will be considered by the CCEMS Director. CCEMS can reassign, postpone, or cancel any ride-along at any time.

1. Students participating in the ride-along program do so under the direction and written approval of their course instructors and cannot ride with CCEMS without this authorization.
2. CCEMS Headquarters must have the following in order to schedule an academic ride-along:
 - a. A copy of the student's driver's license
 - b. A completed original Academic Waiver signed by the student and instructor with a witness's signature with the attached ride schedule. Riders must read the waiver carefully and understand its contents before signing. CCEMS will give you a copy of your waiver and an ID badge, if needed.
3. No rider will be allowed to ride without an original waiver filed at CCEMS Headquarters—No exceptions. Once the waiver is accepted and signed by CCEMS, ride dates may be scheduled by verbal or written requests by students or their instructors.
4. An instructor may authorize someone for a ride-along who is scheduled to start courses in the near future by sending a written request by letter email.
5. On the day of the ride-along, the student must have in his/her possession to present to the crew chief, (1) a copy of the Academic Waiver signed/approved by all parties and CCEMS and, (2) the appropriate ID tag worn in a visible place.
6. Ride-along assignments are restricted to those units and hours outlined on the current ride-along schedule, including night shifts on designated units. Students are expected to begin and end all rides at the scheduled times. Late arrivals may result in further delays or the cancelation of the assigned ride. Due to busy call volume and other unforeseen circumstances, ride time may be extended while the ambulance attempt to return to the station/hub.
7. Attire must be professional and consist of a shirt with a collar, slacks worn with a belt, sturdy leather shoes with socks. No jeans, tee shirts, skirts, sneakers, open toed shoes, or high heels are allowed. Clothing must be in good repair and presentable with no visible advertising slogans, logos, or testimonials; No loose jewelry (bracelets, necklaces, etc.), earrings, or expensive garments. *If representing other government agencies, uniforms or collared shirts with the agency name are appropriate.* Anticipate the weather and come prepared.
8. A ride-along does so at the discretion of CCEMS and is under the supervision of the crew chief at all times. The ride-along will conduct him or herself in an appropriate manner and may be dismissed at any time by the crew chief.
9. Ride-alongs must clearly understand that they will be exposed to many situations and circumstances of a highly personal nature. They must understand the importance of patient confidentiality and agree not to divulge or publicize patients' names, conditions or other identifying information. This is a Federal legal statute (HIPAA).
10. A non-emergency phone number for the 9-1-1 Communications Center is 843-743-7200 and may be given to family in the event they need to contact you. EMS station phone numbers are not to be given out. Contact EMS Headquarters at 843-202-6700 to cancel or reschedule a ride date.

Charleston County EMS Headquarters and Ride-Along Station Locations

<p>Headquarters 4045 Bridge View Dr., Ste.B309 North Charleston SC 29405</p> <p>P) 843-202-6700</p>	<p>1)Take I-526 Mark Clark, Leeds Ave. exit; Coming from north-turn left; from south-right; drive around curve and turn on Bridge View at next light 2) Take Hwy. 171 to Cosgrove; left on Azalea; left on Leeds; left on Bridgeview 3) I-26 to Cosgrove North exit; left on Azalea; left on Leeds; left on Bridgeview</p> <p>NOTE: EMS HQ is located on the 3rd floor.</p>
<p>Medic 1 21 Courtenay Drive Charleston SC 29401</p>	<p>Downtown at parking garage; turn on Charleston Center Drive from Courtenay; EMS is at the right at double bay doors.</p> <p>NOTE: Parking is not provided by CCEMS. <u>You may have to pay to park!</u></p>
<p>Medic 2, 12 2145 Melbourne Ave. Suite B North Charleston SC 29405</p>	<p>I-26 towards North Charleston, exit 215 Dorchester Road, right at Dorchester if westbound, left if eastbound; left at Meeting Street Road, right at Melbourne; or, Cosgrove to Rivers, left on Rivers, left on Melbourne before Wendy's.</p>
<p>Medic 4 1485 Folly Road James Island SC 29412</p>	<p>Located at the corner of Folly and Signal Point Road.</p>
<p>Medic 5 355 Seventh Avenue Mt. Pleasant SC 29464</p>	<p>Hwy.17 N-Turn left at second light from bridge on Mathis Ferry; approximately 2 miles on left, at intersection; located at MPFD Fire Station 3.</p>
<p>Medic 7 1527 Main Road Johns Island SC 29455</p>	<p>Get on Main Road from Savannah Hwy. or Maybank Hwy.; located across the street from Johns Island High School by the magistrate's office close to Maybank Hwy. end.</p>
<p>Medic 11 1189 Sweetgrass Basket Pkwy Mt. Pleasant SC 29464</p>	<p>At the Mt. Pleasant Service Center off the Isle of Palms Connector. EMS entrance located at rear of building.</p>
<p>Medic 14 5962 Hwy. 165, Ste. 600 Ravenel SC 29470</p>	<p>At the St. Paul Service Center down Hwy. 17 South (Savannah Hwy)</p>
<p>Medic 15 9425 Hwy. 78 Ladson SC 29456</p>	<p>I-26 to Exit 205-A (Hwy. 78); Approximately one mile on left;</p>
<p>Medic 3, 9, 20, 21, 22, 23 Charleston County Public Works Department – EMS Logistics Hub</p>	<p>Scheduled ride-alongs will report to EMS Headquarters <u>at the assigned start time</u>. Turn right and park in the back corner near the radio tower and EMS Supervisor parking. Please call Dispatch 843-743-7200 (HQ only if no answer) if your assigned unit does not arrive within 15 minutes.</p>