

EMT Students Practice Real-Life Scenarios

A behind-the-scenes look at PVCC's EMT104 Total Patient Management (TPM) Event will give you a deeper respect for the skill and quick-thinking of our first responders. During the TPM event, students are "dispatched" to real-life emergency medical scenarios ranging from a shooting to a car accident to a suicide attempt. Students respond in crews of four to five to simulate a real engine company. Students must assess the scene and patients and establish the necessity and priority to treat patients.

Students must think about and utilize many skills during these scenarios. They practice managing uncontrolled environments and asking the appropriate questions, as a scene may not always be as it appears. Not only do they reassure patients in distress, they must calm panicked relatives or friends. They also practice communicating with the hospital medical director and requesting medical transport, all while considering the medical and legal processes of the situation.

The instruction and guidance offered by Dan Donahue, EMT Program Director, David Sanchez, Fire Science Program Director, Darby Starr, EMT Program Adjunct Instructor and their team of skill evaluators and faculty is very professional and supportive. They critique and evaluate students so they are well prepared to take the National Registry Cognitive Written Examination for EMTs. It's easy to see why nearly 150 students are enrolled in the EMT program this semester.

