

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PROGRAMS
Program Review
Follow-up Report
Fall 2007

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HILLSBOROUGH

Community College 

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A task force was assembled in the Fall Term of 2006 to conduct a review of the HCC EMS Programs. Listed below are the 5 task force recommendations followed by a brief report of progress toward implementation. This report will be followed by a progress report on year following the review. Recommendations that have not been achieved within 12 months will be incorporated with the biennial objectives of this program to ensure a continued focus on their attainment.

Recommendations

1. Recent state Bureau of Emergency Medical Services site visit recommended additional faculty resourced be allocated for an EMS program of this size. Additional faculty resources will be part of future Unit Plans.

Status of Recommendation: Ongoing - Addition of full-time faculty will be part of the 2007-2009 Unit Plans.

Additional Data: A report from Economic Modeling Specialists, Inc. indicates that between 2007 and 2012 there will be a 21.85% in occupational jobs for EMTs and paramedics. Additionally, a report from *Community College and Technical Center Management Information Systems* on program completers for Police, Firefighters, and EMT's in 2006-2007 shows that HCC EMS Programs ranks 3rd among 25 Florida Community Colleges in EMT enrollment and 4th in paramedic enrollment for the same period.

2. Assign full-time faculty to EMS lab to oversee quality and consistency for rating student skills performance.

Status of Recommendation: This procedural change has eliminated student concerns of inconsistencies and rater reliability during psychomotor skills evaluation. The availability of the faculty in the lab to orchestrate and oversee students and lab instructors has added cohesiveness to the program.

3. Submit yearly request for Perkins Grant monies to replace worn-out equipment and to purchase up-to-date equipment.

Status of Recommendation: Request for 2007-2008 Perkins Grant funds have been partially approved as well as approval for 2007-2008 Capital Outlay Budget Request. The financial support of the institution has provided EMS Programs with vital up-to-date EKG monitors that will be used to train our paramedic students on equipment that is state of the art and used by our local EMS agencies.

4. Work with other departments to develop general education courses that could be offered on schedules that would accommodate unique 24-48 hour work schedules that would facilitate certificate completers to go on and obtain an AAS Degree in EMS.

Status of Recommendation: On-going - EMS Programs will continue to pursue this effort with other departments.

5. Develop a means to work more closely with high school guidance counselors and workforce personnel to encourage students of diversity to explore the EMS field as a career.

Status of Recommendation: EMS Programs has increased participation in career day activities hosted by Hillsborough Community College. We have also been working closely with the local EMS agencies who have been involved in recruitment efforts of diverse populations to transition these individuals into our EMT and paramedic certificate programs.

6. Additional Recommendation by the Cabinet was to explore the viability of the existing two-year AAS degree.

Status of Recommendation: A survey given to 92 currently enrolled paramedic certificate students indicates that 99% are interested in pursuing an AS/AAS Degree in Emergency Medical Services within one year of certificate completion. Of the individuals who responded and who are employed with the fire services also indicated that completion of additional course work is difficult because of their work schedule and would be interested in taking A&P I and II, as well as other general education courses either on a "shift schedule" or on-line.

Currently there is an A&P II course that is being offered online as a beta test and there may be an A&P I course in the future. The progress of this course will be monitored.