 **Job title: Paramedic**

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| **Job title: Paramedic** | **Paramedics deal with emergencies, giving people life-saving medical help.** |
| **Entry requirements:**  | * You'll need a foundation degree, diploma of higher education (DipHE) or degree in paramedic science or paramedic practice.
* You could start as a student paramedic, a trainee technician or an emergency care assistant for an ambulance service.
* Working as a volunteer community first responder with an organisation like St John Ambulance or an NHS ambulance trust, may help you to get onto a training course.
* Your local ambulance trust has information about the services in your area.
* To become a paramedic you'll need:
* to register with the Health and Care Professions Council (HCPC)
* a driving licence, including C1 category entitlement
* to pass a medical check
* an enhanced background check which your employer will arrange for you
* The College of Paramedics has more information about becoming a paramedic.
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| **Skills required:**  | You'll need:* excellent driving skills
* the ability to think and act quickly under pressure
* practical skills and the ability to follow procedures
* excellent communication skills
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| **What you'll do:**  | * Most paramedics work for NHS ambulance services. You'll deal with a range of situations, from minor wounds and substance misuse to serious injuries from fires and major road, rail and industrial accidents.

Your day-to-day tasks could include:* checking a patient's condition to decide what action to take
* using electric shock equipment (a defibrillator) to resuscitate patients
* carrying out surgical procedures like inserting a breathing tube
* giving medicines and injections
* dressing wounds and applying supports for broken bones
* delivering babies
* working closely with the police and fire services
* keeping accurate records and checking equipment
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| **What you’ll earn:**  | * Starter: £23,023 (qualified paramedic)
* Experienced: Up to £28,500
* Highly Experienced: £36,644 (specialist paramedics and team leaders)

*These figures are a guide.* |
| **Working hours, patterns and environment:** | * You'll usually work 37.5 hours a week on shifts, including nights, weekends and bank holidays.
* You'll wear a uniform including protective clothing.
* You'll work on an ambulance, or as a specialist you may work on your own, using a car, motorbike or bicycle.
* The job is physically and emotionally demanding.
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| **Career path and progression:** | With around 3 years’ experience, you could become a team leader or a specialist paramedic or emergency care practitioner.You could also move into operations management, education and training, research or human resources. |

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