 **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. |
| **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 |
| **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 |
| **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. |
| **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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