



**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS  
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

Advisor: Deb Richerson

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS  
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION (GENERAL)**

The Public Safety Communications (PSC) professional certification imparts a technical edge to those applying for employment as a PSC professional (such as a 911 dispatcher). The professional certification may be used as proof of required training before taking the Montana Law Enforcement Academy equivalency test (required for PSC professionals after and within one year of hire). Individual PSC courses may be taken by anyone who is interested in brushing up on skills needed in their profession or by students needing coursework for the EMT-Paramedic Associate of Applied Science degree. Individuals who specifically need coursework in order to take the MLEA equivalency test should enroll in the PSC professional certification program. A criminal background check is required for the PSC Clinical Course and is also a requirement for employment as a PSC professional. Felony convictions (and some misdemeanor convictions) will exclude a person from employment as a PSC professional. This professional certification does not guarantee employment as a PSC professional. Students wishing to be employed as a PSC Professional must meet minimum requirements for hiring as set by the Peace Officers Standards and Training council.

**OUTCOMES: GRADUATES ARE PREPARED TO:**

- Have a knowledge and understanding of PSC terminology and report writing
- Have a knowledge and understanding of stress and crisis intervention strategies
- Have a knowledge and understanding of PSC communication skills, interpersonal communication skills
- Have a knowledge and understanding of legal responsibilities, ethics and criminal and civil law practices
- Have a general knowledge and understanding of computers, computer applications

**ADVANCED PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS  
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION WITH EMT-BASIC**

The Public Safety Communications Professional Certification may be completed with the EMT- Basic class. This advanced professional certification will benefit students who are interested in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) field but who

do not want to go into the EMS program. This certification provides valuable field experience for those interested in the Public Safety Communications profession. The Public Safety Communications Professional Certification with EMT-Basic allows students to sit for the Montana and National Registry certification exams as well as the MLEA challenge test for dispatchers. Requirements for completing the Public Safety Communications Professional Certification with EMT-Basic include completion of the requirements for the general Public Safety Communications Professional Certification along with the completion of a 6 credit Emergency Medical Technician course (EMS 137). EMS 137 is the nationally recommended minimum level of training for ambulance personnel and is considered the desired level of medical training by many fire departments.

The equivalency test can only be taken after being hired as a PSC professional and must be taken at the Montana Law Enforcement Academy in Helena, MT.

**OUTCOMES: GRADUATES ARE PREPARED TO:**

- All of the above General Outcomes plus;
- Have a greater knowledge and understanding of Emergency Medical Training received through completing the EMT-Basic course

**PREREQUISITES:**

Enrollment in either program is required to obtain the Public Safety Communications Professional Certification. Most course work may be taken by anyone who is not specifically enrolled in the program, but the following prerequisites are required:

- Current CPR/First Aid certification
- Advising session - Advising by the MSU—Great Falls College of Technology Health Sciences Department for a program overview
- Online learning orientation on the MSU—Great Falls College of Technology campus

**ESTIMATED RESIDENT PROGRAM COST:**

Tuition and Fees .....	\$1506
Application Fee.....	30
Books/Supplies.....	350
TOTAL.....	\$1886

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS  
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION (GENERAL)**

<b>Course</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Grade</b>
PSC	194	PSC Terminology and Report Writing	1+	_____
PSC	194	Stress and Crisis Intervention for PSC	1+	_____
PSC	194	PSC Skill	2+	_____
PSC	194	Clinical for PSC	1+	_____
PSC	194	Legal Responsibility, Ethics, Criminal and Civil Law for PSC	1+	_____
			3+	_____
COMM	135	Interpersonal Communication	3+	_____
CAPP	120	Introduction to Computers	3+	_____
		Subtotal	14	_____

**ADVANCED PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS  
PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATION WITH EMT-BASIC**

<b>Course</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Credits</b>	<b>Grade</b>
PSC	194	PSC Terminology and Report Writing	1+	_____
PSC	194	Stress and Crisis Intervention for PSC	1+	_____
PSC	194	PSC Skill	2+	_____
PSC	194	Clinical for PSC	1+	_____
PSC	194	Legal Responsibility, Ethics, Criminal and Civil Law for PSC	1+	_____
			3+	_____
COMM	135	Interpersonal Communication	3+	_____
CAPP	120	Introduction to Computers	3+	_____
EMS	137	EMT Basic	6+	_____
		Subtotal	20	_____

~ Many students need preliminary math, writing, and biology courses before enrolling in the program requirements. These courses may increase the total number of program credits. Students should review their math and English placement before planning out their full program schedules.