



OPPORTUNITIES FOR GRADUATES

Course Offerings

WILDERNESS FIRST AID (WFA)

This course is great for people of all experience levels, and is best suited for those who recreate outdoors where EMS response can be expected in a timely manner (fewer than eight hours). You'll learn the Patient Assessment System, how to provide effective first aid treatments for injuries and illnesses common in the outdoors, and how to make appropriate evacuation decisions.

Length	2 – 2.5 days (16-20 hours)
CPR Included	variable
Academic Credit	1 hour
Continuing Ed. Credit	not available

More information: <https://www.nols.edu/en/coursefinder/courses/wilderness-first-aid-WFA/>

WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER (WFR)

If you work or recreate in the outdoors or in other austere environments where access to medical care is delayed or communication is unreliable, our 9-10 day Wilderness First Responder course is for you! It is the industry standard for professional guides, trip leaders, search and rescue team members, outdoor recreationists, and international travelers. Upon completion, you will be able to conduct a thorough physical exam, obtain a patient history, assess vital signs, provide emergency care in the wilderness, and make crucial evacuation decisions.

Length	9 – 10 days (80 hours)
CPR Included	yes
Academic Credit	3 hours
Continuing Ed. Credit	available

More information: <https://www.nols.edu/en/coursefinder/courses/wilderness-first-responder-WFR/>

WILDERNESS EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (WEMT)

This month-long intensive course combines wilderness and urban medicine. Students participate in four weeks of classroom education, practical skills, scenarios, full-scale mock rescues, and clinical rotations at local hospitals. You'll earn both your EMT and Wilderness EMT certifications, preparing you to work on an ambulance, for an outdoor organization, or a land management agency.

Length	4 weeks (200 hours)
CPR Included	no
Academic Credit	9 hours
Continuing Ed. Credit	not available

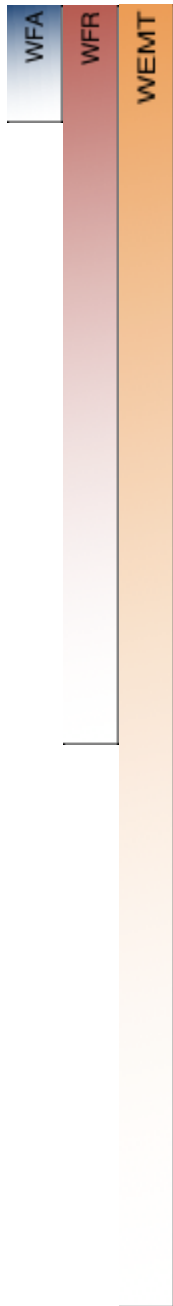
More information: <https://www.nols.edu/en/coursefinder/courses/wilderness-emt-WEMT/>

Additional Outcomes

Each graduate is empowered to act with confidence in emergency situations. Leadership, communication skills, decision-making and teamwork practice are additional relevant outcomes present on NOLS Wilderness Medicine courses. Many employers value and recognize these outcomes from our graduates.

Potential Jobs per Level of Training

The color gradient on the left indicates which certification is relevant for each job listed. The WFR is the most common employment prerequisite. Always check with potential employers to know the level of training and certifications required for the position you seek.



OUTDOOR RECREATION AND SUMMER CAMP STAFF

The American Camping Association (ACA) requires a WFA for staff working at camps 30 minutes or more from EMS.

OUTDOOR EDUCATORS AND WILDERNESS EXPEDITIONS LEADERS

A WFR certification is frequently a requirement for jobs in outdoor education. Both NOLS and Outward Bound require a current WFR and CPR certification as a prerequisite for their instructor courses.

The American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA) requires a WFR and CPR certification for both Guide and Instructor certification programs.

SEARCH AND RESCUE (SAR) VOLUNTEERS

Most SAR groups in the USA are volunteer services. Very few groups have paid positions. The National Park Service (NPS) and other governmental agencies have their own SAR teams made of agency employees. Minimum certification requirements vary widely.

SKI PATROLLERS

Ski areas have different first aid certification requirements. Some require an EMT certification while others require an Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) certification. The OEC certification can be obtained by WEMTs through assessment requests to the National Ski Patrol (NPS).

EMTs

States set their own standards of certification and licensure. The National Registry of EMT (NREMT) certification, obtained after successful testing on NOLS WEMT courses, is used by most states. For more information, consult your state EMS office.

FIREFIGHTERS

Requirements for entry-level firefighters vary by department and agency. The great majority of urban departments require an EMT certification to apply for a position. Almost all urban departments require this certification after hire.

FEDERAL, STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Some governmental job positions will require NREMT certifications. Other positions might have an increase in salary depending on first aid certifications.

HOSPITAL

Some hospitals hire EMTs as ER Technicians. Other job positions could be available depending on the region's needs.

NURSING, PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT AND MEDICAL SCHOOL

NOLS Wilderness Medicine graduates have used their WEMT certification and experience to boost their application to Nursing, Physician Assistant or Medical school.

Emergency Services Careers Outlook

EMTS AND PARAMEDICS

Quick Facts

2019 Median Pay	\$35,400 per year - \$17.02 per hour
Entry-Level Education	Postsecondary non-degree award
Job Outlook, 2018-28	7% (faster than average)

What EMTs and Paramedics Do

Emergency medical technicians (EMTs) and paramedics care for the sick or injured in emergency medical settings. EMTs and paramedics respond to emergency calls, perform medical services and transport patients to medical facilities. A 911 operator sends EMTs and paramedics to the scene of an emergency, where they often work with police and firefighters.

Work Environment

Most EMTs and paramedics work full time. They work both indoors and outdoors, in all types of weather. Their work can be physically strenuous and stressful.

More information: www.bls.gov/ooh/healthcare/ems-and-paramedics.htm

FIREFIGHTERS

Quick Facts

2019 Median Pay	\$50,850 per year - \$24.45 per hour
Entry-Level Education	Postsecondary non-degree award
Job Outlook, 2018-28	5% (As fast as average)

What Firefighters Do

Firefighters control fires and respond to other emergencies, including medical emergencies. Firefighters' duties may change several times while they are at the scene of an emergency. In some cases, they remain at disaster scenes for extended time.

Work Environment

When not on the scene of an emergency, firefighters work at fire stations, where they sleep, eat, and remain on call during shifts that often last 24 hours. Many work over 40 hours per week. The vast majority, about 91 percent, work for local governments. Others work for federal and state governments and at airports, chemical plants, and other industrial sites.

More information: www.bls.gov/ooh/protective-service/firefighters.htm

Outdoor Industry Careers Outlook

RECREATION WORKERS

Quick Facts

2012 Median Pay	\$26,350 per year - \$12.67 per hour
Entry-Level Education	High school diploma or equivalent
Job Outlook, 2018-28	8% (Faster than average)

What Recreation Workers Do

Recreation workers design and lead activities to help people stay active, improve fitness and have fun.

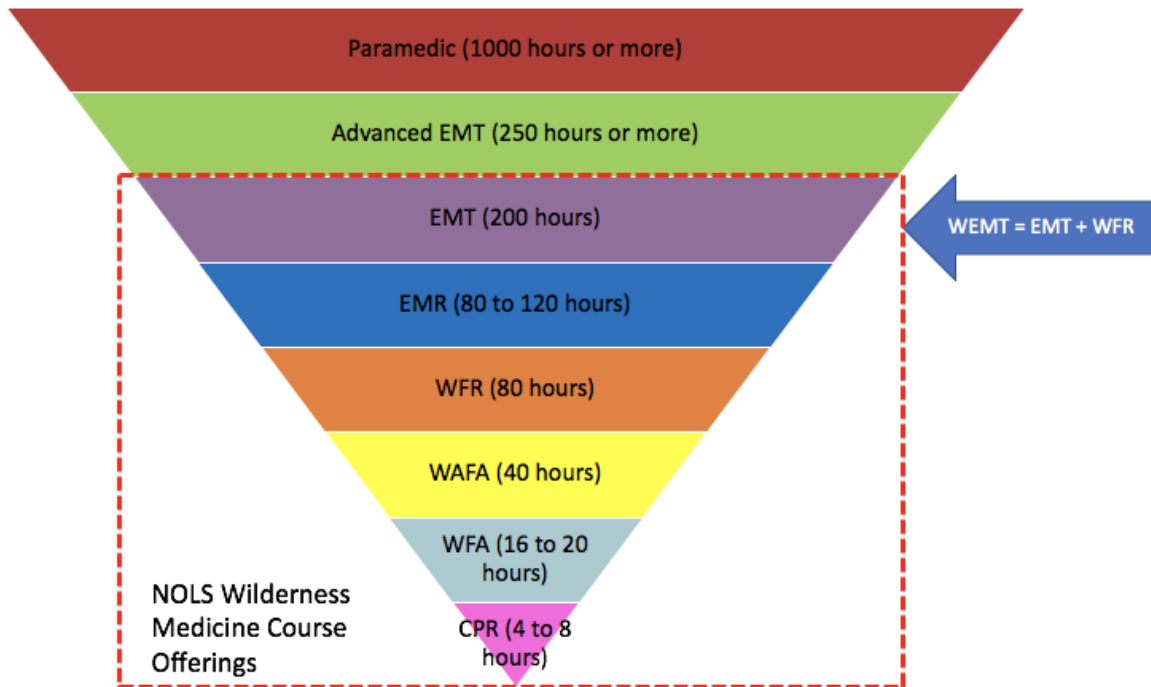
Work Environment

Recreation workers are employed in a variety of settings, including recreation centers, parks, summer camps, and nursing and residential care facilities. Many workers spend much of their time being physically active in the outdoors.

More information: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/personal-care-and-service/recreation-workers.htm>

Common First Aid Certifications

Here is an overall view of common first aid and EMS certifications. Accreditation and certification agencies relevant for NOLS Wilderness Medicine courses are the Wilderness Medicine Society, the National Registry of EMTs and the State of Wyoming.



Useful Links

Are you searching for a job or hoping to learn about reciprocity? Here are a few links to help you.

JOBS

American Camp Association (ACA)

- Jobs at Camp – Summer or Year-round: www.acacamps.org/jobs

American Mountain Guides Association (AMGA)

- Jobs and Guest Guiding: www.amga.com/jobs-mentorships-guest-guiding/

National Outdoor Leadership School (NOLS)

- Staff Positions: <https://nols.edu/en/about/our-team/employment/>
- Become a NOLS Instructor:
<https://nols.edu/en/about/our-team/employment/becoming-instructor/>

RECIPROCITY

National Ski Patrol (NSP)

- Outdoor Emergency Care Program: <https://nspserve.org/outdoor-emergency-care/>

National Registry of EMTs (NREMT)

- State Reciprocity: www.nremt.org/nremt/about/stateReciprocityMap.asp