



APPLICANT TESTING



The hazardous nature of Fire and EMS operations creates the real possibility of employee injury. The risk increases if the employee is not in good physical condition and adapted to the work to be performed.

In order to assess the physical qualities of perspective candidates for employment, Madison County Department of Emergency Medical Services (Madison EMS) administers a test consisting of physical agility, medical procedures, and knowledge base assessment.

Performance is based on a numerical score system from 1 to 5.

Protective equipment is required for some elements of the physical agility test and will be provided at the test site by Madison EMS.

The Department's test administrator reserves the right to interrupt the test without stopping the timer, or stop the test completely, to correct unsafe techniques or if the applicant appears to be in medical danger from stress or other cause.

Mega code

This station will test the applicants' ability to manage an unstable medical patient. Due to the wide variety in protocols this scenario will be tested to **current American Heart Association standards**. All interventions must be voiced clearly to the evaluator to ensure that they are documented. There is maximum twenty minute time limit for this station.

Critical points for this station are:

- Ensure delivery of all necessary shocks in a timely manner.
- Must identify each rhythm before each treatment.
- Must ensure safety of self and others (verbalize and observe all clear).
- Must order initiation or resumption of CPR when appropriate.
- Perform correct management of airway (ETT when appropriate).
- Avoid administration of inappropriate drug, procedure, or lethal dosage.
- Must correctly diagnose and treat all rhythms.



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Trauma scenario

This station will be tested to current ITLS / PHTLS standards. The candidate will be given a trauma scenario and expected to appropriately assess and manage their treatment utilizing appropriate BLS and ALS interventions. The candidate will immobilize the patient using correct spinal motion restriction techniques. The patient must be properly moved and secured on a backboard utilizing immobilization equipment. The backboard with the patient will then be lifted using proper lifting techniques onto a stretcher and at this point this scenario has ended. The maximum acceptable time for the candidate is eleven minutes. (A partner of **EQUAL** training will be provided to assist the candidate. The candidate will serve as lead aide and give all instructions).

Critical points for this station are:

- Perform complete scene size-up / use standard precautions.
- Must perform initial assessment & interact with patient.
- Must perform organized rapid trauma survey or focused exam / primary assessment.
- Perform spinal motion restriction.
- Must ensure appropriate oxygenation and ventilation.
- Must recognize critical trauma, time, and transport priorities.
- Perform detailed exam / secondary assessment (when time permits).

Stretcher lift

The candidate will lift and place the stretcher in the back of an ambulance. The stretcher will have a manikin weighing 165 pounds secured to a long backboard and stretcher. The candidate will pull the stretcher out until the locking bar engages and hold the stretcher in an extended-arm position (defined as holding the stretcher at arms fully extended length position using either upper or lower hand grips) for twenty seconds. The stretcher will then be pushed back into the ambulance. The candidate will rest five seconds, pull the stretcher out until the locking bar engages, lift the stretcher to chest height (defined as arms completely flexed up against the chest) and hold the position for five seconds. The stretcher will then be pushed back into the ambulance. The evolution will be **repeated once after a thirty second rest period.**



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Stair Climb

The candidate will carry equipment weighing approximately forty pounds up four steps to a platform and down four steps for a continuous period of four minutes. A minimum of thirty-two complete revolutions is required to complete this station. Candidate must continue to move for the entire four minutes even if the minimum number of revolutions has been completed. (*Up four steps to a platform is considered one revolution* Down four steps to the ground is considered revolution number two)

Key points for this station are:

- Must complete thirty-two revolutions.
- Candidate may not stop before the four minute time period ends.
- May not use any assist devices such as railings or other support devices.

Victim Rescue

Carry or drag a 165-pound manikin a distance of one hundred feet. The manikin must be moved in a manner that the head is off the ground. The manikin must be lifted in a motion that uses the legs rather than the back. The event and the Candidate are complete when the manikin passes the one hundred foot mark. The maximum acceptable time for the candidate is seven minutes. This test taxes the cardiovascular system and involves virtually all the muscle groups of the body. Applicants must realize that it is difficult for anyone to perform the Victim Rescue at less than 90% of their current aerobic capacity. The candidate cannot be helped during this evolution to include the use of ropes or other assist devices.

Knowledge Base Assessment

Candidate will be given a twenty-five question assessment which consists of fill in the blank, scenarios, and multiple choice. The usage of calculators, phones, online or book resources, and sharing of questions or answers is NOT permitted. Time limit for this assessment is forty-five minutes. The topics covered are as follows:

- Anatomy & Physiology
- Medications, Pharmacology, and med math calculations
- Shock / Burns – Rule of nine's and fluid resuscitation
- Hazardous Materials Awareness
- START Triage / MCI
- Cardiology and 12 lead EKG
- Obstetrics and Pediatrics
- Infection Control