

# DACUM Competency Profile for Paramedic

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# DACUM Competency Profile for Paramedic

...is one who provides basic and advanced pre-hospital medical care through patient evaluation and treatment to reduce suffering, disability and loss of life.

<b>Duties</b>		<b>Tasks</b>			
<b>A</b>	Maintain Equipment and Facilities	A-1 Perform daily mechanical inspection (e.g., lights, tires, fluid levels, serviceability)	A-2 Conduct daily inventory of equipment and supplies	A-3 Perform function testing of equipment	A-4 Initiate preventive maintenance of vehicle(s)
		A-5 Refuel vehicle	A-6 Wash/Wax vehicle	A-7 Perform general housekeeping duties (e.g., sweeping, bathroom cleaning)	A-8 Coordinate daily meals
		A-9 Maintain security of equipment and facilities			
<b>B</b>	Respond to Call	B-1 Process dispatch information	B-2 Review map(s) for usable response route	B-3 Prepare initial action plan	B-4 Identify and establish safe vehicle access and egress
		<b>C</b>	Establish Scene Control	C-1 Report on scene conditions with dispatch	C-2 Request additional (needed) resources (e.g., fire, police, utility, coroner)
C-5 Coordinate with other agencies at scene	C-6 Identify incident command structure			C-7 Establish and maintain traffic/crowd control	C-8 Secure access to patient
C-9 Establish medical control	C-10 Perform patient triage				
<b>D</b>	Conduct Primary Patient Assessment	D-1 Don protective gear	D-2 Determine level of consciousness	D-3 Assess airway	D-4 Assess breathing
		D-5 Assess circulation	D-6 Perform immediate treatment intervention	D-7 Determine chief complaint	D-8 Identify need for Advanced Life Support (ALS) assessment

**E**

Conduct Secondary Patient Assessment

E-1 Perform head survey	E-2 Perform neck survey	E-3 Perform thorax survey	E-4 Perform abdominal survey
E-5 Perform pelvic survey	E-6 Perform back survey	E-7 Perform survey of extremities	E-8 Obtain vital signs
E-9 Record patient's medical history/medications/allergies	E-10 Determine history of chief complaint	E-11 Perform mini-neuro examination	E-12 Determine mental status
E-13 Perform cardiac assessment			

**F**

Identify Illnesses and Injuries

F-1 Identify diabetic emergencies	F-2 Identify signs and symptoms of cerebral vascular accident	F-3 Identify cardiac emergencies	F-4 Identify signs and symptoms of seizure
F-5 Identify respiratory emergencies	F-6 Identify pediatric emergencies (e.g., S.I.D.S. - Sudden Infant Death Syndrome)	F-7 Identify geriatric emergencies	F-8 Identify drownings and near-drowning emergencies
F-9 Identify environmental emergencies	F-10 Identify signs and symptoms of poisoning	F-11 Identify signs and symptoms of drug/alcohol abuse	F-12 Identify signs and symptoms of shock
F-13 Identify OB/neonatal emergencies	F-14 Identify neurological emergencies	F-15 Identify signs and symptoms of traumatic injuries	F-16 Identify burn emergencies
F-17 Identify signs and symptoms of muscular/skeletal injuries	F-18 Identify acute abdominal emergencies	F-19 Identify acute abdominal emergencies	F-20 Identify signs/symptoms of communicable diseases
F-21 Identify behavioral emergencies	F-22 Identify hazardous materials	F-23 Determine death	

**G**

Provide Treatment

G-1 Establish medical communication	G-2 Provide BLS/ALS airway management	G-3 Assist/Control breathing	G-4 Perform cardiac compressions
G-5 Control bleeding	G-6 Administer oxygen therapy	G-7 Immobilize extremities	G-8 Maintain body temperature
G-9 Assist in emergency childbirth	G-10 Restrain combative patient	G-11 Perform wound irrigation	G-12 Administer medications
G-13 Establish IV's	G-14 Provide crisis intervention services	G-15 Perform cardiac monitoring and intervention	G-16 Position patient(s) per medical condition
G-17 Maintain Basic Life Support (BLS) procedures during ALS interventions	G-18 Perform spinal immobilization		

**H**

Provide Transportation

H-1 Clean up scene	H-2 Prepare patient for transport	H-3 Notify receiving hospital of patient transport	H-4 Provide safe transport to appropriate facility
H-5 Re-assess patient's condition and treat accordingly	H-6 Complete turnover report to receiving hospital staff		

**I**

Document Incident and Patient Information

I-1 Complete patient care report	I-2 Notify dispatch of availability	I-3 Complete billing form	I-4 Fill out daily log
I-5 Complete multi-casualty documentation	I-6 Procure patient's advanced directive forms if applicable (e.g., D.N.R. and D.P.A.H.C.)	I-7 Complete Against Medical Advice (AMA) report of patient refusal if applicable	I-8 Complete exposure report
I-9 Complete child/elder abuse forms	I-10 Complete incident (unusual occurrence) forms (e.g., accident, hazardous, crime report)	I-11 Complete California Fire Incident Reporting System (CFIRS) report	I-12 Complete local protocol forms (e.g., intubation, P.A.S.G.)

**J**

Perform Post-Incident Management Tasks

J-1 Dispose of infectious waste(s)	J-2 Clean and disinfect vehicle and gear	J-3 Restock equipment and supplies	J-4 Inspect (walk around) exterior and interior of vehicle
J-5 Decontaminate exposed personnel	J-6 Initiate exposure tracking procedure (e.g., blood-borne pathogens)	J-7 Participate in critical-incident stress debriefing	J-8 Participate in post-incident analysis

**K**

Maintain/Participate in Professional Development

K-1 Maintain EMT certification	K-2 Maintain CPR certification	K-3 Maintain medical examination certificate	K-4 Maintain ambulance driver certifi
K-5 Keep informed of policy/protocol updates (e.g., OSHA, hospital, EMS Agencies)	K-6 Maintain professional library	K-7 Identify and pursue career goals	K-8 Train new EMTs and Paramedics
K-9 Participate in continuing education	K-10 Prepare and make public presentations		

**Tasks A1 thru C10**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Assessment
  - Anatomy/Physiology
  - Injuries/Illnesses
  - Local protocol
  - DNR protocol
  - Scores/scales
  - Modes of transmission
  - Obstetrics
  - Communication skills
  - Decision-making skills
  - Math skills
  - Interpersonal skills
  - Interpretation skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Hands
  - Oxygen monitor
  - EKG monitor
  - Glucose testing devices
  - Protective gear
  - Stethoscope
  - Evaluation scales
  - Drug charts
  - Radio

**Tasks D1 thru E6**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Anatomy/Physiology
  - Local Basic Life Support (BLS) protocol
  - Assessment
  - Injuries/Illnesses
  - Local protocol
  - DNR protocol
  - Scores/scales
  - Modes of Transportation
  - Obstetrics
  - Communication skills
  - Decision-making skills
  - Math skills
  - Interpersonal skills
  - Interpretation skills
  - Psychomotor skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Standard EMT equipment

**Tasks E7 thru E13**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Local protocol
  - Hospitals/Receiving facilities locations/availability
  - Transportation options
  - Geography/Area
  - Traffic patterns
  - Driving skills
  - Communication skills
  - Psychomotor skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Gurney
  - Ambulance

- Air ambulance
- Boat
- Personal protocol devices
- General emergency equipment
- Radio

**Tasks F1 thru F23**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Medical abbreviations
  - Medical terminology
  - Communication skills
  - Documentation skills
  - Computer skills
  - Reading comprehension skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Computer
  - Forms
  - Writing equipment
  - Log book/journal

**Tasks G1 thru G18**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Decontamination procedures
  - Standard operating procedures for employees
  - OSHA standards
  - Universal precautions
  - Proper waste disposal
  - Communication skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Radio
  - Contaminated waste materials
  - Telephone
  - Sharps containers
  - Writing instruments
  - Forms
  - Protective gear

**Tasks H1 thru H6**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Cultural diversity
  - Teaching technology
  - Educational opportunities
  - Communication skills
  - Comprehension skills
  - Interpersonal skills
  - Decision-making skills
  - Public speaking skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Certificates
  - Audiovisual aids
  - Interpreters
  - Teaching manuals
  - Manuals/logs
  - Computer (hardware/software)
  - Files

**Tasks I1 thru I9**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Janitorial functions
  - Preventive maintenance of equipment
  - Inventory requirements

- Basic mechanical aptitude skills
- Culinary skills
- Communication skills
- Coordination skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - General housekeeping supplies
  - Emergency response vehicle
  - Pots/pans/cooking utensils
  - Writing equipment/forms
  - Log books
  - Medical supplies
  - Automotive supplies

**Tasks I10 thru I12**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Disseminating Information
  - Area/Geography
  - Vehicle operation
  - Traffic patterns
  - Weather patterns
  - Communication skills
  - Driving skills
  - Computer skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Maps
  - Vehicle
  - Radios
  - Computer
  - Compass
  - Satellite tracking (GPS)

**Tasks J1 thru J8**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Incident Comman System (I.C.S.)
  - Capabilities/Resources
  - Personal capabilities
  - Leadership abilities
  - Scene control
  - Extrication and resource procedures
  - Decision-making skills
  - Communication skills
  - Negotiation skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Radio
  - Pencil/paper
  - Safety equipment
  - Emergency vehicle
  - Traffic control devices

**Tasks K1 thru K5**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - CPR
  - Disease transmission
  - EMT - Level-one skills
  - Communication skills
  - Decision-making skills
  - Advanced Life Support (ALS) skills
  - Problem-solving skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Suction/backup
  - Monitors
  - Personal protection devices

**Tasks K1 thru K5**

- Protective equipment
- Radio
- Oxygen equipment
- Airway adjuncts
- Bandage supplies

**Tasks K6 thru K10**

- Knowledges of/Skills
  - Anatomy/Physiology
  - Pathophysiology
  - Basic Cardiology
  - Assessment skills (EKG, lung)
  - Communication skills
  - Decision-making skills
  - Time-control skills
  - Prioritization skills
- Tools/Equipment/Supplies/Materials
  - Monitor (EKG)
  - Stethoscope
  - Blood pressure cuff
  - Pen lights
  - Clipboard/pens
  - Forms

**Worker Characteristics**

- Quick thinker
- Confident
- Educated
- Compassionate
- Integrity
- Respectful
- Responsible
- Honest
- Patient
- Hard-worker
- Self-motivated
- Innovative
- Courteous
- Team player
- Follows instructions
- Takes initiative
- Good personal hygiene
- Professional
- Physically fit

**Trends/Issues/Concerns**

- Injury prevention
- Advanced paramedic
- Scope of practice
- Decrease of base hospitals
- Standing orders
- Performance-based contracts
- Reduction in funding
- Justify cost-effective existence
- System-wide data collection (patient outcomes)
- Quality improvement (TQM)
- Politics - ethical diversity