



CITY OF HARRISONBURG COMMUNITY PARAMEDIC

Looking to make a huge impact in an eclectic, growing city known worldwide for being a friendly, welcoming Community For All? Look no further than The Friendly City - Harrisonburg, Virginia.

The Harrisonburg Fire Department is currently seeking individuals searching for an opportunity to utilize their pre-hospital healthcare experience as a paramedic, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, or physician's assistant working with vulnerable populations in our Community Paramedicine Program.

This is an amazing opportunity for a talented health care provider to play a critical role in an innovative program focused on helping some of the city's most at-risk community members. And you'll do it in a vibrant, modern, and diverse college community boasting a happening atmosphere infused with a serious passion for local food and libations, cutting-edge arts and culture, and the historic roots that anchor it to the famous Shenandoah Valley landscape.





THE COMMUNITY

The City of Harrisonburg is an independent city located in the central Shenandoah Valley region of Virginia. The city falls within Rockingham County and encompasses 17.4 square miles, serving a population of approximately 56,879.

Harrisonburg is located along Interstate 81 and is only two hours away from both Richmond and Washington, D.C. Harrisonburg City Council and staff are currently operating under the City's 2045 Vision Plan, which calls for a focus on creating A Harmonious Community and prioritizing the areas of Available Housing for All; Economic Development & Financial Empowerment; A Thriving Educational Epicenter; Fiscal Responsibility & Planning; High-Quality City Services; and Community Resiliency & the Natural Environment.

Additionally, City staff strive to embody these five Values: Progressive Innovation, Productive Communication, Trusted Service, Winning Teamwork, and Valued Employees.

Once an agricultural hub, Harrisonburg has now evolved into a lively and distinct destination with a vibrant arts and entertainment scene. The city is home to a plethora of parks and trails and hosts community events throughout the year. Downtown Harrisonburg was designated as Virginia's first recognized Arts and Cultural District in 2001 and the first recognized Culinary District in 2014. Downtown boasts a variety of locally owned restaurants, coffee shops, bars, craft

breweries, and boutiques. The area is home to an expansive network of galleries, music venues, theaters, and museums, making it an exciting place for anyone to enjoy.

Harrisonburg is a melting pot of ethnic diversity. In recent years, thousands of refugees have settled into the city. Harrisonburg City Public Schools students speak more than 60 different languages, with English, Spanish, Arabic, and Kurdish being the most common.

Within the Harrisonburg City Public Schools system is a Pre-K Early Learning Center, six elementary schools, two middle schools, and two high schools - which HDPT supports with school bus service. Harrisonburg is also home to two university campuses - James Madison University and Eastern Mennonite University. James Madison is a public research university with an enrollment of more than 22,000 students, and Eastern Mennonite University (EMU) is a private, Mennonite-affiliated liberal arts university with an enrollment of approximately 1,500 students.

Harrisonburg has been a Bronze Level Bicycle Friendly Community since 2011 and is dedicated to adding bicycle and pedestrian facilities throughout the community, making it attractive to walkers, runners, and cyclists alike. Miles of trails and sidewalks make it a walkable and bike-friendly community.

THE POSITION

As a Community Paramedic with the city, you will:

- Respond to emergent and non-emergent scenes/locations to collaborate with public safety professionals and other crisis/mental health resources where individuals are experiencing chronic medical conditions, substance use, and/or mental health crisis;
- Assess and potentially reduce 9-1-1 utilization for non-emergent purposes by providing proactive resources and guidance to community members/clients;
- Respond to substance use and mental health emergencies as part of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT);
- Examine, screen, treat, and coordinate health resources and services for patients, which may include but are not limited to point of care laboratory testing based on the paramedic's education, training, and competency;
- Observe, record, and report to the care team and/or patient case manager on the individual's conditions, response to medications, significant findings, incidents, and treatments;
- Conduct risk assessments;
- Administer care consistent with program policies, standard operating procedures, and treatment/case management orders;
- Follow up with patients and case managers after the conclusion of a crisis to report improvements or additional service needs;
- Conduct patient education pertaining to chronic disease management, community health resources, mental health resources, and substance use resources;
- Provide basic and advanced life support in collaboration with local emergency medical service agencies;
- Communicate and regularly interact with the staff teams of the community services board, healthcare system, law enforcement organizations, emergency communications, and health department, as well as neighborhood/community members.





IDEAL CANDIDATE

You are the city's ideal candidate if you have thorough knowledge and experience in the principles and techniques of emergency medical care, chronic medical conditions, mental health, substance use/abuse, and working with at-risk patient populations. Your subject matter expertise as a pre-hospital healthcare provider will assist you while working in this program.

In this role, you'll perform a variety of duties that require both technical skills in your area of expertise along with considerable interpersonal skills. Regardless of the task at hand, whether it's medically monitoring patients, operating direct patient care equipment, or providing patient treatment, you will be interacting with individuals each shift. Due to this, we are seeking candidates who not only have strong communication skills, but also have the ability to make rapid decisions in accordance with best practices while remaining calm under pressure.

If selected, you'll have an opportunity to play a critical role in implementing the innovative Community Paramedicine Program, which is focused on helping some of the city's most at-risk community members while ensuring equity and compassion.



COMPENSATION:

PREFERRED HIRING RANGE \$59,425-\$65,353* WITH AN EXCELLENT BENEFITS PACKAGE, INCLUDING VRS ENHANCED HAZARDOUS DUTY COVERAGE, FOR FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES.

***AN EXACT SALARY WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON THE SELECTED CANDIDATE'S QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE**

HOW TO APPLY:

[HTTPS://WWW.HARRISONBURGVA.GOV/EMPLOYMENT](https://www.harrisonburgva.gov/employment)

QUESTIONS:

CONTACT HUMAN RESOURCES AT EMPLOYMENT@HARRISONBURGVA.GOV