

Northwest Community EMS System
EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS REGISTERED NURSE (ECRN) COURSE
October 14 – November 18, 2026 (Wednesdays)

Date	Time	Topic	Faculty
All ECRN candidates will have assumed knowledge of the NWC EMSS 2022 SOPs <i>Highly recommended to complete an ecg review course or online module prior to first day of class</i> Prerequisites: Policy Self-Assessment (2 hours to complete) & Fundamentals Self-Assessment (1hour to complete) DUE to HEMSC BY 10/7/2026 Cardiac Self-Assessment (1hour to complete) DUE to HEMSC by 10/14/2026			
Oct 14, 2026	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Welcome & Introduction to the Course/ Expectations EMS Systems: Laws/rules impacting EMS operations Structure/function in IL Standards of care Operation Abbreviations & Acronyms ECRN roles & duties; SOPs; Procedure manual, Drug & Supply List, System memos Policies – A3 ALS -EMR Services Scopes of practice Initiation of Care In-field Service Level Upgrades Transport of Service Dogs and Emotional Support Animals Tx of Police Dogs / Service Dogs – B1 Hospital Resource Limitation/Ambulance Bypass – C3 Crisis Response Plan – C6 EMS Controlled Substances (CS) Program – C7 Confidentiality of Patient Records (HIPAA compliance) – C8 EMS Communications – C9 Documentation of EMS Communications Log – D3 Drug-Pharmacologic Mgt: Approval, Issuing, Storage, Exchange, Disposal, Reporting – D4 Data Collection & submission ePCR software EMS Short Form – E5 Code of Ethics Behavioral Expectations – E7 Emergency Communications Registered Nurse (ECRN) – M6 MD/Physician Back-Up for ECRNs – O1 Procedure for Handling Overrides – P2 Independent Physician/Nurse On Scene – S3 EMS Staffing requirements – T2 Transport decision/Selection of Receiving Facility SOP APPENDIX DOCUMENTS - CPR/Resuscitation Guidelines Capnography - Drug appendix Routes "Rights" Cross check - Peds Drug tables Defib J D10% Fentanyl - Ketamine dose chart Norepinephrine dose/drip chart 12-L ECG changes based on location of STEMI - Abbreviations Acronyms Symbols - Differential of COPD/HF CPAP indications - Biologic, Nuclear, Incendiary & Chem agents - Hospital contact information - Hospital Designations for Specialty Transports - Pain scales	KC BT
	Lunch 12:30 - 4 pm 6.5 hours classroom	SOPs: Introduction (levels of acuity Time-sensitive pts select policies; EMS Scopes of Practice; Patient Assess/Initial Medical Care; Pain mgt Drug alternatives Inopressors; OLMC Report/ Handoff Reports; Withholding/Withdrawing Care POLST POA; Elderly patients; Extremely obese patients Drugs: ondansetron; fentanyl; ketamine; alternate drugs Policies: – A1 Abandonment vs. Prudent Use of EMS Personnel – D5 ILLINOIS POLST form and Advance Directive Guidelines – P3 Interaction with Police Crime Scene Response CESSA – R7 Reportable Incidents Sentinel event reporting – R6 Refusal of Service (Elements of granting & withholding consent) Procedures: General Patient Assessment/IMC BP Assessment- Auscultation Glasgow Coma Scale Oximetry: SpO ₂ & EtCO ₂	KC
Homework: Medical Self-Assessment (1 hour to complete) DUE 10/21/2026 to HEMSC			

Date	Time	Topic	Faculty
Oct 21, 2026	9:00 am - 12:00 pm	Cardiac SOP Self-Assessment due ECG rhythm & 12 Lead Interpretation	MG
	LUNCH 12:30 -4 pm	EMS Airway access procedures Manual airway maneuvers; Oropharyngeal & nasopharyngeal airways Oropharyngeal & tracheal suctioning Removal of FB w/ laryngoscopy Videolaryngoscopy w/ ProVu In-Line Drug Assisted Digital intubation i-gel supraglottic airway Surgical and Needle cricothyrotomy O ₂ delivery: Nasal cannula; Non-rebreather mask; BVM; C-PAP SOPs: Acute and chronic respiratory disorders simulated calls Adult Foreign Body Airway Obstruction Allergic reactions Anaphylaxis Bites-envenomations Asthma COPD Pts w/ tracheostomy/laryngectomy (adult & peds) Acute Resp. Disorders: Possible pneumonia / COVID-19 & other resp. viruses Drugs: diphenhydramine; albuterol, ipratropium, epinephrine 1 mg/1 mL; 1 mg/10 mL, magnesium sulfate SOPs: Cardiac Chest pain/Acute Coronary Syndrome (ACS) with or w/o pain; ST- segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI) – STEMI alerts Drugs: ASA, NTG pain medication options Procedure: 12 L ECG Bradycardia with a pulse: Drugs: atropine, norepinephrine, glucagon Procedure: Transcutaneous pacing 6.5 hours classroom Homework: ecg online assignment (1 hour to complete) Trauma SOP Self-Assessment (1 hour to complete) Due 10/28/2026 to HEMSC	KB

Date	Time	Topic	Faculty
Oct 28, 2026	9:00 am- 12:00 pm	Mockecg quiz SOPs Cardiac Continued: Narrow QRS complex tachycardia with a pulse Drugs: adenosine, verapamil Procedure: Vagal maneuvers/synchronized cardioversion Ventricular rhythms: Wide complex tachycardia with a pulse Cardiac arrest (VF/PVT/Asystole/PEA) Drugs: epinephrine 1 mg/10 mL, amiodarone, NaHCO ₃ Procedure: Cardiac arrest management; defibrillation SOPS: VT w/ pulse; VF/VT w/o pulse; Asystole/ PEA Policy: Terminating resuscitation in persistent asystole Heart Failure/Pulmonary Edema/Cardiogenic Shock Ventricular Assist Device	CF
	LUNCH 12:30 pm – 4 pm 6.5 hours classroom	Respiratory & Cardiac Simulations MEDICAL SOPS Medical SOP Self-Assessment due Acute Abdominal/Flank Pain Dialysis/Chronic Renal Failure Alcohol Intoxication/Withdrawal Altered Mental Status Syncope & Pre-syncope Drug OD/Poisonings Carbon monoxide (HBO) Cyanide exposure Drugs: dextrose 10%, naloxone, ketamine, midazolam; atropine; hydroxocobalamin Environmental: Cold related Environmental: Submersion/Drowning SCUBA High altitude Environmental: Heat-related Glucose / Diabetes Emergencies: hypo/hyperglycemia; DKA, HHNS Procedure: Capillary glucose - Microdot Xtra D10 IVPB Hypertension / Hypertensive crisis Homework: BravoZone online assignment (1 hour to complete)	KL

Date	Time	Topic	Faculty
Nov 4, 2026	9:00am - 11:00am	Trauma SOP Self-Assessment due Ecg mock exam Medical SOPs Continued: Psychiatric Behavioral Health Emergencies (BHE): Decisional capacity Risk assessment Care (Adult & Peds) Suicide screen Procedure: Use of restraints Stroke TIA: BEFAST/LVO stroke screen; stroke alerts; transport decisions Procedure: Neuro assessment Seizures Shock – Septic (qSOFA screen; Sepsis alerts)	ME
	11:00am – 12:00 pm	Initial Trauma Care; Triage & transport criteria (Trauma alerts) Policy: A2 Aeromedical transport Procedures: IVF volumes; hemorrhage control; pelvic splinting; Helicopter Transport Guidelines Shock - Hypovolemic Traumatic arrest Cardiac arrest due to trauma Conducted electrical weapon (Taser)	KB
	LUNCH 12:30-4 pm	Burns all types: Drug: calcium gluconate gel Chest trauma: Procedure: pleural decompression; vented chest seals Eye/Facial trauma Drug: Tetracaine Procedures: Eye irrigation; contact lens removal (hard & soft); protective shields; eye pressure patching; preserving teeth Head Trauma Musculoskeletal trauma; crush, compartment, suspension syndromes Spine trauma: SMR guidelines/equipment removal guidelines Multiple patient incidents; Small, medium, large-scale events; Start and JUMPStart triage, triage tags Hazardous materials incidents (radiation exposure) Chemical agents (Adult & peds); ChemPack plan Active Assailant response Transport LEO/Canine Widespread disease outbreak Adult Abuse/Neglect, maltreatment, Trafficking Trauma in pregnancy	
	6.5 hours classroom	HOMEWORK: BravoZone online assignment (1 hour to complete)	

Date	Time	Topic	Faculty
Nov 11, 2026	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Ecg mock exam Medical & Trauma Simulations Emergency childbirth – simulated calls Normal delivery procedure Healthy newborn and postpartum care OB/delivery complications Periviable births; newborn resuscitation	CF
	LUNCH 12:30 pm – 4 pm 6 hours classroom	Pediatric Protocol – simulated calls Peds Initial assessment/medical care; peds drug doses; sedation Children with Special Healthcare needs Peds Airway adjuncts; Peds FB Airway Obstruction Peds Respiratory Arrest SIDS BRUE Peds Allergic Reaction/Anaphylactic shock Peds Asthma Croup; epiglottitis; RSV/Bronchiolitis Peds Cardiac SOPs Peds Medical emergencies Peds Seizures – Sepsis-Septic Shock Peds ITC/Trauma score/Trauma SOPs/Abuse Policy: Refusal of service in minors	

Date	Time	Topic	Faculty
Nov 18, 2026	9:00 am-11:00 pm	Ecg Exam Written Exam <i>May take a brief break once both exams are completed</i>	KC KB, JL, CF, ME, BT, DM, KL,
	11:00am – 4 pm	Practical Exam	

Any exam retakes will be on December 2, 2026

10 hours Independent written & online assigned course work

32 hours In-person classroom

42 hours Total Didactic

Upon returning to Hospital

Schedule 8 hours ride time

Internship