



## Fair Practices - Safeguards

This Fair Practices and Safeguards statement is to emphasize that the health and safety of patients, students, faculty and other participants associated with the educational activities of the students must be adequately safeguarded. The Collin College EMS Program recognizes that many Collin College students have the good fortune of being sponsored by their agencies for their educational requirements. Many of these students have the ability to continue to work for their employer while still attending paramedic school. The Collin College accrediting body, the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Professions (CoAEMSP) has mandated that while a student is still engaged in active coursework in the Collin College EMS Program, they may not count work experience towards the completion of their coursework and graduation requirements. Their official statement on this is as follows: ***“All activities required in the program must be educational and students must not be substituted for staff.”***

This directive applies to three situations:

- If a student is employed, and is covering shifts, on duty, for that employer on days they are not in school, they may not document patient encounters and/or skills performed on the Student Minimum Competencies (SMC), while executing those duties.
- If a student is performing their assigned Field Experience shifts with their employer, they are to act as a third-rider and not be counted in official staffing in any way. They are to document all patient encounters in the Sterling software. Their downtime at the station is to be utilized documenting their calls and working with their preceptors on weaknesses identified in the Field Experience, not executing “rookie” duties.
- If a student is performing their Capstone Experience with their employer, the same rules apply as stated for the Field Experience. In the Capstone Experience, the student is to perform in the Team Lead role as is outlined in the Preceptor Training and document all encounters in the Sterling software. Their station downtime should be spent with their preceptors evaluating their experiences and correcting any deficiencies observed.
- When students are practicing in the Field Experience and Capstone activities, they are practicing under Collin College Medical Direction and are entitled to all malpractice insurance, rules, policies, and protections. The Collin College EMS Program does whatever is necessary to protect the learning environment and the student.