

Paramedicine





‘The tutors made me feel comfortable straight away.’

Rosie



Paramedicine



Wellington Free Ambulance Paramedic

The moment she read into it, Rosie was hooked on the idea of paramedicine.

Previously a visual arts student, Rosie returned from overseas travel not sure what her next step was. It wasn't until she came across the Whitireia Bachelor of Health Science (Paramedic) online did she consider a new career.

Having a degree under her belt already, Rosie absorbed as much as she could during her studies, forming strong relationships with her fellow students and tutors. Her tutors Ken and Josie were very passionate and patient people who inspired her during the programme. The best part of the course was the mix of theory and practical work in the ambulance – the mix of both is perfect, in her opinion.

Now working for Wellington Free Ambulance, Rosie's days are varied and jam-packed. The best part of her job is meeting people from all walks of life. She loves the excitement of not knowing what kind of day she's going to have – from attending accidents involving elderly, to helping people injured at sports games.

While the long hours can be challenging, the bonds she has formed with her colleagues make it all worthwhile for Rosie. The ability to share moving experiences with and lean on each other is what it's all about.X

She may have stumbled upon paramedicine, but it's turned out to be Rosie's dream job. Her advice to people considering paramedicine as a career is to just keep going and keep learning. "It's not an easy job, but the rewards are worth it."

Follow the QR code below to read the full story.



New Zealand Diploma in Ambulance Practice (Level 5)

📖 Level 5

🕒 18 months, part-time

💰 \$8,032 (indicative for 2025 intake)

Gain a qualification that covers the knowledge and skills required for practice as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT). If you have completed the NZ Certificate in Emergency Care programme, and hold a position as a first responder, this qualification will provide you with the knowledge, skills and professional behaviours required to practice in out of hospital emergencies and other community settings.

Programme outline

The New Zealand Diploma in Ambulance Practice (Level 5) is a one-year equivalent distance programme offered over 18 months with onsite block courses. Ākonga must already hold a position as a First Responder and will need to provide a letter of support confirming their access to clinical placements, including on a front-line emergency ambulance.

This programme will provide graduates with the knowledge, skills and professional behaviours required to practice in out of hospital emergencies and other community settings. The course is offered part-time over 18 months through a blended delivery model, which includes online learning and block courses that include simulation.

This programme prepares graduates with the skills, knowledge and attitudes to:

- Apply functional knowledge of anatomy, physiology, and pathophysiology for a range of commonly seen medical and trauma conditions in order to improve patient outcomes in an ambulance context
- Perform differential diagnoses and determine patient acuity using knowledge of structured, focused patient assessment techniques to improve patient outcomes in an ambulance context
- Manage and treat patients using knowledge of structured and focused patient assessment techniques to improve patient outcomes in an

ambulance context

- provide competent out-of-hospital care incorporating safe, legal, ethical, and culturally safe practice to improve patient outcomes in an ambulance context
- Communicate appropriately with stakeholders, including patients, whānau, health care providers and other emergency services, using speaking, listening, and writing skills to improve patient outcomes in an ambulance context

Entry requirements

Domestic

New Zealand Certificate in Emergency Care (Level 3); evidence of suitability based on interview, health screening as required, safety check and referee reports and 18 years of age prior to commencing practical placement

International

Proven equivalence of entry requirements plus Academic IELTS 6.5 in each band, or equivalent.

Find your country's [equivalent academic entry requirements here](#)

**International fee displayed is for 1 year of study (equivalent to 120 credits) and does not include insurance and administration (approximately \$924 per year of study).*

Related study options

[Bachelor of Health Science \(Paramedic\)](#)

Disclaimer: The information contained in this document is correct at the time of print. Whitireia and WelTec | Te Pūkenga reserves the right to cancel or postpone any of the programmes, and shall not be liable for any claim other than the proportion of programme fees that the cancelled portion bears. Some programmes may be dependent upon formal approval from NZQA (New Zealand Qualifications Authority), TEC (Tertiary Education Commission) funding allocation, and the number of enrolments. As part of the NZQA targeted review of all Level 1-6 New Zealand qualifications, there may still be changes to some programmes starting in 2024. Fees, programmes, entry and selection criteria, and dates, are subject to change. Please check the relevant programme pages at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz for up-to-date information and full entry regulations before applying to enrol. Information regarding English language requirements is available on each course page at whitireiaweltec.ac.nz.