

**FROM STUDENTS TO SERVICES:**

# **Strengthening the EMS Workforce**



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Northeast South Dakota Area Health Education Center (AHEC)



## Mission

To create and strengthen partnerships that cultivate a robust health workforce for rural and underserved communities in South Dakota.



## Vision

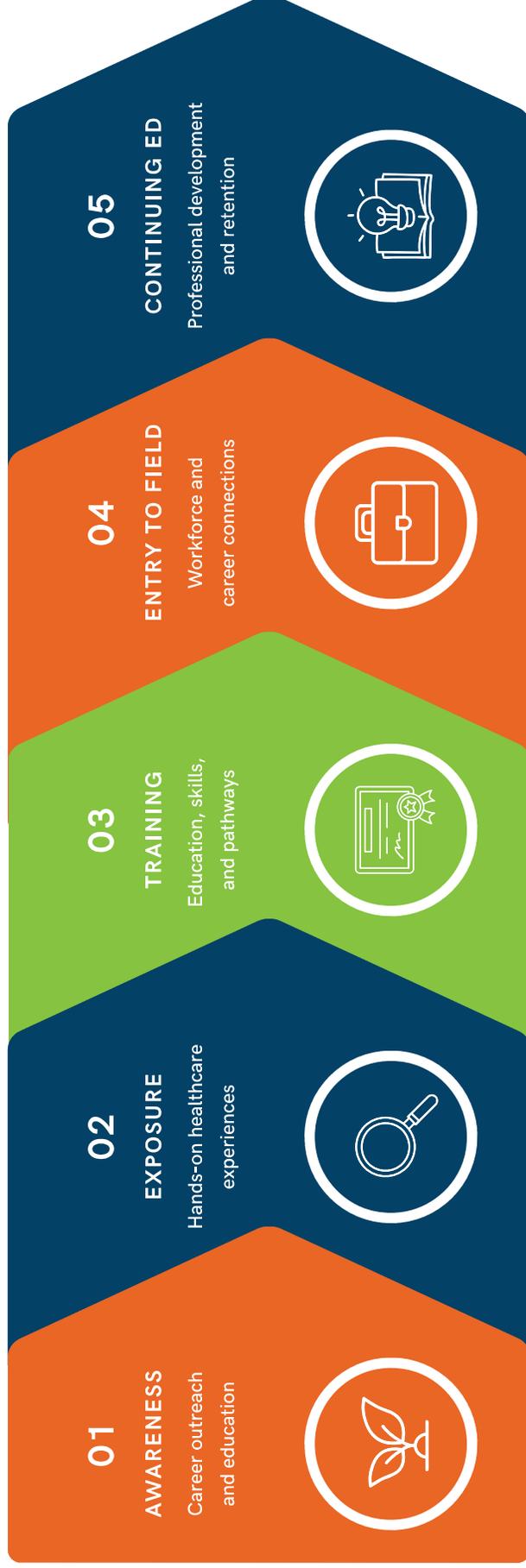
Facilitating the education and collaboration of the present and future healthcare workforce to promote improved health outcomes for the people of South Dakota.



## Values

Integrity | Innovation | Collaboration  
Communication | Excellence | Diversity

# From Pipeline to Practice



# RSD Grant Award

Purpose: To enhance EMS education, workforce development, and public awareness in South Dakota, specifically:

- low NREMT pass rates
- limited EMS recruitment & awareness
- the need for improved community emergency preparedness

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Goal 1: Increase public awareness of EMS careers, needs, and services through state-wide marketing campaign, high school and middle school career exploration, and Stop the Bleed Training.

Goal 2: Increase the NREMT pass rates by supporting EMT students with resources and EMS instructors with network, education, and continuing education.

This grant will strengthen South Dakota's EMS workforce, enhance public safety through better-prepared communities, and support the sustainability of EMS services in rural and underserved areas.

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# Building the Youth Pipeline

Our pipeline programs introduce students to healthcare and EMS careers through hands-on experiences and structured learning

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Scrubs Camp - high school career explorations

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Camp Med - middle school career exploration

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Telehealth Student Practicum - immersive hands-on experience in rural healthcare setting

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# Medic Camp

Medic Camp is a one-day, hands-on event that introduces students to emergency medical services through interactive skill stations and team-based simulations.

It provides students with a realistic view of EMS careers while fostering interest in healthcare and community service.

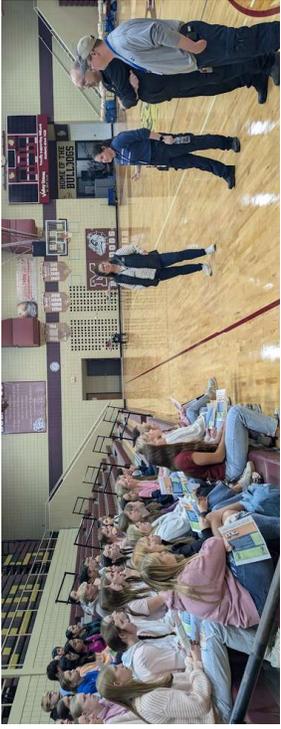


# Medic Camp Activities

## PROGRAM INCLUDES:

- Intro to EMS: Meet your local EMS team and explore real-world 911 responses.
- Ambulance Tour: Step inside an ambulance and see how EMS connects to hospital care.
- CPR & Stop the Bleed: Practice lifesaving skills every student can use.
- Escape Room: Solve a patient scenario from call to care.
- Wrap-Up & Career Q&A: Inspire the next generation of healthcare heroes.







# Hosting a Medic Camp

## WE ASK FROM EMS AGENCIES:

- 2-3 TEAM MEMBERS
- AMBULANCE & EQUIPMENT
- SHARE EXPERTISE

EMAIL [EMS@NESDAHEC.ORG](mailto:EMS@NESDAHEC.ORG)

**01**

### CONTACT NORTHEAST SD AHEC

Reach out to start the conversation.

**02**

### COORDINATE LOGISTICS

Northeast SD AHEC works with your EMS service and local schools to plan dates, location, and activities.

**03**

### COLLECT REGISTRATIONS

Northeast SD AHEC manages sign-ups and participant information.

**04**

### HOST THE MEDIC CAMP

Students participate in hands-on EMS experiences and learning.

**05**

### GATHER FEEDBACK

Northeast SD AHEC collects surveys to evaluate the camp and improve future events.

# Community Outreach

Northeast SD AHEC helps EMS agencies:

- Host open houses & outreach events
- Provide marketing, press releases, & materials
- Run CPR & Stop the Bleed stations
- Collect contacts for future recruitment

Email [ems@nesdahec.org](mailto:ems@nesdahec.org)

## EMS in SD

### WHY BECOME AN EMT?

- Serve your community and save lives
- Entry-level medical career with growth potential
- Opportunity to advance into paramedic, fire, or hospital roles
- Hands-on, rewarding job in EMS

### EMS TRAINING

Below are some programs you can attend or check with your local Ambulance Service

- **Little Area Tech Center** - Offers EMT Certification paramedic training (after EMT)
- **CHV Center** - also offers Med/First Responder paramedic training (after EMT)
- **Stanford Health - Center for Employment Care** - Simulation - Regional training facility in Sioux Falls
- **Southwest Baptist College** - Basic EMT courses, and training for local ambulance and/or hospital as well

### BECOMING AN EMT

1. Meet basic requirements:
  - Be at least 17-18 years old (depending on program)
  - Have a high school diploma or GED (or be in the final year)
  - Be proficient in English
  - Have a minimum height and weight
  - Hold current CPR (BLS) certification
2. Complete training:
  - Includes classroom, lab, simulation, and clinical experience
  - Satisfies standards for the National Registry EMT (NREMT) written and practical exams
  - 3. Apply for certification:
    - Submit training documentation, exam results
    - Background check, and fees through the South Dakota Department of Health
    - Once approved, you are authorized to practice as an EMT in South Dakota
  - 4. Meet requirements for licensure:
    - Complete required continuing education (about 20 CE hours for EMT level)
    - Renew license through the NYS/SD /E Licensing system before it expires.

[www.nesdahec.org/EMS](http://www.nesdahec.org/EMS)  
REGISTRATION ONLY AVAILABLE TO MEMBERS



THIS IS THE 911 EMERGENCY  
**EMS NEEDS VOLUNTEERS.**  
OUR RURAL COMMUNITIES DEPENDS ON IT.

**WHEN YOU CALL 911...**  
YOU EXPECT HELP TO ARRIVE. BUT IN MANY RURAL COMMUNITIES,  
AMBULANCES CAN'T RESPOND WITHOUT VOLUNTEERS.

**YOU CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE.**  
TAKE ACTION TODAY & CONTACT YOUR LOCAL AMBULANCE  
SERVICE TO ASK HOW TO VOLUNTEER!

**AHEC**  
Northeast South Dakota Area Health Education Center  
100 East Broadway Ave., Sioux Falls, SD 57105  
605.336.2222



**Deuel County Ambulance**  
 701 3rd Ave S Clear Lake, SD 57226 | [deuelambulance@tctel.com](mailto:deuelambulance@tctel.com)

In Deuel County EMS each staff member is a commitment made by neighbors, friends, and family members who step up to take others care in crisis. Whether it's a heart attack on highway 75, or a child in need, our volunteer EMS team answers the call—day or night, rain or shine. But we need your help to continue.

**OUR HISTORY**

- 1975** Deuel County Ambulance is Born  
 Deuel County Ambulance is born to provide emergency medical services to the residents of Deuel County. The ambulance is purchased from the Deuel County Board of Commissioners.
- 1976** Rapid Growth  
 Deuel County Ambulance grows rapidly, serving more than 1000 residents in Deuel County.
- 2001** A New Name for Our Ambulance  
 In June 2001 the Deuel County Board of Commissioners changes the name of the ambulance to Deuel County Ambulance.
- 2024** Growing Stronger  
 In June 2024 the Deuel County Board of Commissioners changes the name of the ambulance to Deuel County Ambulance.

**OUR SERVICE**

- ANNUAL CALL VOLUME: 200 - 250
- AVG RESPONSE TIME: 10-15 MINUTES
- COVERAGE AREA: 500+ SQUARE MILES

Deuel County Ambulance services cover 43 cities, 1000+ residents, and 500+ square miles. We provide emergency medical services to the residents of Deuel County. We are proud to serve our community and provide the highest quality of care to our patients.

**OUR VOLUNTEER TEAM**

- 3 EMTS
- 4 PARAMEDICS
- 4 DRIVERS

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN!

ASK ABOUT JOINING OUR TEAM TODAY! WE NEED YOU TO STAY SAFE IN OUR COMMUNITY.

**OUR RURAL COMMUNITY DEPENDS ON VOLUNTEER EMS**

Without more volunteers, response times increase. Lives are at risk. The future of Deuel County is at stake.

**You can be the difference.**

- Become a Volunteer EMT or Driver — No experience needed, training is provided.
- Spread the Word — Talk to a neighbor, bring a friend, or place our mission center.

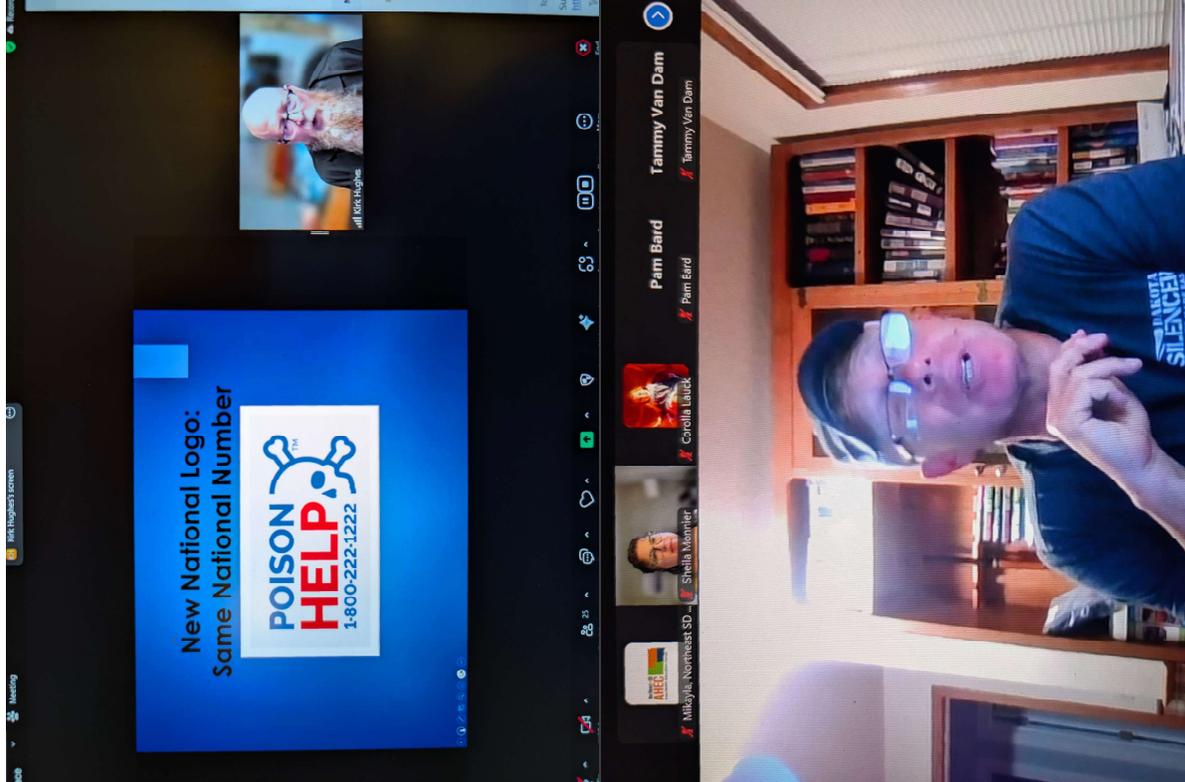
You don't have to carry a pager to save lives—but we do love if you did.



# Continuing Education

CE support for rural and volunteer EMS – helps retain skilled providers and maintain readiness

- Monthly EMS Webinars – practical skills, new protocols, and legislation updates
  - Last Thursday of the month
- District 4 EMS Refresher – hands-on skill reinforcement for EMTs
  - Feb 20 - 22, 2026
- Instructor Workshops & Webinars (RSD Grant) – teaching techniques, standards updates, and networking
  - Feb 4, 2026 at 1:00 PM CT
  - Apr 1, 2026 at 1:00 PM CT
  - Jun 3, 2026 at 1:00 PM CT



# Partner with AHEC to:

- Inspire the next generation
- Build sustainable EMS staffing
- Engage your community

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## CONTACT

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