

RC MERT
Membership Application
Fall 2020



**Please fill out this Word Document electronically and upload as a pdf titled:
[Your Full Name]
to the following Google Form:**

<https://forms.gle/RUXF9UxWC3e9j5ze7>

**All applications must be submitted by 23:59 on Friday, September 4th.
Late applications will NOT be accepted.**



Organization Commitment

RC MERT is a student-run, volunteer based organization committed to providing quality care to the University of Rochester community. We are a non-transporting agency with equivalent equipment and training to a transport agency that responds to medical emergencies on the River Campus. MERT staff consists of New York State Certified Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) and general members who are highly trained and ready to respond to medical emergencies.

Responsibilities

Within the organization, there are three ranks of experience a member can obtain: Medic Assistant (803), Crew Chief Trainee (802), and Crew Chief (801).

803: Medic Assistant

All members enter the organization as 803s, after undergoing a New Member Orientation Program (NMOP). On call, 803s will take vitals and record times. 803s are required to take a minimum of one shift per month.

802: Crew Chief Trainee

Once EMT-B certified, members may apply to become Crew Chief Trainees. 802s perform the majority of patient assessment. As they are trainees, 802s are under complete supervision of the Crew Chief during each call, allowing for a feedback system that ensures superior training. 802s must take a minimum of two shifts per month, including one weekend shift.

801: Crew Chief

Crew Chiefs are highly experienced EMTs who are in charge of the on-duty crew and all aspects of patient care during a call. The Crew Chief is legally responsible for the call and the patient care, and oversees all aspects of the call while evaluating the Crew Chief Trainee's performance and skills.

Time Commitments

Shifts

Members are required to take a varying number of shifts per month depending on their rank in the organization. Night shifts are 12 hours long, from 20:00 to 08:00 every night of the week. Day shifts cover weekend days, and are 6 hours long from 08:00-14:00 and 14:00-20:00. We will not be having day shifts during the Fall 2020 semester.

The EMT Class

The EMT Class meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 18:00-22:00, as well as some Saturday mornings at 09:00. The class will be taught almost entirely virtually and will run from late September to March. Attendance is mandatory if you are not already certified as an EMT. If you are certified as an EMT in another state, you are not required to take the EMT Class but instead must seek reciprocity from New York State.



RC MERT Membership Application 2020-2021



General Membership Meetings

All members must attend biweekly membership meetings on Sundays from 18:00-19:00. These meetings cover important updates from each department. All meetings will be held virtually via Zoom.

In-services

All field staff (802s and 801s) must attend weekly training sessions, scheduled from 17:00-18:00 every Sunday. In addition, field staff must attend Training Week which is the week before the start of classes for the Fall Semester.

FAQs

What COVID-19 precautions will MERT take to protect its members?

As an EMS organization, the safety of our members is our biggest priority. We will be following all of the EMS guidelines provided by NYS DOH. At the beginning of each shift, all crew members will be required to have their temperatures taken and recorded. In addition, no members who are showing any signs of COVID-19 will be allowed to take shifts. At every call, all the crew members and the patient will be required to wear a surgical mask. Members will also wear eye protection and gloves. If the call involves aerosolized procedures (ex: CPR) or the patient exhibits COVID-19 symptoms, the members will be required to wear N-95s, gown, gloves, and eye-protection. If at any point, you feel uncomfortable taking a shift due to the pandemic, you will be allowed to take a leave of absence.

If you become diagnosed with COVID-19, UHS will work with you to provide isolation housing until you test negative.

Are there any prerequisites for applying to RC MERT?

No, the application is open to all University of Rochester students and no prior experience with EMS or healthcare is necessary before applying. However, if you are accepted and do not already hold an EMT certification you will be required to take the EMT Class (see "Time Commitments").

I am off-campus this semester due to the pandemic. Am I still able to apply?

Unfortunately, a large part of MERT features in-person activities, including training and shifts and as a result, we are only able to accept students who are currently on-campus.

Will I have a better chance of being accepted if I have prior healthcare experience or an EMT certification?

We will take a holistic approach when reviewing and selecting applicants. Prior experience is one of many qualities we consider in an applicant but it will not make or break their chances of admission.



What are you looking for in an applicant?

MERT is a student-run organization, which means that it is vital to our operations that each member fulfills their responsibilities. We look for applicants who are willing to be committed to MERT, which means showing up to general member meetings, taking shifts, and working continually to add onto and improve their EMS knowledge and skills.

The core of MERT's job consists of patient interactions, which is why competency in communication skills such as empathy, listening, open-mindedness, and the ability to carry on conversations are extremely important to our organization.

Other qualities we value are passion (genuine desire to help others), a thorough understanding of our role on campus, and the ability to work effectively with others in a team environment.

Are all members of RC MERT pre-med and or in a STEM major?

No, in fact we've had many members from a diverse range of majors/interests and encourage anyone who is passionate and willing to commit to our organization to apply. Although many students who are on the pre-med track choose to apply it is neither a requirement nor an expectation of our applicants.

Do you get paid to be in MERT?

MERT is a volunteer organization which means that our members do not get paid.

What costs are covered by MERT?

MERT covers the cost of your EMT class. The university covers the cost of insurance for any injury/sickness that you may have gotten on a call.

MERT does NOT cover the cost of your uniform, which includes your tactical pants and tactical boots.

Is the EMT class really free?

Yes and no. NYS covers the cost of the EMT class on the basis that you pass the EMT class and receive your EMT certification. This means that there is no initial cost to take the EMT class and you will not have to pay if you are able to receive your NYS EMT certification by the end of the year. If, however, you do not pass the EMT exam, you will be expected to pay for the cost of the class. For most of our members, this does not become a problem as they are able to successfully receive their EMT certification by the end of their EMT class.



RC MERT Membership Application 2020-2021



How much of a time commitment is the EMT class?

You will be expected to attend two 4-hour long EMT classes each week, from late September to March. You will also have to take exams throughout the class, which may require you to study outside of class. While the amount of time that you will have to dedicate will vary per individual, it would be wise to treat the EMT class like another 4-credit class.

Will I receive academic credit for the EMT class?

No. The EMT class is separate from the University of Rochester and no academic credit will be given for the completion of the class.

What is NMOP?

NMOP stands for New Member Orientation Program and it is a 6-week program that gives you the basic training that you need to fulfill your duties as an 803. When you are accepted into MERT, you become an "NMOPer". As an NMOPer, you are not allowed to take shifts. On the last week of NMOP, you will be given an exam, and upon passing it, you will officially become an 803 and be allowed to take shifts. NMOP is separate from the EMT class and does not provide you with any certifications.

Do you have to stay awake the whole time you are on shift?

No, that would be torturous. Our bunkroom is located on the second floor of UHS where a room with a bed is provided for each member of the crew on shift. Each crew member will be sleeping in a different room to abide by social distancing guidelines. Additionally, while on duty the crew is not confined to a single room. You can find members of the crew studying in the library, getting a bite to eat, or simply hanging out as long as they are on campus and within the vicinity of Vehicle 800.

What happens if a patient needs to be transported to the hospital?

Currently, RC MERT is **not** a transporting agency. This means that if a patient needs to be taken to the hospital, we will call an outside transporting agency that is unaffiliated with the University to transport said patient.

Are the services provided by RC MERT free?

All services provided by RC MERT are free. However, if a patient needs to be transported to the emergency department, RC MERT will provide care until a transporting agency arrives. Transporting agencies are not affiliated with the University and will charge fees.



RC MERT Membership Application 2020-2021



Please upload a copy of the following documents (in addition to this application) to the Google Form:

- Full schedule of Fall 2020 courses
- Scanned copy of your driver's license
- Any certifications (EMT, CPR, First Aid, CFR, Lifeguards) that you may have
- Resume

All forms must be uploaded as a PDF.

General Information

| | |
|---|--|
| Name | |
| Pronouns | |
| DOB | |
| Address (Room, Building) | |
| Student ID | |
| LCC (the number on your ID card on top of your picture) | |
| Email | |
| Phone Number | |
| Class Year/School If Jr., are you planning on applying for the Take 5 or KEY Program? | |
| Have you applied previously? If yes, were you selected for an interview? | |
| Please list any other languages/degree of fluency | |

Legal Records



RC MERT Membership Application 2020-2021



Driving Records

| | |
|--|---|
| Driver's License State and ID # An international license is allowed as long as it allows for you to drive in the US. If you do not have a license, please upload your student ID instead. | |
| Have you had any moving violations in the past 18 months? | (If Yes, please explain in an additional page or attachment.) |
| Have you had any chargeable accidents in the last 3 years? | |
| Have you ever been convicted of a DUI, DWI, or DWAI? | |
| Please sign to authorize RC MERT to obtain a copy of your Motor Vehicle Record (MVR) | Sign: _____ Date: _____ |

Criminal Records

| | |
|--|---|
| Have you ever been convicted of a crime in NYS or elsewhere? <small>(Conviction of a crime does not automatically preclude you from membership)</small> | (If Yes, please explain in an additional page or attachment.) |
| If you have been convicted of a misdemeanor or a felony, have you obtained "clearance" from the New York State Department of Health to practice EMS? <small>(NYS DOH Policy #9603, please attach a copy of your clearance documentation)</small> | |
| Do you give permission for MERT to request a background check? <small>(Electronic signatures are acceptable)</small> | Sign: _____ Date: _____ |

Certifications and Relevant Experience

Current Certifications

| Training | Type (AHA, ARC); State | Certification Number | Expiration Date |
|-----------|------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| CPR | | | |
| First Aid | | | |
| CFR | | | |
| EMT | | | |
| Lifeguard | | | |
| Other: | | | |
| Other: | | | |



Medical History

| | |
|---|--|
| Are you able to lift someone weighing 250 lbs. with the assistance of one other person? | |
| Are you able to carry a 50 lb. bag around campus? | |
| Please describe any conditions that may prohibit, alter, or restrict the capacity in which you serve RC MERT while on call or otherwise. | |
| Please list any allergies – including food, environment and medications Are you prescribed an EpiPen for any of them? | |
| Please list any prescribed medication that may impair cognitive or motor abilities: | |



RC MERT Questions

Please answer the following questions in 400 words or less.

- 1. List and briefly describe 3 expectations that you have for MERT and 3 things that you would like to gain as a member.**

- 2. List and briefly describe 3 of your strengths and 3 of your weaknesses. How will these qualities benefit/hinder your experience in MERT?**



RC MERT Membership Application 2020-2021



MERT offers many opportunities for its members to become involved with the organization. Here are the leadership positions that we offer:

9 Executive board positions: Please go on our website and read the summary of their roles.

Recruitment Committee: Helps recruit new members to MERT

Selection Committee: Involved in the MERT application process and selects new members

Training Committee: Helps plan training week and assists in training new members in EMT skills

PR Assistant: Helps the PR officer with PR-related tasks

Standby Coordinator: Coordinates with clubs and organizations to have MERT be on stand-by for events

3. If accepted into MERT, which of the positions mentioned above would you be interested in applying to and why?



RC MERT Membership Application 2020-2021



4. Other than the information that you have provided above, please provide any other information that you feel we should take into consideration upon reviewing your application. This could include a little bit about yourself, your background, and/or an anecdote that describes your personality. Please also include things that you enjoy doing that do not need to be related to MERT

5. Please sign below to verify that all information given is true, complete, and correct.

| | |
|-------|-------|
| Sign: | Date: |
|-------|-------|

Thank you for your application. Keep an eye out for an email from us.