

MY CAREER PATH

AARON



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Aaron is a Paramedic in the National Ambulance Service, HSE.

"There is no typical day within The National Ambulance Service. Any of the calls we go to are unique and each call has its own story to tell. Each ambulance carries an immense amount of life saving equipment and drugs which is used at each call we go to. The 12 hour shift goes very quickly."



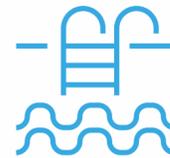
I remember writing an essay in 3rd year about becoming a Paramedic. The essay we had to write was about what we wanted to do when we leave school. It always interested me, the whole blue lights and sirens and I often wondered what the crew were going to as they darted through traffic. I completed my leaving certificate in 2003.



From there, I went to Ballyfermot College in Dublin to complete two Higher National Diplomas (each two years in length). One in HND was in Music Business Management and the other was in Sound Engineering & Music Technology.



I finished in Ballyfermot in 2007 and went to work for the Irish Music Rights Organisation. I worked here for 2 years. After these two years, I moved back home to Westport.



In Westport, I became a swimming instructor, divemaster and lifeguard instructor, I used these qualifications to work and I ended up managing a swimming pool for 5 years as well as gigging in music venues around Mayo. In 2015, I completed a qualification in Emergency medical technology and received the Emergency Medical Technician Qualification.



In January 2020, I started with the National Ambulance Service as a Paramedic, and I am currently heading into my internship year within the service.



A Paramedic is responsible for the care, treatment and movement of patients while maintaining self, vehicles, equipment and station in a manner fit to respond to that role. Some of the skills required for the role are flexibility and the ability to adapt to ever-changing situations, compassion and tolerance, rapid intense and sustained effort, and maintain your discipline under extreme stress.



As a Paramedic, you gain an immense amount of new skills, both practical and educational, which are taught to you in the Ambulance Service College.



This does not change when you leave the ambulance training college, as now the Paramedic programme for the national ambulance service is a 3-year degree program through UCC, with the option to complete a masters program or do an extra 4 years and become a medical doctor.



I would recommend a career in the civil service, because it's rewarding - especially in the ambulance service. You have good career progression as well as a chance to learn new skills, and it has a pension and job security.



Job Specification – Paramedic



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DEPARTMENT	National Ambulance Service Learn more here
SALARY	Starting at €30,288 per annum *subject to change
ROLE DESCRIPTION	<p>Paramedics are essential employees in emergency response situations, as they are the ones who respond to emergencies, such as 911 calls, and provide immediate treatment and relocation to a hospital. Paramedics are required to be alert and think quickly, and they must be able to lift bodies onto gurneys and transport them from the scene of an accident to an ambulance, which makes the work of a paramedic both physically and mentally demanding. Paramedics must also be able to administer CPR to patients, stop bleeding, and even use special equipment to bring patients back to life. Paramedics typically work outdoors, and spend most of their time in either an ambulance or emergency response helicopter. They typically work for hospitals and similar facilities with other paramedics, as well as doctors and nurses.</p>
REQUIREMENTS	<p>You need to possess a minimum of five passes in the Leaving Certificate Examination at Ordinary Level (or EU academic equivalent), including Mathematics and a Science subject. However, if you do not meet the above criteria, don't worry, as there are certain exemptions:</p> <p>(a) Possess a Pre-Hospital Emergency Care Council (PHECC) EMT Certificate in lieu of a Science Subject in the Leaving Certificate (or EU academic equivalent).</p> <p>(b) Possess a Primary Degree from a recognised third level institution in lieu of a Leaving Certificate (or EU academic equivalent).</p> <p>Driving License Requirements: Applicants must hold a full B and C1 category license prior to closing date for applications.</p> <p>Skills include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong communication skills. • The ability to make swift decisions and stay calm under pressure. • Navigational and driving skills. • Stamina. • Empathy and care for others. • A good level of physical fitness. • Resilience.
APPLICATION PROCESS	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Register up for job alerts on publicjobs.ie to know when opportunities become available. 2. Apply online at Publicjobs.ie before closing date. 3. Online Assessment Questionnaire 4. Interview 5. Training at the Irish College of Paramedics

