Program Standards for the Department of Emergency Medical Services

Issue	Standard	Examples
Hearing	Ability and strength necessary to respond to emergencies in a variety of settings.	Auscultation of breath sounds and blood pressure. Converse with patients and healthcare professionals. Work around loud equipment on roadways, discern radio transmission and pager tones and communicate on telephone/radio.
Mobility	Ability and strength necessary to respond to emergencies in a variety of settings.	Work in natural and man-made disasters in a variety of terrains and settings with physical demands.
Motor Skills (Fine)	Ability to handle or feel and reach sufficient to provide safe and efficient emergency care.	Tie a knot or bandage, give injections, pick up small objects, and write with a pen or use a keyboard/touch pad.
Motor Skills (Gross)	Perform multiple motor tasks simultaneously. Ability to lift and move patients from or to various heights, positions.	Lift and move patients form various heights or positions onto a gurney or stair chair. Provide a skill such as airway management or CPR while moving a patient down a set of stairs reasonable for this occupation.
Tactile	Tactile ability sufficient for physical assessment.	Distinguish hot or cool temperature, pulse rate; feel anatomical landmarks. Distinguish textures, degree of firmness, temperature differences.
Visual	Ability sufficient to work in dark, dimly lit or bright light environments. Have peripheral, form, depth perception and ability to distinguish shades of color.	Reading and writing reports. Visualize mechanism of injury in relation to patient's condition. Describe size and shape of wound. Describe patient's skin color.
Driver's License	Have a driver's license	Operate an ambulance.