



## News Release

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Athens, GA— Future students in the Paramedic Technology program at Athens Technical College should seriously consider adopting “High Expectations” as their class motto thanks to the graduates of the Class of 2009.

College officials recently learned that the 10 Paramedic Technology graduates passed their national licensure examinations on their first try.

“We were excited to get the news that the very first group of students to graduate from our program achieved this level of success,” said Dr. Flora W. Tydings, president of Athens Technical College. “You rarely hear of a new program being able to claim a 100 percent pass rate for its first group of graduates. I attribute our success to the instructional faculty who developed this program and who guided our students through this highly rigorous curriculum.”

Program chair Glenn Henry pointed out that only 76 percent of the 3,231 people who took the national licensure examination this spring passed the test on their first attempt. Only an additional 7 percent were able to pass the exam within six attempts.

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## **Athens Technical College**

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Paramedic graduates achieve rare feat

The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians administers the national licensure examinations. Students must pass both a cognitive test and a practical exam in order to achieve licensure as a paramedic. Scoring of the examinations follows a pass/fail format.

The cognitive examination covers six major categories: airway and breathing, cardiology, medical, trauma, OB/GYN and pediatrics, and operations.

For the practical examination, students are asked to perform skills in 12 different areas. The skills are presented in a scenario-type format to approximate the abilities of paramedics to function in a real-world environment.

Students are accepted into the Paramedic Technology program at Athens Technical College each fall. Applicants must hold a valid Emergency Medical Technician—Intermediate license. The application deadline is August 1.

Economic projections show that job opportunities in Northeast Georgia will increase by 19 percent between now and 2015. The average hourly salaries of paramedics working in Northeast Georgia are as high as \$18.17.

Information on the Paramedic Technology program is available at this link:

<http://www.athenstech.edu/Catalog/Programs/Paramedic%20Technology.pdf>.

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