March 1, 2019

Dear CCEMTP Registrant:

We are in receipt of your registration for the UMBC Critical Care Transport course (CCEMTP™) sponsored by UT Health in Houston, Texas on May 4-18, 2019.

**Course Location:** Harris County Emergency Corps
2800 Aldine Bender Rd.
Houston, Texas 77032
281-449-3131

**Class Times:** A TENTATIVE schedule has been included. The classroom opens at 07:00 on the first day of class for registration, and at 07:30 thereafter.

**Maps/Directions:** Driving directions are enclosed.

**Parking at Harris County Emergency Corps (HCEC):** While the course is in session, parking spaces are limited. If you are traveling with colleagues, please attempt to car pool. The staff at Harris County will leave visitor parking spaces available for you. Parking spots are located on the north side of the building.

**Travel/Hotels:** The course is conveniently located approximately one mile south of George Bush International Airport (IAH). A few hotels offer shuttle services within the local radius of the hotel while, others only offer shuttle services to the IAH terminals. Two recommended hotels are listed below and have adjusted their rates to give the students a discount. This selection was based on cost, comfort, accommodations, security, and proximity to the course. You are welcome to choose any hotel in the area...but choose wisely! This recommendation was made after touring approximately 15 properties close to the course location. *Most students conduct study sessions at StayBridge which hotel offers a conference room in the evening for your use as available. The Holiday Inn Express is right next door!*

Staybridge Suites
281-661-7700
Block Name/Code: Harris County Emergency Corp/ HCE
Room Types/Rates:
Studio Suite-$95 per night
One Bedroom 2 Queens-$105 per night
Holiday Inn Express
346-571-6670
Block Name/Code: Harris County Emergency Corp/ HCE
King Standard- $92 per night
2 queen Standard- $102 per night

Complimentary Ammendities:
- Breakfast
- airport shuttle
- shuttle to and from your facility
- Wifi
- Fitness Room
- Complimentary meeting room can be used as long as it is available at no additional cost during the evening (schedule with Front Desk).

Reservation Link for Course Attendees:
Holiday Inn Express - Harris Country Emergency Corps
Staybridge Suites - HCEC

The public transit system is called METRO. Bus and rail routes can be viewed on their website www.ridemetro.org. Many people choose to rent a car, or use riders apps like Uber or Lyft.

**Local Weather:** The projected temperatures in May and early June are between 68-90 °F – the “feels like” temperature is usually a few degrees higher due to Houston’s high humidity. This time of year it is common to have scattered afternoon thundershowers.

**Classroom Weather:** The classroom is usually kept a little on the cooler side – you should bring a light jacket.

**Baker Hughes Education Center at HCEC:** Welcome to the Baker Hughes Education Center. This state of the art training center was created in 2013 and is well-suited for extended use. The facility includes multiple classrooms and a high-fidelity simulation center. Please treat the facilities as you would your own home. Students are expected to clean-up after themselves at the end of each day.

**Food:** Students have free access to the soda machine, tea machine, and coffee throughout the duration of the course. Our class days will be long...YOU WILL GET HUNGRY! *Feel free to go shopping once you arrive in Houston and bring any snack food you need to sustain yourself while you are in class. If you would like to bring a small cooler, you are welcome to do that!* During some days of the course we will cater lunch and an afternoon snack. Those days are listed for you on the course calendar. If your hotel offers breakfast, eat before you come to class so you will be ready to start the day. StayBridge provides complimentary breakfast every day and also offers dinner 3-4 nights a week free of charge.
Dress code: A variety of options exist for classroom attire. You may wear your uniform if you choose. You may also wear business casual. Shorts are not permitted. HCEC has a Casual Friday policy that allows you to wear nice jeans. Compliance with the dress code is appreciated. Individuals not meeting dress code requirements will be asked to change.

Recommended Texts: No textbook is REQUIRED. You will receive a link via email that provides you access to the course materials. Many students ask for recommended readings and supplemental textbooks to use to help them get ready for the course. You can view the reading list at: http://ehs.umbc.edu-ce/Welcome/CCEMTPReadinglist.pdf.

Attendance Policy: UMBC requires the student to attend 100 percent of the curriculum prior to sitting for the final exam. Any student not present for a module has one year from the start of the course to make up any missed content. Students may contact other UMBC sites and request to attend their course to complete any missed modules. Tardiness is not tolerated. Traffic patterns can be unpredictable. Please allow yourself plenty of time to arrive on time. Local students who choose to work during the dates of the course must be on time for class and must remain awake. Any student that cannot stay awake will not be permitted to remain in the course.

Emergencies will happen! If you will miss a day, please contact Chivas Guillote via PHONE AND EMAIL. He can be reached at chivas.p.guillote@uth.tmc.edu or at 281-849-9700.

Handouts: On the first day of the course, each student is issued a binder for handouts that are distributed throughout the duration of the class. Power point slides are not distributed in class, however you may view them via the email link that is provided to you by the school. An outline is provided to you so you can take notes. Printing services are limited at the course location, so it is in your best interest to print any material you deem necessary prior to coming. There is also a FedEx/Kinko’s close by. Some of the instructors may choose to issue you supplemental material that is not a part of the regular curriculum. These are provided to you at no additional cost.

In order to be thoroughly prepared for the course, we recommend you being reading prior to the start date. As is possible with any course, there is no guarantee you will pass the final exam! We will help you be as prepared as we can, but it is up to you to identify your own strengths and weaknesses and start ramping up on trouble areas.

CCEMTP™ Resource Guide: A resource guide will be sent to you with links for the course materials. You should expect this email within roughly 30 days from the start of the course.

Self-Assessment and Pharmacology Module: You have a homework assignment to complete before you come to class. A pre-course self-assessment is included in your course materials and MUST be completed prior to the start of the course. Additionally, ALL of the pharmacology PowerPoints must be reviewed prior to day 1! These concepts are tested on the CCEMTP™ final exam but are NOT
covered in detail during the lectures! These items are found from the link to your electronic course materials.

**Clinical Observation:** Clinical observation experiences are available for this course! The following is a list of clinical rotations available to you. These experiences are OPTIONAL. **Your role in any clinical setting is as an observer.** A schedule will be distributed on the first day of class denoting the location of available clinical slots. We will work hard to facilitate your participation at our partnering institutions, but slots are limited. Preference is given to out-of-town students. Local students may schedule observations shifts outside of the regular course dates. If needed, we will use a lottery system to assign opportunities to students. HIPAA compliance training and confidentiality waivers may be required as per organizational policy.

*PHI Air Medical –*

Students will have the opportunity to ride along with PHI Air Medical in the metro Houston area on a Bell 407 helicopter. Students are eligible to participate on scene and critical care transports with experienced Flight Nurses and Flight Paramedics. Participation in ride along experiences is strictly voluntary and is at your own risk. PHI has an excellent record for safety and is one of the largest providers of helicopter services in the world. [www.phihelico.com](http://www.phihelico.com)
**Harris County Emergency Corps:**

Harris County Emergency Corps provides 911 services to a 100 square mile area of North Houston. This service is well known in the area for its high call volume and patient acuity. HCEC is the only CAAS accredited EMS program based in Houston. You may have seen HCEC in action on television shows like *The First 48*. HCEC also provides Event Medicine to several large venues in the area. The organization was the EMS provider for Super Bowl 2017. Students interested in observing in the 911 division will sign a HIPAA compliance waiver and a release of liability form prior to participating. Observation in the Event Medical division is not possible due to increased security at our downtown venues. [www.hcec.com](http://www.hcec.com)

**Other Stuff:**

Texas Medical Center – the largest medical center in the free world.

As the largest medical complex in the world, the Texas Medical Center (TMC) is an internationally recognized community of healing, learning and discovery. The TMC is home to many of the nation’s best hospitals, physicians, researchers, educational institutions and health care providers.
If interested – a tour of the Texas Medical Center will be arranged for any of our CCEMTPTM students.
Memorial Hermann Life Flight Tour: Life Flight™ is a division of Memorial Hermann in the Texas Medical Center. Life Flight is the second oldest hospital-based air medical program in the country and was the first rotorwing program established in Texas. Life Flight participates in both scene and interfacility transport throughout southeast Texas and also transports patients via fixed wing domestically and internationally. A tour of the flight program, EC145 helicopter, and dispatch center may be available for interested students. Life Flight does not allow CCEMTP students to participate at observers unless they are a part of a local EMS or Fire community.

Study Groups: One of the best ways to synthesize the classroom material is to study in groups after the day is over. This will give you an opportunity to address questions you may have about the course content with other students. The best way to learn the material is by exposing yourself to the material as much as possible. Reviewing the lecture notes within 3 hours of the end of the class improves knowledge retention!

Professional Development: This is one of the most challenging courses you will take in your healthcare career. It requires significant amount of effort to do well. This course is one of the many ways you will elevate the level of your professional practice. Many of our previous students have gone on to have very successful careers in critical care transport. Our course roster has a very diverse mix of students from all over the U.S. and abroad. Take advantage of the relationships and many opportunities you will have during your two weeks with us!
Visitor Information: As the fourth largest city in the United States, Houston has a rich culture and offers many opportunities for leisure! Below is a link to the official Houston Visitor’s guide describing the very best that our city has to offer. Welcome to Houston!

[www.visithoustontexas.com](http://www.visithoustontexas.com)

We are very excited to have each of you with us, and we hope you enjoy your stay in Houston. If there is anything we can do to improve your experience, please do not hesitate to let our staff know. We will see you in May!

Highest Regards,

Chivas Guillote, MSN, APRN, ENP-C, FNP-C, LP, CCRN, CFRN, CCEMTP
Coordinator – Critical Care Emergency Medical Transport Program (CCEMTP™)

McGovern Medical School
Department of Emergency Medicine
University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston
1133 John Freeman Blvd., J JL 4th Floor
Houston, Texas 77030

Enclosures:
Tentative schedule
Driving directions
North Houston Survival Guide

North Houston Survival Guide FAQs Page

OK…here are many of the things we thought you might want to know about North Houston. This should help you survive in the trenches while you are here. Houston is a beautiful city…but like any other large metropolitan community, not all parts of town are created equal. The course location is right in the middle of an industrial area, is right by a major international airport, and is in close proximity to low socioeconomic neighborhoods. Maintain street smarts when walking around at night. Like we said, there are some very beautiful and safe parts of Houston. Harris County Emergency Corps just happens to serve an area of Houston that is under-resourced, diverse, and poverty stricken. That is why we have taken extra precautions to find you the best accommodations and will give you recommendations on good places to travel to for your common needs.

Q: Who is my “go to” person while I am in town? Who do I call with questions or issues about the course, the host location, or logistical problems?
A: While you are staying with us, your “go to” person is Chivas Guillote. He is your course coordinator, guidance counselor, tour guide, and should be the first person you ask to speak with when you have a problem. His cell number is **281-849-9700**...he is available 24/7 while you are here!

Q: Are there any gyms in the area?
A: Most of the hotels have workout facilities within their establishments. 24 Hour Fitness, Lifetime Fitness, Bally’s Fitness, and Anytime Fitness are located in town as well.

Q: Where is a good place to go for Groceries?
A: We recommend you travel to HEB in Humble, TX located at corner of US Highway 59 and FM 1960. For those of you not fortunate enough to be born in the Lone Star state, the name “FM” road means “Farm to Market” roads.

Q: What about if I need a pharmacy?
A: There is a CVS, HEB, and Walgreens Pharmacy also at US Highway 59 and FM 1960.

Q: Is there a shopping mall nearby?
A: Yes, also in Humble. It is called Deerbrook Mall and it is located on the northwest corner of US Highway 59 and FM 1960. Other popular malls in the area are: The Woodlands Mall, Willowbrook Mall, and The Galleria. There is also a very nice outlet mall approximately 30 minutes away on Highway 290 in the Cypress area.

Q: Are there hospitals and/or clinics close by?
A: In Humble there is a community hospital called Memorial Hermann Northeast. It is also along US Highway 59 and is south of FM 1960 on the southbound feeder. There is also a free-standing emergency room operated by Memorial Hermann called the Convenient Care Center. It is located at the intersection of the East Sam Houston Parkway and Lake Houston Parkway.

Q: Can you help me find a church that matches my faith?
A: Houston is host to practically every religion known to man. If we can help you find a location so you can practice your religious denomination, please do not hesitate to ask.

Q: Are there any ATM machines close by?
A: **We recommend that you do not go east of HCEC on Aldine Bender to find an ATM.** If your hotel offers one, we recommend you use theirs. There is an ATM at Aldine Westfield and Aldine Bender which is close to Staybridge Suites. There are several ATMs close to Doubletree Hotel that should be fine.

Q: Can you recommend any places to go to relax?
A: There are some GREAT parts of town to go hang out. Here are some of our favorites:

- The Woodlands, Texas – awesome restaurants, great nightlife on the waterway, a really nice movie theater, and a nice shopping area.
• Downtown Houston – Whatever you are looking for, you will find it in Houston! There are great bars, several local breweries, an awesome museum district, a world-class theater district, and exceptional dining. Some local favorites are Pete’s dueling piano bar, the House of Blues, and Sambuca.

• Kemah Boardwalk – Kemah, Texas is located about 30-45 minutes south of IAH along interstate 45. It sits on Clear Lake and has a boardwalk with shops and other attractions.

• Galveston Island is about an hour drive south on I-45 and is a popular tourist attraction. Galveston has an interesting history and was one of the great seaports in the south during the 1800s. The island was hit by one of the most devastating hurricanes ever recorded in U.S. history. Since then, the seaport was moved to Houston. Moving the port from Galveston to Houston is credited as the reason for Houston’s growth in the 1900s. The island has many tourist attractions including the beach, Pleasure Pier, and a historic area known as The Strand.

If you have any other questions that we can answer for you before you arrive, just send Chivas an email at chivas.p.guillote@uth.tmc.edu.

Cheers and see you soon!
Driving Directions to HCEC from IAH Airport:

- Take JFK blvd south towards Beltway 8
- Drive south of beltway way on JFK to Aldine Bender Rd.
- Go right (west) on Aldine Bender Rd.
- HCEC is located at 2800 Aldine Bender on the left (south) side of the street.

Directions from Staybridge to Harris County Emergency Corps:

- From the parking lot, drive to Aldine Westfield Road and turn right (south)
- Turn left at Aldine Bender Rd.
- The building is located on the right hand side (south side of the street).