

# Tactical Paramedic

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The term "tactical paramedic" denotes a specialised role within the field of emergency medical services (EMS), particularly in high-risk or tactical environments in the UK, such as those encountered by the London Ambulance Service Tactical Response Unit. The definitions encompassed a few central themes, outlined as follows:

- 1. Professional Composition:** Tactical paramedics are typically paramedics who have undergone additional training to operate in high-risk law enforcement or emergency situations. Nurses or doctors can also work in this role with the appropriate training.
- 2. Certification:** Some definitions mention a specific certification - Tactical Paramedic-Certified (TP-C) by the International Board of Specialty Certifications (IBSC), which signifies a level of competency in the tactical paramedic domain.
- 3. Operational Environment:** Tactical paramedics are trained to provide life-saving care and transport in high-risk law enforcement operations, unpredictable, and often dangerous environments which may include active shooter scenarios, bombings, and natural disasters.
- 4. Scope of Practice:** Their scope extends beyond traditional EMS roles, encompassing advanced life support techniques, such as airway management, medication administration, and in some specialised roles within the UK, training in firearms use for specific tactical situations like those in the London Ambulance Service's Tactical Response Unit.
- 5. Adaptive Role:** The role of tactical paramedics is noted to be diverse, adapting to the environment, and can be both rewarding and challenging for professionals. They operate in areas where normal emergency care professionals might not venture due to the heightened risks.