

Entry requirements (emergency care assistant)

There are no set entry requirements to become an ECA. Most employers expect good standards of literacy and numeracy. Some may ask for qualifications such as GCSEs, NVQs or equivalent.

Experience

Employers look for relevant work experience. Even where this is not specified, it would be an advantage if you have worked with elderly or disabled people, either in paid employment or voluntary work. First aid work would also be useful, such as volunteering with St John Ambulance ^[1] or the British Red Cross ^[2].

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Personal characteristics

An emergency care assistant needs to be:

- able to understand a situation quickly
- calm in stressful situations
- confident and reassuring
- resilient in dealing with other people's strong emotions
- able to follow procedures
- able to work quickly and carefully
- able to work alone or in a team
- prepared to go into unknown or unpredictable situations

Skills required

An emergency care assistant needs:

- good communication skills
- good listening skills
- excellent driving skills
- organisational skills
- to be able to use equipment and machinery

Source URL: <https://www.healthcareers.nhs.uk/explore-roles/ambulance-service-team/roles-ambulance-service/emergency-care-assistant/entry-requirements-emergency-care-assistant>

Links

[1] <http://www.sja.org.uk/sja/default.aspx>

[2] <http://www.redcross.org.uk>