Six Emergency Medical Technicians Accept Positions as Registered Nurses at NYU Langone...

"I'm thrilled to grow on a professional level," says Michael Shikhman (left), who after eight years as a paramedic now works as a registered nurse in the Emergency Department at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn. His colleague Natalie Sturgeon (right), another former EMT, trained to become a registered nurse and has joined the critical care float team.

An increasing number of staffers are completing coursework to advance within the institution.

NYU Langone Health is deeply invested in helping staff members grow in their careers and find new opportunities across the organization.

Just one of many examples: Every year, a growing number of Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) complete schooling that allows them to be promoted into more advanced roles within the institution.

Between September 2023 and February 2024, six EMTs became registered nurses at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn. Two joined the Emergency Department, three work on Med-Surg floors, and one is on the critical care float team. During a prior timeframe, September 2022 to February 2023, five Brooklyn-based EMTs completed nursing training and took similar paths within the hospital.

"It's rewarding to see EMTs make the most of their career options at NYU Langone," says Danielle Moulton, manager, Emergency Medical Services (EMS). "Part of that means taking advantage of degree programs and then advancing internally. While they're enrolled in their courses, we try to be flexible and accommodating with their schedules, because we know it's hard to balance work and going to school."

Depending on an EMT's prior education, a nursing degree can take between two and four years to complete. When staffers have completed their programs and passed state board exams, NYU Langone's Talent Acquisition team works with them to find possible new roles.

One recent success story: Michael Shikhman was five years into his career as a paramedic with EMS when he decided during the Covid-19 pandemic to further his education. He worked another two and a half years part-time while going to nursing school, then joined the Emergency Department at NYU Langone Hospital—Brooklyn in February.

"I really loved being a paramedic, but I wanted to work with patients in a hospital setting," he says. "Since I started as a nurse last month, the Brooklyn ED staff has been super supportive. I'm grateful NYU Langone has given me the opportunity to advance."

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