

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians® THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™	<h1>Request for Time Extensions</h1>		
Policy No.: 52.30	Revision: 01	Effective:	Page 1 of 3

Intent

The intent of this policy is to establish the covered circumstances for which time extensions are considered for initial and recertification.

Scope

This policy applies to circumstances related to National Registry certification deadlines for:

- Recertification dates, Two-year cycle.
- Time since original training, Two-year period.
- Time between cognitive and psychomotor examinations, if results have expired

Definitions

Designated Authorizing Agency – Agencies that authorize National Registry activities under the Designated Authorizing Agency policy outside the jurisdiction of State EMS Offices.

Extenuating Circumstances - any circumstance beyond the control of a candidate or provider and has an unforeseen impact on a deadline.

Policy

The National Registry has several time frame requirements for which candidates or registrants occasionally request extensions. Unless otherwise specified by this policy, the National Registry extensions are only granted for extenuating circumstances that significantly affect the certification or testing eligibility time period – not just the final portion of it (e.g., an emergency in the last week of a two-year course eligibility).

Requests for extensions must be made before the deadline. Requests made after the expiration of the deadline will only be considered if exigent circumstances prohibited prior notification.

This policy covers circumstances related to NREMT certification. Requests for extension related to assessment examinations or recertification for state licensure only (in states that the use the NREMT database to track non-registered licensed personnel) will be forwarded to the State EMS Office for determination.

The following circumstances are considered for extensions under this policy.

- Military or Federal Deployments: Military deployments that are in areas or conditions in which training, education, or testing cannot occur for a substantial period (more than one third of the applicable timeframe) with the submission of appropriate documentation and the confirmation

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of the Designated Authorizing Agency. Planned training commitments such as basic training does not qualify. The extension would begin on the day of return from deployment.

- Short Term Military or Federal Deployments: If a short-term deployment occurs within the last month of a recertification cycle, an extension may be granted to file the recertification application while training must be accomplished within the regular cycle. This requires submission of appropriate documentation and the confirmation of the Designated Authorizing Agency. The extension would begin on the day of return from deployment.
- Direct contact from a state EMS office or Designated Authorizing Agency requesting an extension due to extenuating circumstances.
- Legal Requirements: Legal obligations or proceedings in which training or testing cannot occur for a substantial period (more than one third of the applicable timeframe;) with the submission of appropriate documentation and the confirmation of the State EMS Office or Designated Authorizing Agency. The extension would begin on the day that the legal obligation ended.
- Medical Emergencies: Emergencies that require extensive in-patient treatment or rehabilitation in which training or testing cannot occur for a substantial period of time (more than one third of the applicable timeframe) with the submission of confirming documentation of inability to train or test from the physician or primary care managers office. Elective or preventative procedures do not qualify. The extension would begin on the day on which training or testing can resume. Extreme cases in which a candidate is unable to test in order to care for an immediate family member may qualify as a medical emergency.
- NREMT Error: Errors or substantial delays by NREMT which directly cause a significantly delay in the ability to test. This circumstance requires a finding by the appropriate Chief Officer that (1) the error directly caused the delay and (2) the delay was substantially longer than communicated expectations or normal performance.
- Pearson VUE Error: Errors or delays by Pearson VUE which directly cause a significantly delay in the ability to test. This circumstance requires a finding by the Chief Science Officer that (1) the error directly caused the delay and (2) the delay was substantially longer than communicated expectations or normal performance.
- Interference with a Planned Examination: If the event that an examination is scheduled within the normal deadlines, and a circumstance covered by this directive (or the No Show Policy) suddenly occurs and prevents the candidate from attending that examination, an extension of up to 90 days may be granted to allow an opportunity to schedule and attend an examination.

Determination

The Chief Certification Officer or designated proxy determines eligibility for extensions under this directive. Each case will be documented with the specific extension granted and rationale.

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Rationale

Because each time-based requirement is based upon a carefully developed rationale, application of policy requires that extensions be rare and consistent with NREMT goals.

Related Policies and Procedures

Requests for Time Extensions Procedure

References

Document History

2019-05-19 Created

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VERIFY REVISION STATUS OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE USING

**Resolution on The National Registry of EMTs Board of Directors Support
for the Removal of the EMT Psychomotor Materials from the National Registry website.**

WHEREAS, the National Registry of EMTs does not administer the EMT psychomotor examinations;

WHEREAS, all EMT psychomotor examinations are administered by either the State EMS Office or at the training institution, with approval and oversight provided by the State EMS Office;

WHEREAS, EMT course instructors should provide candidates information regarding the EMT psychomotor examination;

WHEREAS, the EMT psychomotor examination materials are not updated and/or validated; and

BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Registry of EMTs Board of Directors supports the removal of the EMT psychomotor materials from the National Registry website, following notification of their impending removal to stakeholders.

Enacted by the National Registry Board of Directors this _____ day of [Month] [Year].

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians® THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™	Certification Scheme: Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Responder		
Policy No.: 52.40	Revision: 01	Effective:	Page 1 of 6

Intent

This policy specifies the certification scheme for the Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Responder (NREMR) certification, including scope of certification, job and task description, required competence, required abilities, prerequisites and applicable code of conduct.

Scope

This certification scheme applies only to the Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Responder (NREMR) certification.

Definitions

EMR- Emergency Medical Responder

Certification – National Registry verification that an individual possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (competencies) to do a job as defined by the requirements of the certification scheme.

Recertification -Renewal or maintenance of certification in which stated requirements are met.

Policy

Scope of Certification

This certification is aligned with the EMR role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019) which states:

“The EMR is an out of hospital practitioner whose primary focus is to initiate immediate lifesaving care to patients while ensuring patient access to the emergency medical services system. EMRs possess the basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide lifesaving interventions while awaiting additional EMS response and rely on an EMS or public safety agency or larger scene response that includes other higher-level medical personnel. When practicing in less populated areas, EMRs may have a low call volume coupled with being the only care personnel for prolonged periods awaiting arrival of higher levels of care. EMRs may assist but should not be the highest level person caring for a patient during ambulance transport. EMRs are often the first to arrive on scene. They must quickly assess patient needs, initiate treatment, and request additional resources” (p. 25).

Job and Task Description

This certification is aligned with the EMR role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019). This document describes the EMR role as

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- “Function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, community, health, or public safety system with clinical protocols and medical oversight.
- Perform basic interventions with minimal equipment to manage life threats, medical, and psychological needs with minimal resources until other personnel can arrive.” (p. 25).

The National Registry performs a Practice Analysis in accordance with the *National Registry Practice Analysis Policy*. The latest National Registry Practice Analysis identifies the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for the profession. The current EMR certification scheme is based on the 2014 National Registry Practice Analysis (National Registry of EMTs, 2015).

Required Competence

The NREMR certification is designed to verify minimum entry level competency for EMRs.

Required Abilities

The National Registry does not assess the abilities required for EMRs but requires the verification of abilities by a process approved by the State EMS Office.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites to certification include:

1. Successful completion of a state approved EMR course that meets or exceeds the current National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for the Emergency Medical Responder (NHTSA, 2009).
 - a. Candidates must have completed the course within the past two years and the course Program Director must verify successful course completion on the National Registry website.
 - b. If the EMR completed an initial educational program more than two years ago and the candidate is currently state licensed at the EMR level, the candidate must document proof of education requirements. The following methods are acceptable:
 - i. Successful completion of a state approved EMR refresher course
 - ii. 8 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016).
2. A current AHA BLS for "Healthcare Provider" or equivalent credential.
3. Successful completion of a State EMS Office approved assessment of psychomotor skills within the past 24 months.

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Code of Conduct

The *National Registry Code of Conduct* (see reference) applies to all National Registry certificants.

Criteria for Initial Certification

1. Documented completion of all prerequisites.
2. Successful completion of the National Registry EMR cognitive examination per the requirements of relevant policies.
3. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*

Certification Period

1. The time period of certification for the NREMR certification is two years.
2. Initial expiration dates are determined by the date the candidate successfully completes the entire national certification process (cognitive and psychomotor exams). EMR candidates completing the national certification process between the January 1 and June 30 will receive an expiration date of September 30 two years in the future. Individuals successfully completing the national certification process between July 1 and December 31 will receive an expiration date of September 30 three years in the future.
3. Recertification expiration dates are two years from the expiration date of the prior period.

Criteria for Recertification

1. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*.
2. Recertification can be accomplished by either continuing education or examination.
 - a. Complete sixteen hours of approved continuing education after the initial date and before the expiration date of the certification Continuing education must be accepted by the State EMS Office or accredited by CAPCE (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - i. The objectives of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) must be met, consisting of at least eight hours of approved continuing education. No more than three hours of the National Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - ii. At least four hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Local Component of the National Continued Competency Program, meeting any State or Local requirements. No more than three hours of the Local Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).

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- iii. At least four hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Individual Component of the National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - b. Successful completion of the National Registry EMR cognitive examination not more than one year before the current certification expiration date. Only one attempt at the examination is allowed. If a passing score is not achieved, continuing education can be used if completed within the certification period (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
3. Completion of the recertification application and paid appropriate fees.
4. Verification of continued competency of skills and abilities by the local Training Officer.
 - a. If verification cannot be provided, recertification is allowed as inactive. Verification of continued competency for skills and abilities by a local training officer is required to convert inactive status to active status.

Criteria for Suspending and Withdrawing Certification

The criteria for withdrawing and suspending certification are specified by the *Terms of Certification* and *Disciplinary Action* policies.

Criteria for Changing the Scope of Level of Certification

In the event of a significant change in the scope of the certification, the National Registry releases a *Transition Policy* to implement the change in scope, including the required assessments (See reference Transition Policy).

Rationale

The certification scheme is developed with an objective of providing assurance that a person who seeks or maintains national EMS certification meets specific requirements and demonstrated competency. Recognition of competence through the achievement of national certification leads to increased public confidence and protection of the public.

The certification practices of the National Registry are consistent with the ISO 17024:2012 standards and current National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards. The assessment and examination practices of the National Registry are consistent with current APA AERA NCME Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing and National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards.

Related Policies and Procedures

Practice Analysis Policy

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Code of Conduct

Exam Validity Policy

Examination Administration Policy

Criminal Conviction Policy

Standard Setting Policy

Terms of Certification Policy

Disciplinary Action Policy

Transition Policy

References

American Educational Research Association., American Psychological Association., National Council on Measurement in Education., & Joint Committee on Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing (U.S.). (2014). *Standards for educational and psychological testing*.

International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnician Commission (ISO/IEC). (2012). *ISO/IEC 17024:2012*. Geneva, Switzerland.

National Association of State EMS Officials. 2019 *National EMS Scope of Practice Model* (Report No. DOT HS 812-666). Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

National Commission for Certifying Agencies. (2014). *NCCA Accreditation Standards*. Washington, DC; Institute for Credentialing Excellence

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). (2009). *National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards*.

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (2015). *2014 National EMS Practice Analysis*. Columbus, Ohio.

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (2016). *National Continued Competency Program: EMR Education Update*. Columbus, Ohio

National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (2019). *Recertification Guide*. Columbus, Ohio

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Document History

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Intent

This policy specifies the certification scheme for the Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT) certification, including scope of certification, job and task description, required competence, required abilities, prerequisites and applicable code of conduct.

Scope

This certification scheme applies only to the Nationally Registered Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT) certification.

Definitions

EMT – Emergency Medical Technician

Certification – National Registry verification that an individual possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (competencies) to do a job as defined by the requirements of the certification scheme.

Recertification - The renewal or maintenance of certification in which stated requirements are met.

Re-entry - A pathway in which the candidate's state EMS license or National Registry certification has expired.

Policy

Scope of Certification

This certification is aligned with the Emergency Medical Technician role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019) which states:

“An EMT is a health professional whose primary focus is to respond to, assess and triage emergent, urgent, and non-urgent requests for medical care, apply basic knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and medical transportation to/from an emergency or health care facility. Depending on a patient's needs and/or system resources, EMTs are sometimes the highest level of care a patient will receive during an ambulance transport. EMTs often are paired with higher levels of personnel as part of an ambulance crew or other responding group. With proper supervision, EMTs may serve as a patient care team member in a hospital or healthcare setting to the full extent of their education, certification, licensure, and credentialing. In a community setting, an EMT might visit patients at home and make observations that are reported to a higher-level authority to help manage a patient's care. When practicing in less

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populated areas, EMTs may have low call volume coupled with being the only care personnel during prolonged transports. EMTs may provide minimal supervision of lower level personnel. EMTs can be the first to arrive on scene; they are expected to quickly assess patient conditions, provide stabilizing measures, and request additional resources, as needed” (p. 26).

Job and Task Description

This certification is aligned with the Emergency Medical Technician role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019). This document describes the EMT role as

- Function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, community, health, or public safety system with defined clinical protocols and medical oversight.
- Perform interventions with the basic equipment typically found on an ambulance to manage life threats, medical, and psychological needs.
- Are an important link within the continuum of the emergency care system from an out of hospital response through the delivery of patients to definitive care (p. 26).

The National Registry performs a Practice Analysis at least every five years in accordance with the *National Registry Practice Analysis Policy*. The latest National Registry Practice Analysis identifies the necessary knowledge, skills, and abilities for the profession.

Required Competence

The NREMT certification is designed to verify minimum entry level competency for EMTs.

Required Abilities

The National Registry does not assess the abilities required for EMTs but requires the verification of abilities by a process approved by the State EMS Office.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites to certification include:

1. Successful completion of a state-approved Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for the Emergency Medical Technician (NHTSA, 2009).

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- a. Candidates must have completed the course within the past two years and the course Program Director must verify successful course completion on the National Registry website.
 - b. If the initial Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) educational program was completed more than two years ago and the candidate is currently state licensed at the EMT level, the candidate must document proof of education requirements. The following methods are acceptable:
 - i. Successful completion of a state-approved EMT refresher course or 20 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) within the past two years.
 - c. If a candidate's EMT state license has lapsed, or an individual's National EMT Certification has lapsed, the candidate is considered to be re-entry and must document proof of 40 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) within the past two years.
2. Have a current AHA BLS for "Healthcare Provider" or equivalent credential.
 3. Successful completion of a State EMS Office approved assessment of psychomotor skills within the past 24 months.

Code of Conduct

All National Registry certificants are accountable to the *National Registry Code of Conduct* (see reference).

Criteria for Initial Certification

1. Documented completion of all prerequisites.
2. Successful completion of the National Registry EMT cognitive examination per the requirements of relevant policies.
3. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*

Certification Period

1. The time period of certification for the NREMT certification is two years.
2. Initial expiration dates are determined by the date the candidate successfully completes the entire national certification process (cognitive and psychomotor exams). EMT candidates completing the national certification process between the January 1 and June 30 will receive an expiration date of March 31 two years in the future. Individuals successfully completing the

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national certification process between July 1 and December 31 will receive an expiration date of March 31 three years in the future.

3. Recertification expiration dates are two years from the expiration date of the prior period.

Criteria for Recertification

1. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*.
2. Recertification can be accomplished by either continuing education or examination.
 - a. Complete forty hours of approved continuing education after the initial date and before the expiration date of the certification. Continuing education must be accepted by the State EMS Office or accredited by CAPCE (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - i. The objectives of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) must be met, consisting of at least twenty hours of approved continuing education. No more than seven hours of the National Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - ii. At least ten hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Local Component of the National Continued Competency Program, meeting any State or Local requirements. No more than seven hours of the Local Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - iii. At least ten hours of continuing education for the Individual Component of the National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - b. Successful completion of the National Registry EMT cognitive examination one year before the current certification expiration. Only one attempt at the examination is allowed. If a passing score is not achieved, continuing education can be used if completed within the certification period (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
3. Completion of the recertification application and paid appropriate fees.
4. Verification of continued competency of skills and abilities by the local Training Officer.
 - a. If verification cannot be provided, recertification is allowed as inactive. Verification of continued competency for skills and abilities by a local training officer is required to convert inactive status to active status (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).

Criteria for Suspending and Withdrawing Certification

The criteria for withdrawing and suspending certification are specified by the *Terms of Certification* and *Disciplinary Action* policies.

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Criteria for Changing the Scope of Level of Certification

In the event of a significant change in the scope of the certification, the National Registry releases a *Transition Policy* to implement the change in scope, including the required assessments (see reference Transition Policy). Certificants may request to drop to a lower level certification. If they wish to regain the certification level, they will need to follow the appropriate prerequisites for certification (see reference Request a Lower Certification Level policy).

Rationale

The certification scheme is developed with an objective of providing assurance that a person who seeks or maintains national EMS certification meets specific requirements and demonstrated competency. Recognition of competence through the achievement of national certification leads to increased public confidence and protection of the public.

The certification practices of the National Registry are consistent with the ISO 17024:2012 standards and current National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards. The assessment and examination practices of the National Registry are consistent with current APA AERA NCME Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing and National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards.

Related Policies and Procedures

Practice Analysis Policy

Code of Conduct

Criminal Conviction Policy

Terms of Certification Policy

Disciplinary Action Policy

Transition Policy

Request a Lower Certification Level Policy

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International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnician Commission (ISO/IEC). (2012). *ISO/IEC 17024:2012*. Geneva, Switzerland.

National Association of State EMS Officials. 2019 *National EMS Scope of Practice Model* (Report No. DOT HS 812-666). Washington, DC: National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

National Commission for Certifying Agencies. (2014). *NCCA Accreditation Standards*. Washington, DC; Institute for Credentialing Excellence

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). (2009). *National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards*.

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National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (2019). *Recertification Guide*. Columbus, Ohio

Document History

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 <p>National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians® THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™</p>	<h1>Certification Scheme: Nationally Registered Advanced Emergency Medical Technician</h1>		
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Intent

This policy specifies the certification scheme for the Nationally Registered Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (NRAEMT) certification, including scope of certification, job and task description, required competence, required abilities, prerequisites and applicable code of conduct.

Scope

This certification scheme applies only to the Nationally Registered Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (NRAEMT) certification.

Definitions

AEMT – Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

Certification – National Registry verification that an individual possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (competencies) to do a job as defined by the requirements of the certification scheme.

Recertification - The renewal or maintenance of certification in which stated requirements are met.


Re-entry - A pathway in which the candidate's state EMS license or National Registry certification has expired.

Policy

Scope of Certification

This certification is aligned with the AEMT role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019) which states:

The AEMT is a health professional whose primary focus is to respond to, assess and triage non-urgent, urgent, and emergent requests for medical care, apply basic and focused advanced knowledge and skills necessary to provide patient care and/or medical transportation, and facilitate access to a higher level of care when the needs of the patient exceed the capability level of the AEMT. The additional preparation beyond EMT prepares an AEMT to improve patient care in common emergency conditions for which reasonably safe, targeted, and evidence-based interventions exist. Interventions within the AEMT scope of practice may carry more risk if not performed properly than interventions authorized for the EMT/EMR levels. With proper supervision, AEMTs may serve as a patient care team member in a hospital or healthcare setting to the full extent of their education, certification, licensure, and credentialing. In a

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community setting an AEMT might visit patients at home and make observations that are reported to a higher-level authority to help manage a patient's care (p. 27).

Job and Task Description

This certification is aligned with the AEMT role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019). This document describes the AEMT role as

- “Function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, community, health, or public safety system with medical oversight.
- Perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance.
- Perform focused advanced skills and pharmacological interventions that are engineered to mitigate specific life-threatening conditions, medical, and psychological conditions with a targeted set of skills beyond the level of an EMT.
- Function as an important link from the scene into the health care system.” (p. 28).

The National Registry performs a Practice Analysis at least every five years in accordance with the *National Registry Practice Analysis Policy*. The latest National Registry Practice Analysis identifies the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities for the profession. The current AEMT certification scheme is based on the 2014 National Registry Practice Analysis (National Registry of EMTs, 2015).

Required Competence

The NRAEMT certification is designed to verify minimum entry level competency for AEMTs.

Required Abilities


The National Registry of EMTs assesses required abilities through a formal psychomotor verification process administered by an official National Registry Examination Representative. Psychomotor skills must be demonstrated according to criteria set by the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician Psychomotor Examination Policy.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites to certification include:

1. Current National Registry certification (NREMT) or state license at the EMT level, or a higher
2. Successful completion of a state-approved Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) course that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for the Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (NHTSA, 2009).

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- a. Candidates must have completed the course within the past two years and the course Program Director must verify successful course completion on the National Registry website.
 - b. If the initial Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) educational program was completed more than two years ago and the candidate is currently state licensed at the AEMT level, the candidate must document proof of education requirements. The following methods are acceptable:
 - i. Successful completion of a state approved AEMT refresher course or
 - ii. 25 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) within the past two years.
 - c. If a candidate's AEMT state license has lapsed, or an individual's National AEMT Certification has lapsed, the candidate must document proof of 50 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) within the past two years.
3. A current AHA BLS for "Healthcare Provider" or equivalent credential.

Code of Conduct

The *National Registry Code of Conduct* (see reference) applies to all National Registry certificants.


Criteria for Initial Certification

1. Documented completion of all prerequisites.
2. Successful completion of the National Registry AEMT cognitive and psychomotor examinations per the requirements of relevant policies.
3. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*

Certification Period

1. The time period of certification for the NRAEMT certification is two years.
2. Initial expiration dates are determined by the date the candidate successfully completes the entire national certification process (cognitive and psychomotor exams). AEMT candidates completing the national certification process between the January 1 and June 30 will receive an expiration date of March 31 two years in the future. Individuals successfully completing the national certification process between July 1 and December 31 will receive an expiration date of March 31 three years in the future.
3. Recertification expiration dates are two years from the expiration date of the prior period.

VERIFY REVISION STATUS OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE USING

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Criteria for Recertification

1. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*.
2. Recertification can be accomplished by either continuing education or examination.
 - a. Complete fifty hours of approved continuing education after the initial date and before the expiration date of the certification Continuing education must be accepted by the State EMS Office or accredited by CAPCE (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - i. The objectives of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) must be met, consisting of at least twenty-five hours of approved continuing education. No more than eight hours of the National Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - ii. At least twelve and a half hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Local Component of the National Continued Competency Program, meeting any State or Local requirements. No more than eight hours of the Local Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - iii. At least twelve and a half hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Individual Component of the National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - b. Successful completion of the National Registry AEMT cognitive examination not more than one year before the current certification expiration date. Only one attempt at the examination is allowed. If a passing score is not achieved, continuing education can be used if completed within the certification period (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
3. Completion of the recertification application and paid appropriate fees.
4. Verification of continued competency for skills and abilities by the local Training Officer and Medical Director.
 - a. If verification cannot be provided, recertification is allowed as inactive. Verification of continued competency for skills and abilities by a local training officer is required to convert inactive status to active status.

Criteria for Suspending and Withdrawing Certification

The criteria for withdrawing and suspending certification are specified by the *Terms of Certification* and *Disciplinary Action* policies.

VERIFY REVISION STATUS OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE USING

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Criteria for Changing the Scope of Level of Certification

In the event of a significant change in the scope of the certification, the National Registry releases a *Transition Policy* to implement the change in scope, including the required assessments (See reference Transition Policy). Certificants may request to drop to a lower level certification. If they wish to regain the certification level, they will need to follow the appropriate prerequisites for certification (See reference Request a Lower Certification Level policy).

Rationale

The certification scheme is developed with an objective of providing assurance that a person who seeks or maintains national EMS certification meets specific requirements and demonstrated competency. Recognition of competence through the achievement of national certification leads to increased public confidence and protection of the public.

The certification practices of the National Registry are consistent with the ISO 17024:2012 standards and current National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standard. The assessment and examination practices of the National Registry are consistent with current APA AERA NCME Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing and National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards.

Related Policies and Procedures

Practice Analysis Policy

Code of Conduct

Exam Validity Policy


Criminal Conviction Policy

Terms of Certification Policy

Disciplinary Action Policy

Transition Policy

Request to Drop to a Lower Certification Level

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International Organization for Standardization and the International Electrotechnician Commission (ISO/IEC). (2012). *ISO/IEC 17024:2012*. Geneva, Switzerland.

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Intent

This policy specifies the certification scheme for the Nationally Registered Paramedic (NRP) certification, including scope of certification, job and task description, required competence, required abilities, prerequisites, and applicable code of conduct.

Scope

This certification scheme applies only to the Nationally Registered Paramedic (NRP) certification.

Definitions

NRP – Nationally Registered Paramedic

Certification – National Registry verification that an individual possesses the knowledge, skills, and abilities (competencies) to do a job as defined by the requirements of the certification scheme.

Recertification – The renewal or maintenance of certification in which stated requirements are met.

Re-entry - A pathway in which the candidate's state EMS license or National Registry certification has expired.

Policy

Scope of Certification

This certification is aligned with the NRP role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019) which states:

The paramedic is a health professional whose primary focus is to respond to, assess, and triage emergent, urgent, and non-urgent requests for medical care, apply basic and advanced knowledge and skills necessary to determine patient physiologic, psychological, and psychosocial needs, administer medications, interpret and use diagnostic findings to implement treatment, provide complex patient care, and facilitate referrals and/or access to a higher level of care when the needs of the patient exceeds the capability level of the paramedic. Paramedics often serve as a patient care team member in a hospital or other health care setting to the full extent of their education, certification, licensure, and credentialing. Paramedics may work in community settings where they take on additional responsibilities monitoring and evaluating the needs of at-risk patients, as well as intervening to mitigate conditions that could lead to poor outcomes. Paramedics help educate patients and the public in the prevention and/or management of medical, health, psychological, and safety issues (p. 28).

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Job and Task Description

This certification is aligned with the NRP role as defined by the current National EMS Scope of Practice Model (NASEMSO, 2019). This document describes the NRP role as:

- “Function as part of a comprehensive EMS response, community, health, or public safety system with advanced clinical protocols and medical oversight.
- Perform interventions with the basic and advanced equipment typically found on an ambulance, including diagnostic equipment approved by an agency medical director.
- May provide specialized interfacility care during transport.
- An important link in the continuum of health care” (NASEMSO, 2018, p.28).

The National Registry conducts a practice analysis at least every five years in accordance with the *National Registry Practice Analysis Policy*. The latest National Registry Practice Analysis identifies the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities for the profession. The current NRP certification scheme is based on the 2014 National Registry Practice Analysis (National Registry of EMTs, 2015).

Required Competence

The National Registry paramedic certification is designed to verify minimum entry-level competency for paramedics.

Required Abilities

The National Registry of EMTs assesses required abilities through a formal psychomotor verification process administered by an official National Registry Examination Representative. Psychomotor skills must be demonstrated according to criteria set by the Paramedic Psychomotor Examination Policy.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites to certification include:

1. Current National Registry certification (NREMT) or state license at the EMT level, or a higher.
2. Successful completion of a CAAHEP-accredited Paramedic program (or a program that has been issued a CoAEMSP "Letter of Review") that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for Paramedic (NHTSA, 2009).

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- a. Candidates must have completed the course within the past two years and the course Program Director must verify successful course completion on the National Registry website.
 - b. If the initial Nationally Registered Paramedic (NRP) educational program was completed more than two years ago and the candidate is currently state licensed at the NRP level, the candidate must document proof of education requirements. All candidates for National Registry's National EMS Certification at the Paramedic level whose Paramedic program began on or after January 1, 2013 must have successfully completed Paramedic education from an accredited program sponsored by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) or one who held a valid Letter of Review (LOR) issued by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP). The following methods are acceptable proof of education:
 - i. Successful completion of a state approved Paramedic refresher course or
 - ii. 30 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) within the past two years.
 - c. If a candidate's Paramedic state license has lapsed, or an individual's National NRP Certification has lapsed, the candidate is considered to be re-entry and must document proof of 60 hours of continuing education that meets all requirements of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) within the past two years.
 - i. Completion of a DOT Paramedic (NRP) Training Program must be completed after January 1, 1977.
 - ii. All candidates for National Registry's National EMS Certification at the Paramedic level whose Paramedic program began on or after January 1, 2013 must have successfully completed Paramedic education from an accredited program sponsored by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) or one who held a valid Letter of Review (LOR) issued by the Committee on Accreditation of Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions (CoAEMSP).
3. All Paramedic candidates who started their Paramedic education program after August 1, 2016 are required to complete a psychomotor competency portfolio.
 4. A current AHA BLS for "Healthcare Provider" or equivalent credential.

Code of Conduct

The *National Registry Code of Conduct* (see reference) applies to all National Registry certificants.

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Criteria for Initial Certification

1. Documented completion of all prerequisites.
2. Successful completion of the National Registry Paramedic cognitive and psychomotor examinations per the requirements of relevant policies.
3. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*

Certification Period

1. The time period of certification for the NRP certification is two years.
2. Initial expiration dates are determined by the date the candidate successfully completes the entire national certification process (cognitive and psychomotor exams). Paramedic candidates completing the national certification process between the January 1 and June 30 will receive an expiration date of March 31 two years in the future. Individuals successfully completing the national certification process between July 1 and December 31 will receive an expiration date of March 31 three years in the future.
3. Recertification expiration dates are two years from the expiration date of the prior period.

Criteria for Recertification

1. Met the eligibility requirements of the *Terms of Certification* and *Criminal Conviction Policy*.
2. Recertification can be accomplished by either continuing education or examination.
 - a. Complete sixty hours of approved continuing education after the initial date and before the expiration date of the certification Continuing education must be accepted by the State EMS Office or accredited by CAPCE (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - i. The objectives of the current National Component of the 2016 National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2016) must be met, consisting of at least thirty hours of approved continuing education. No more than ten hours of the National Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - ii. At least fifteen hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Local Component of the National Continued Competency Program, meeting any State or Local requirements. No more than ten hours of the Local Component can be distributive education (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - iii. At least fifteen hours of state accepted or CAPCE accredited continuing education for the Individual Component of the National Continued Competency Program (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).
 - b. Successful completion of the National Registry NRP cognitive examination on not more than one year before the current certification expiration date. Only one attempt at the

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examination is allowed. If a passing score is not achieved, continuing education can be used if completed within the certification period (National Registry of EMTs, 2019).

3. Completion of the recertification application and paid appropriate fees.
4. Verification of continued competency for skills and abilities by the local Training Officer and Medical Director.
 - a. If verification cannot be provided, recertification is allowed as inactive. Verification of continued competency for skills and abilities by a local training officer is required to convert inactive status to active status.

Criteria for Suspending and Withdrawing Certification

The criteria for withdrawing and suspending certification are specified by the *Terms of Certification* and *Disciplinary Action* policies.

Criteria for Changing the Scope of Level of Certification

In the event of a significant change in the scope of the certification, the National Registry releases a Transition Policy to implement the change in scope, including the required assessments. Certificants may request to drop to a lower level certification. If they wish to regain the certification level, they will need to follow the appropriate prerequisites for certification.

Rationale

The certification scheme is developed with an objective of providing assurance that a person who seeks or maintains national EMS certification meets specific requirements and demonstrated competency. Recognition of competence through the achievement of national certification leads to increased public confidence and protection of the public.

The certification practices of the National Registry are consistent with the ISO 17024:2012 standards and current National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards. The assessment and examination practices of the National Registry are consistent with current APA AERA NCME Standards for Educational and Psychological Testing and National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) standards.

Related Policies and Procedures

Practice Analysis Policy

Code of Conduct

Criminal Conviction Policy

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Terms of Certification Policy

Disciplinary Action Policy

Transition Policy

Request to Drop to a Lower Certification Level

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