

Intent

This policy authorizes the National Registry to award credits for recertification to function as an alternative to continuing education in appropriate circumstances.

Scope

This policy is limited to recertification credits for National Certification and does not apply to initial certification or state licensure.

Definitions

Recertification Credit – A unit of measure used for recertification activities that is functionally equivalent to one continuing education unit, using increments no smaller than 0.25 credits.

Policy

The policy of the National Registry is to require evidence of continued competency in order to maintain certification. The certification schemes for each certification specify requirements for maintenance of certification, including requirements for continuing education units. The National Registry may specify alternative activities to demonstrate continued competency and professional development that may not be easily defined as “continuing education” by state and national EMS organizations. These recognized activities are referred to as recertification credits.

Recertification credits are functionally equivalent to recognized continuing education for purposes of National Registry recertification. The National Registry will not seek outside or third-party approval as continuing education for these activities.

The National Registry Board of Directors must approve alternative recertification credit supplements. These descriptions will be recorded as supplements to this policy. Because these credits are assigned to activities not well described as continuing education, the supplements will include the specific parameters for assigning credits to approved activities.

Recertification credits may include limitations for use including:

- Limitation to certain National Registry certifications
- Limitation to areas of recertification, including national, local or individual components

Recertification credits will use increments no smaller than 0.5 credits.

Rationale

The National Registry recognizes a variety of alternative education credits relating to the field of emergency medical services and encourages lifelong learning. These educational and professional activities, which are not typical of the continuing education pathways, have added value and should be considered for use in national certification activities. These alternative education credits further enhance and develop an EMS professional's skills, ability, or knowledge in emergency medical services and are considered structured, practical, and methodical in their approach to learning.

Related Policies and Procedures

National Registry Examination Development

Recent Completion of IBSC Examinations

IBSC Examination Development

IBSC Approved Refresher Training

Certification Scheme: Emergency Medical Responder

Certification Scheme: Emergency Medical Technician

Certification Scheme: Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

Certification Scheme: Paramedic

Recertification Guide

References

None

Document History

2020-03-09	Created
2020-07-15	Policy approved by Board of Directors and moved to public comment period as 20-MOTION-17
2020-11-06	Policy ratified by the National Registry Board of Directors after 60-Day Comment Period
2022-06-15	Board adoption of 22-Resolution-06 for removal of Distributive Education limits.
2022-08-15	Ratification of 22-Resolution-06 after 60-Day Board Comment Period.
2023-01-13	Policy updated for 22-R-06. Approved by the Executive Director (v2)