



National Continued Competency Program & Evidence-based Guidelines

The objective of the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) is to encourage lifelong learning. Lifelong learning is important to ensure EMS Clinicians are up-to-date on the latest clinical information and competent to deliver quality patient care.

The NCCP has three continuing education requirement areas: National, State/Local, and Individual. The National Registry sets the requirements for the National portion. Effective for nationally



certified EMS clinicians with a certification expiration date of 03/31/2026, or later, the number of credits of continuing education required by content (topic) is listed below under the "PROPOSED CREDITS BASED ON TEST SPECIFICATIONS" chart. There are no longer specific sub-topics that must be addressed under each content (topic).



Additionally, the National Registry is strongly encouraging the incorporation of evidence based guidelines (EBGs) into the national component of the NCCP. As part of this overall initiative, the National Registry partnered with the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium (PGC). The PGC recommendations are to encourage EMS Clinicians and those who instruct them to incorporate evidence-based guidelines into their education and practice. The National Registry will help support this recommendation by providing open access to and/or summaries of the all of the designated guidelines meeting the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) criteria for high-quality guidelines.

The credit changes for the National requirements are captured in the following tables below:

CURRENT HOURS FOR NATIONAL COMPONENT				
Content	EMR	EMT	AEMT	NRP
ARV	1	1.5	2.5	3.5
Cardio	2.5	6	7	8.5
Trauma	0.5	1.5	3	3
Medical	3	6	7.5	8.5
Ops	1	5	5	6.5
Total	8	20	25	30

Continuing education must address topics and sub-topics in each of the identified content areas

PROPOSED CREDITS BASED ON TEST SPECIFICATIONS				
Content	EMR	EMT	AEMT	NRP
ARV	1.5	4	5	6
Cardio	2	5	6	7
Trauma	1	3	4	5
Medical	2.5	6	7	8
Ops	1	2	3	4
Total	8	20	25	30

Continuing education should incorporate but not mandate EBGs and their related key articles
10% of the National Content must be Pediatrics

2025 NCCP Model					
National Component Topic Areas (50%)		EMR	EMT	AEMT	NRP
*At least 10% of the National content must be pediatric focused		1	2	2.5	3
Airway	Total ARV Credits	1.5	4	5	6
Cardiology	Total Cardiology Credits	2	5	6	7
Medical	Total Medical Credits	1	3	4	5
Trauma	Total Trauma Credits	2.5	6	7	8
Operations	Total Operations Credits	1	2	3	4
TOTAL Local / State Component Credits (25%)		4	10	12.5	15
TOTAL Individual Component Credits (25%)		4	10	12.5	15
TOTAL Required Credits		16	40	50	60

Notes: Complete the total number of credits in each National Component Topic Area. Complete the total required credits based on the National, Local/State, and Individual Component. Local and Individual credits must relate to Emergency Medical Services or EMS patient care. At least 10% of the National Component credits must be pediatric focused content.



What You Need To Know

For State Officials, EMS Clinicians, Board and Staff, the National Registry is collaborating with partners to encourage lifelong learning by making the allocation of credits more meaningful while encouraging the use of evidence-based guidelines.

Key Takeaways

- * The National Registry's new NCCP helps to ensure that EMS clinicians maintain the knowledge and skills required for competent practice with greater flexibility, simplicity, and incorporation of EBGs as part of the national component of the NCCP.
- * The National Registry encourages lifelong learning and supports the state and local determination of continuing education based on local needs.
- * The National Registry partnered with the Prehospital Guidelines Consortium and will provide open access to and/or summaries of all identified EMS evidence-based guidelines meeting the NAM criteria for high-quality guidelines. See "2022 Systematic Review of Prehospital Evidence Based Guidelines" at: <https://prehospitalguidelines.org/ebg-resources/>

Questions

Q- What is NCCP?

A- The NCCP is a framework designed to encourage lifelong learning measured via continuing education credits requirements that must be fulfilled every two years.

Q- Why should I care about NCCP?

A- It is important to stay up to date on new advances in healthcare and particularly changes that impact patient care.

Q- What are evidence-based guidelines?

A- For clinicians, evidence-based guidelines provide a summary of the relevant medical literature and offer assistance in deciding many aspects of clinical practice. They are peer-reviewed documents.



Q- Where do I find evidence-based guidelines? Are they required?

A- The PGC EBGs are not required as part of the NCCP, but strongly encouraged at this time. The 2022 Systematic Review of Prehospital Evidence Based Guidelines can be found here, at: https://prehospitalguidelines.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/2022-EMS-EBG-Systematic-Review_Educational-Summary.pdf. This systematic review will be updated every two years and will be made widely available for all to reference and utilize.

The PGC also offers additional resources on their website, including a reading list of EBGs which can be found at: <https://prehospitalguidelines.org/ebg-resources/>

Q- What is the timing of these changes?

A- The National Registry has updated the application to reflect the new credit amounts for each topic area for nationally certified clinicians with a certification expiration date of 3/31/2026 and after. Upon submission, applicants will self-attest that the 10% pediatric content was included in the education.

Q- Will I continue reporting education on my transcript and categorizing them?

A- Yes, you will continue to report education on your transcript. The main difference is that there will no longer be specific sub-topics that need completed as part of the national component. If you choose to incorporate education related to the EBGs, they can be included as part of your national component.

Dates To Know



Those with a certification date of 3/31/2026 will be required to submit education as indicated.