

EMT

(Emergency Medical Technician)

Recertification Policy

WEST VIRGINIA
Department of

**Health &
Human
Resources**
BUREAU FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
Office of Emergency Medical Services



EMT Recertification Policy and Procedures NREMT

PURPOSE: To establish standard requirements to be met by all applicants seeking to become recertified and authorized to practice Emergency Medical Services at the Emergency Medical Technician Level in West Virginia.

POLICY: To ensure consistent standards and procedures for recertifying as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in West Virginia.

PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS:

- A. EMT certifications shall expire March 31 per NREMT policy.
- B. Submit a current complete online application to WVOEMS between April 1 and December 31 of the prior year of expiration. Online application available at www.wvoems.org. The application deadline is 90 days prior to expiration. Example: expire March 31 must submit by December 31.
 1. Submit the appropriate fees as required in WV §64 CSR 48-6.9.
 2. Continuously meet all requirements for EMS personnel as described in WV §64 CSR 48.
 3. Disclose any limitation or exclusion by any EMS agency, EMS Medical Director, or any other healthcare profession certification or licensing authority in any state, territory, or the U.S. Military Services.
- C. **24 Hour Recertification Course** – providers must complete of all six (6) WVOEMS approved refresher class modules meeting NREMT National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) standards. These modules shall be submitted in CIS.
- D. **Additional Continuing Education** - providers must complete an additional sixteen (16) hours of continuing education.
 1. State and Federal mandates require the following West Virginia specific education included as part of the additional CE hours:
 - a. Haz Mat Awareness meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards annually. (**3 hours** awarded annually totaling **6 hours** per NREMT

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NREMT**

recertification period.)

- b. WVOEMS BLS protocol review annually. (**2 hours** awarded annually totaling **4 hours** per NREMT recertification period)
- c. MCI or Disaster Management related training to include mass casualty drills totaling a minimum of **2 hours** per NREMT recertification period.
- d. Successfully complete an approved CPR training/refresher course meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.8.a.4. Applicant must show proof of a current valid certification. (**4 hours** awarded every 2 years)

TOPIC	HOURS
MCI or Disaster Management	2
Haz Mat Awareness X2	6
BLS Protocol Refresher X2	4
CPR	4
TOTAL	16

- E. On-Line Courses** – On-line education may be accepted in accordance with NREMT policy.
- F. National Registry:** EMTs recertify utilizing National Registry in the following manner:
 - a. Complete all requirements for recertification outlined by National Registry.
 - b. Proof of education shall be submitted to National Registry online in the “My Certification” dashboard.
 - c. Submit a copy of your National Registry card or equivalent to WVOEMS.
- G. Important Notice:** An EMR/EMT/Paramedic certified by WVOEMS must also be continually certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) or an equivalent certifying organization approved by WVOEMS, during the duration of your WVOEMS certification. Your failure to retain an uninterrupted NREMT or equivalent certification may result in the immediate suspension of your WVOEMS certification and your right to practice in West Virginia.

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H. Lapse in Certification –

a. Lapsed 0-30 Days:

If the EMT met all recertification requirements prior to the expiration date but did not complete the administrative functions of recertification, the National EMS certification is considered to be lapsed. If the certification has lapsed less than 30 days, the applicant can submit a late fee per NREMT policy and submit all required documentation to regain certified status.

b. Lapsed 0-24 Months:

If the EMT did not meet all recertification requirements by the expiration date, the National EMS certification is considered to be lapsed. If the certification lapsed less than two years, or you are currently state licensed as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), you can regain National EMS Certification by completing the cognitive and psychomotor examinations.

- Complete a Traditional State Approved EMT Refresher
- State approved continuing education equal to the EMT Refresher
- If the EMT was licensed in a NCCP state, completion of the National Component meets the requirement

c. Lapsed More Than 2 Years:

Entry and/or re-entry into the National Registry may be granted to a previously state licensed or Nationally Certified EMT provided you complete:

- A state approved refresher course, or the national component of the NCCP program
- A state administered practical examination
- The Cognitive Examination
- Hold current BLS CPR certification

In cases where a lapse in certification has occurred and there is no background check on file with WVOEMS, the applicant will be required to apply for and be cleared by the State and National background checks for WVOEMS as required in WV §16- 4C-8.1.1

This policy replaces all previous policies for Emergency Medical Technician Recertification.



**WV EMT
RECERTIFICATION
PROGRAM**

Meets NREMT NCCP Standards

EMT RECERT PROPOSAL (NCCP standards)

The National Component requires **20 hours** of the topic hours listed for recert: Modules I thru V.

Module I

4 hours

TOPIC – <i>Airway and Neurotological Management</i>	TIME LINE
Ventilation ETCO2	1 Hour
Oxygenation CPAP	30 Min.
Neurological – (Seizures / CNS) Injury Stroke EMS Research / Evidence Based Medicine	1 Hour 1 Hour 30 Min.

Required Objectives:

1. Discuss and describe the ventilatory process
2. Identifying adequate vs. inadequate breathing
 - a. Tidal volume
 - b. Minute volume
 - c. Vital capacity
 - d. Hypoxia
 - e. Hypoxic drive
 - f. Dyspnea
3. Describe ventilatory assist and measurement of adequacy-ETCO2
 - When to oxygenate and when to ventilate.
4. Discuss cellular metabolism thru oxygenation.
5. Discuss Internal vs. External respiration
 - Difference between respiratory arrest and failure
6. Discuss use of CPAP* (optional per agency medical direction)
7. Define altered mental status
8. Define diverse types of seizures: generalized, partial, status epilepticus
9. List possible causes of seizures
10. Explain the importance to recognize seizure activity and identify other problems associated with seizures
11. Describe the postictal state and the patient care interventions
12. Identify the s/s of a pt. with a traumatic brain injury
13. Discuss the current research and practices for the use of selective spinal immobilization
14. Discuss differences between ischemic vs. hemorrhagic stroke and TIA
15. Discuss s/s of stroke and some mimics
16. Discuss causes of stroke
17. Discuss identifying, assessing and treatment of the stroke patient.
18. Discuss importance of knowing the timeline of stroke events.
19. Discuss transport to appropriate stroke facilities
20. Explain the practical use of research in EMS care
21. Define different research methods in EMS research
22. Explain the process of conducting a literature review for EMS research

Module II**4 hours**

TOPIC – <i>Cardiac Management & Considerations</i>	TIME LINE
Cardiac Arrest 12 Lead EKG AED	2 Hours
ROSC	30 Min.
VAD	30 Min.
Pain Management	30 Min.
Toxicological - Opioids	30 Min.

Required Objectives:

1. Describe the A & P, pathophysiology, assessment and management of a myocardial infarction
2. Describe the purpose and demonstrate the application of the 12 lead ECG monitor/transmission
3. Discuss pathophysiology, assessment and management of a cardiac arrest
4. Discuss and demonstrate the application of an AED, indications and contraindications
5. Describe ROSC and effectively manage hemodynamic instability
6. Determine causes of cardiac arrest
 - a. Make treatment choices based on the cause
 - b. Determine appropriate destination
7. Describe the process of induced hypothermia
8. Understand the function of VAD's
9. Discuss patient care issues/differences in assessment involved in patients with a VAD
10. Determine differences between acute and chronic pain management
11. Discuss conducting pain assessments appropriately by patient's age
12. Discuss non-pharmacological pain management options
13. Identify common synthetic stimulants and natural or synthetic THC (Tetrahydrocannabinol)
 - a. Recognize the effects
 - b. Synthetic stimulants
 - c. Natural and synthetic THC
14. Identify common opioids
 - Recognize the effects
15. Discuss management and treatment of the opioid overdose patient

Module III**4 hours**

TOPIC – <i>Medical Emergencies I/Ops I Management & Considerations</i>	TIME LINE
Diabetic Emergencies	1 Hour
Psychiatric / Behavioral	30 Min.
EMS Culture of Safety	30 Min.
Immunological Emergencies	30 Min.
Infectious Diseases	30 Min.
EMS Provider Hygiene, Safety, and Vaccinations	30 Min.
At Risk Populations	30 Min.

Required objectives:

1. Explain the role glucose plays on the cells
2. Explain the role of insulin
3. Define and explain diabetes and the two types
 - a. Hyperglycemia
 - b. hypoglycemia
4. Discuss assessing the patient with a history of diabetes and an altered mental status
5. Describe the interventions for care and treatment of both the conscious and unconscious patient with a history of diabetes who is having a hypoglycemic episode
6. Explain the management of hyperglycemia
7. Define a behavioral crisis
8. Discuss special considerations for assessing and managing a behavioral crisis or psychiatric emergency
9. Define agitated delirium and describe the care for a patient with agitated delirium
10. State the risk factors for suicide
11. Define culture of safety
12. Identify and explain the six core elements necessary to advance an EMS culture of Safety
Identify the role of the EMS provider in establishing a culture of safety within EMS organizations
13. Understand and define the terms allergic reaction vs. anaphylaxis
14. Discuss causes of an allergic reaction
15. Discuss the assessment, management and treatment of a patient having an allergic vs. anaphylaxis reaction
16. Describe some age-related contraindications to using epinephrine to treat an allergic reaction in a geriatric patient
17. Define infectious disease and communicable disease
18. Define bloodborne vs. airborne transmission
19. Understand mode of transmission
20. Explain post-exposure management
21. Identify proper hand-washing technique
22. Identify appropriate use of alcohol-based hand cleaner
23. Discuss the CDC's recommendations of vaccines for healthcare providers
24. Assess eye safety indications and measures
25. Recognize the unique characteristics of at-risk populations
26. Recognize circumstances that may indicate abuse
 - a. Domestic abuse
 - b. Human trafficking
 - c. Non-accidental trauma
27. State appropriate actions of EMS professionals in the presence of abused pts.

Module IV**4 hours**

TOPIC – <i>Medical Emergencies II Management & Considerations</i>	TIME LINE
Special Healthcare Needs	1.5 Hours
OB Emergencies	30 Min.
Pediatric Cardiac Arrest	2 Hours

Required Objectives:

1. Identify common special needs patients seen in EMS
2. Relate the role of caregivers of the special needs patient to the EMS Professional's patient care
3. Describe patient assessment of a special needs patient Identify abnormal presentations during childbirth and nuchal cord presentations
4. Discuss management of abnormal presentation and nuchal cord presentation during delivery
5. Recognize the need for neonatal resuscitation during delivery
6. Describe steps for neonatal resuscitation
7. Describe routine care of a newborn not requiring resuscitation
8. Describe current techniques of one and two rescuer CPR for pediatric cardiac arrest
9. Demonstrate current techniques of one and two rescuer CPR for pediatric cardiac arrest

Module V**4 hours**

TOPIC – Trauma/Ops II Management & Considerations	TIME LINE
Trauma and Field Triage	1 Hour
Hemorrhage Control	30 Min.
Pediatric Transport	30 Min.
Ambulance Safety	30 Min.
Crew Resource Management	1 Hour
Evidence Based Guidelines	30 Min.

Required Objectives:

1. Identify triage criteria for the trauma patient in the Field Triage Decision Scheme
2. State the four steps of the CDC's Field Triage Decision Scheme
3. Examine local protocols
4. Identify and treat severe hemorrhage
5. Define the indications, effects, and contraindications for the use of
 - a. Tourniquets
 - b. Hemostatic agents
6. Explain how to appropriately secure a child safety restraint to a stretcher
7. Discuss the difference between the NHTSA recommendations for safe transport of children based on the condition of the child
8. Discuss the on-going initiatives to increase the safety of children during ambulance transport and the limitations of those current recommendations
9. Define Crew Resource Management
10. Explain the benefits of CRM to EMS
11. Explain the concept of communication in the team environment using advocacy/inquiry or appreciative inquiry
12. State characteristics of effective team leaders
13. State characteristics of effective team members
14. Explain how the use of CRM can reduce errors in patient care
15. Define evidence based medicine and practice
16. Identify resources available through NASEMSO to aid states and agencies in developing evidence based guidelines
17. Explain the benefits of evidence based guidelines for patients
18. Discuss federal initiatives developed to monitor and analyze ground ambulance crashes
 - a. Reference: NHTSA Advances Ground Ambulance Safety
19. Identify the significance of ambulance crashes through the use of national data
20. Evaluate policies and procedures at one's own EMS service related to protecting the patient and providers safety during ground ambulance transport

Module VI

4 hours +

TOPIC – Skills Performance
Patient Assessment - Trauma
Patient Assessment - Medical (<i>includes baseline vital assessment</i>) <i>Must include one (1) of the following:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oral Glucose Administration• Nitroglycerine Administration• Nebulized Medication Administration• Epinephrine Auto-Injector Administration• Epinephrine 1:1000 Ampule Administration
Bleeding Control / Shock Management
Airway Management-King Airway
Evidence Based Guidelines

Required Objectives:

See WVOEMS approved psychomotor objectives

National Standards cont.

Required State 10 hours

Required Individual 10 hours

Requirements (NREMT 2 year certification):

TOPIC	HOURS
EMT NCCP Refresher Course <i>including skills</i>	24
MCI or Disaster Management	2
Haz Mat Awareness X2 (awarded 3 hours annually)	Meeting Standard (6 Hours)
BLS Protocol Refresher (awarded 2 hours annually)	4
CPR (awarded 4 hours every two year CPR certification period)	Meeting Standard (4 Hours)
TOTAL	40

Requirements (WVOEMS 4 year certification):

TOPIC	HOURS
EMT NCCP Refresher Course <i>including skills</i> X2 (biennially)	48
MCI or Disaster Management X2 (biennially)	4
Haz Mat Awareness X4 (Annually)	12 (3 hours each)
BLS Protocol Refresher X4 (Annually)	8
CPR X2	8 (4 hours each)
TOTAL	80

24 hour Refresher *including skills* (National required component)

32 hours proposed State and individual requirements

Total = 80 hours in 4 years meeting National Registry, WVOEMS, and MPCC requirements.

Notes:

- **Applies and ensures consistency to the program**
- **Modules SHALL be taught as a unit. (i.e. Modules cannot be broken down into 30 minute increments)**
- **Maintains standards across the State**
- **Allows individuals to obtain refresher hours as part of multiple classes**
- **EMT Refreshers would be entered in CIS as 6 separate modules**
- **Allows the program to grow and be modified as needed while maintaining state-wide consistency**