For years, educators, employers, providers and regulators have recommended that the NREMT include an out-of-hospital scenario skill in the NREMT paramedic psychomotor examination. It is the goal of the NREMT to ensure protection of the public by assessing psychomotor competency in a way that simulates actual practice in a controlled environment. With this recommendation and goal in mind, the NREMT is changing the way it verifies psychomotor competency for National Registry Paramedic (NRP) certification.

Effective January 1, 2017, the NREMT will begin Phase 1 of its transition to an NRP scenario-based psychomotor examination. Those completing the NRP psychomotor examination will be tested on an integrated out-of-hospital scenario skill. Additionally, the examination will test five legacy skills (Patient Assessment – Trauma, Dynamic Cardiology, Static Cardiology, Oral Case A, and Oral Case B) that currently exist among the 12 skills on the NRP psychomotor exam.

The NREMT has partnered with the National Association of Emergency Medical Service Educators (NAEMSE) to help coordinate regional scenario development workshops for educators across the country in 2016. In these workshops, educators will gain hands-on experience developing both formative and summative scenarios for use in their classrooms.

Want to learn more? Watch our Out-of-hospital Scenario Skill Station video.

In turn, this practice will help educators to better prepare their students to function as NRPs outside of the classroom.

To help prepare you to administer the new Phase 1 NRP Psychomotor Exam, we are requiring that you attend a NREMT Representative Update. Updates are held following the conclusion of day two of each workshop. During these sessions, we will discuss implementation dates, scheduling changes, new exam resources, the integrated out-of-hospital scenario skill station, receiving results and more.

Please note: You will be responsible for making your own travel arrangements, but please contact Loren Coleman (lcoleman@nremt.org) to notify us of your plans. The NREMT will reimburse all reasonable and customary costs associated with attending the event. Following the update, the NREMT will provide you with a voucher for reimbursement.

To register for a regional scenario development workshop, visit NAEMSE.org.
NREMT IMPLEMENTS 2015 AHA GUIDELINES EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1, 2016

The NREMT has completed a review of the 2015 American Heart Association (AHA) Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and Emergency Cardiovascular Care (ECC), and the NREMT Standards and Examination Committee has discussed and approved the impact of the recommended changes to all National EMS Certification materials.

The NREMT will implement the associated recommendations for all levels of initial National EMS Certification beginning September 1, 2016.

For the full details of the NREMT’s implementation of these changes, visit nremt.org/nremt/downloads/2015-AHA-Implementation.pdf.

Please note: the NREMT will continue to require that all candidates for initial National EMS Certification possess a current and valid CPR credential which is equivalent to the AHA’s BLS Provider Course.

Important Dates

As of August 1, 2016, anyone seeking to obtain National Registry Paramedic (NRP) certification must now complete a portfolio before they qualify to take the examination. The portfolio, which provides a mass of evidence documenting a candidate’s competency in 12 psychomotor skill areas, is a prerequisite to seeking NRP certification. The program tracks each student’s portfolio throughout the formative and summative phases of education in the laboratory, clinical and field internship settings.

Effective January 1, 2017, the NREMT will begin Phase 1 of its transition to an NRP scenario-based psychomotor examination. Those completing the NRP psychomotor examination will be tested on an integrated out-of-hospital scenario skill. Additionally, the examination will test five legacy skills (Patient Assessment – Trauma, Dynamic Cardiology, Static Cardiology, Oral Case A, and Oral Case B) that currently exist among the 12 skills on the NRP psychomotor exam.

For more information on these changes, visit nremt.org/nremt/about/ppcp_info.asp.

HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF NREMT EXAMINATIONS

Want to help us craft the next NREMT examination? Join your fellow EMS professionals at one of our item writing meetings.

Participants submit items for an NREMT examination and then meet in Columbus to review the drafted items. The NREMT coordinates airfare, lodging and meals.

Interested in participating? Fill out an application at nremt.org/iwcd and send your resume or CV to ItemWriting@NREMT.org.

Upcoming conferences

October
03-07 EMS World Expo, New Orleans, LA
21-22 MedStock, York, NE
27-30 Vermont EMS & Healthcare Disaster Preparedness Conference West Dover, VT
28-29 Idaho EMS Educators Conference Meridian, ID
Top Questions

1. At which skill stations can high fidelity mannequins be used?

High fidelity mannequins can be used at Patient Assessment — Trauma and Patient Assessment — Medical skill stations and in the integrated out-of-hospital scenario skill.

A high fidelity simulation mannequin capable of responding as a real patient given the scenario(s) utilized may also be used as the Simulated Patient. (NREMT, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians: Advanced Level Examination Procedure Manual, 2014, p. 6-5)

2. After informing an unsuccessful candidate which psychomotor skill stations they failed, the candidate may ask you how to schedule another exam. How should you respond?

Once candidates’ official results are available on their NREMT web accounts, candidates should contact an examination site from the list provided on the NREMT website and schedule a retest. Reservation lists for exams close approximately 3-4 weeks in advance of the testing date; candidates should keep this in mind when scheduling.

PLEASE NOTE: In order to avoid placing undue strain on representatives and exam coordinators, please do not refer candidates to other exams through channels other than the NREMT website.

3. Can I use a highlighter on the NREMT Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Form to be sure that I fill in the correct column?

Yes. When candidates need to retest skills, using a highlighter to indicate which attempt the candidate is on and which skills the candidate needs to take is helpful to ensure that you document in the correct spaces (NREMT, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians: Advanced Level Examination Procedure Manual, 2014, p. 5-16 – 5-20).

4. Is it OK to intermingle the NREMT Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Forms with the colored skill sheets?

No. After all the results have been transcribed onto the “NREMT Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Form,” you should pick up the report forms in alphabetical order, paper clip them to the roster, and place the stack in the blue NREMT examination folder. Do not staple or paperclip anything to the “NREMT Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Forms,” do not interfile paperwork between the forms, and be sure you have not written or marked on any undesignated area of the scannable form. Then you should pick up the stacks of skill evaluation forms in alphabetical order and place a rubber band around the stack. Return all these forms to the NREMT with the rest of the examination materials (NREMT, National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians: Advanced Level Examination Procedure Manual, 2014, p. 5-48).