



## RECERTIFICATION SEASON IS OPEN

Recertification for all Nationally Certified providers expiring March 31, 2017, is now open. Avoid the last-minute rush and recertify today!

### Voucher Policy Change

As a reminder, the NREMT application fee is increasing effective **January 1, 2017**. The NREMT remains committed to administering one of the lowest application fees in high-stakes health career certification, and the increase marks the first price adjustment in several years.

If you have purchased or are planning to purchase a voucher at the current price, please be sure to apply it by **December 31, 2016**. Vouchers may be applied to an application after the application is submitted.

**Regardless of purchase date, any unused vouchers for the current prices will expire after December 31, 2016.** If you will be unable to use your purchased voucher by this deadline, please contact the NREMT at [certification@nremt.org](mailto:certification@nremt.org).

## In this issue:

- Important Dates
- Our New Website
- Research Update
- Indiana Rollout Update
- Inactive Status 101
- Top Questions
- Help Shape the Examinations
- Research Fellowship Opportunity
- Remember: Fees increase
- Update On Certification Delivery

## Change to Continuing Education Policy

**Effective immediately, continuing education hours can be earned for your next NREMT recertification as soon as you complete your current recertification.\***

Previously, hours would not count for the next recertification period unless they were earned after the expiration date—regardless of when you recertified. Now, hours begin to count for the next period immediately.

**For example:** Complete your recertification on October 3, and you can count education beginning October 4 for the next recertification cycle.

**\*Some states do not participate in rolling education. Please check with your state office to verify participation.**

# NREMT 2016 Fall Newsletter

## 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 educational 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/rwd/public/document/paramedic-portfolio](http://nremt.org/rwd/public/document/paramedic-portfolio).

## Check Out Our New Website

The NREMT is proud to announce the responsive redesign of [NREMT.org](http://NREMT.org). From your desktop computer to your tablet or smartphone, our hub for all things National EMS Certification is now more accessible and easier to navigate than ever. Check it out!



## NREMT RESEARCH UPDATE

### Research Department Welcomes New Director

This July, the NREMT welcomed a new Research Director, Ashish R. Panchal, MD, PhD. In addition to leading the research department, Dr. Panchal is the Director of the Center for EMS and an Associate Professor of Emergency Medicine at The Ohio State University. He earned his PhD at Case Western Reserve University and his MD at The Ohio State University. Dr. Panchal's research has focused on cardiac arrest and resuscitation with numerous publications and grants.

### LEADS II

Data collection for the fourth year of the second Longitudinal EMT Attributes and Demographics Study (LEADS II) is wrapping up. If you are a member of the LEADS II study, please complete your survey! LEADS II

began in 2013 and will continue for 10 years in order to assess changes in the EMS profession over time. We look forward to sharing findings from Year 4 soon. As always, we would like to thank you for your continued support and participation in EMS research.

### Updates

The NREMT research department has been busy this summer! We attended Pinnacle in San Antonio, TX, and the Military Health System Research Symposium in Orlando, FL. Additionally, our researchers have been hard at work preparing and submitting abstracts for consideration at the annual meeting of the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP) to be held in January in New Orleans, LA.

## Indiana Rollout Update

The Indiana EMS Commission has voted to require NREMT certification for new EMT program graduates in order to gain Indiana EMT certification. This change in policy will go into effect on July 1, 2017.



To facilitate a smooth transition, between July 1, 2016, and June 30, 2017, Indiana EMT program graduates will be able to test either the

current Indiana certification examination or the NREMT certification examination.

Additionally, the NREMT has developed a workshop to help familiarize Indiana EMS instructors with the elements of the NREMT certification process. At each workshop, NREMT staff discuss item development, submitting an application, scheduling a computer adaptive test at a Pearson VUE test center, and obtaining Indiana EMT certification.

In conjunction with the NREMT, John Zartman, Commissioner of the Indiana EMS Commission, and Michael Garvey, EMS Director, Indiana Department of Homeland Security, are both actively participating in these workshops. At each, Michael presents an update on Indiana regulations and processes to better outline the path to Indiana EMT certification under this new policy.

To date, five workshops have been attended by almost 200 Indiana-approved primary instructors, and eight more are scheduled to occur by June 30, 2017. All Indiana primary instructors are required to attend one of these workshops in order to remain active to teach at the EMT level.

## Inactive Status 101: What It Means to Be Inactive

If you are a Nationally Certified EMS provider but you aren't currently involved in direct patient care, you can request inactive status during your recertification cycle. Inactive status allows you to retain your National EMS Certification without verifying your skills competency—but you must still complete all other recertification requirements.

Inactive status is different from lapsed status. If your National EMS Certification has lapsed, you have not met the recertification requirements, and you must complete the entry requirements to regain certification. This includes passing both the cognitive and psychomotor examinations.

If you opt for inactive status, however, you have successfully completed recertification and remain Nationally Certified. You can transition back to active status at any time without testing. To return to active status, simply [complete this form](#) and return it to the NREMT. Your training officer (for EMTs) and/or a physician medical director (for AEMTs and Paramedics) will need to verify your patient care skills.

## Top Questions

### 1. How long do I have to complete my transition?

Any provider that expired in 2016 has now completed their transition requirements. If you are an EMT-Intermediate 85 or EMT-Paramedic that expires in 2017, you must complete the requirements by 3/31/2017. The transition period for EMT-Intermediate 99 providers ends in 2018/2019.

<https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-transition>

### 2. What if I did not transition?

Consequences for not completing the transition course prior to your expiration date will result in a drop of your certification level. Your certification will drop only if all other recertification requirements have been met. If not, then your certification will lapse and you must then utilize the "lapsed certification process" to gain national certification. First Responders will lose certification status with the NREMT, EMT-Basics dropped to EMR, EMT I-85 will drop to EMT, EMT I-99 will drop to Advanced EMT, and EMT-Paramedic will drop to Advanced EMT. Lapsed NREMT EMT I-85 providers that did not successfully transition, but completed a transition course that is equivalent to a full AEMT course, may challenge the AEMT cognitive and psychomotor exams for the next two years, as long as all other entry requirements are met.

If you just completed a transition course not equal to a full AEMT course, you will need to complete an AEMT course to be eligible for that level certification.

### 3. My state just switched to NCCP. How does this affect me and can I use education I've already completed?

Instead of the traditional 72-hour recertification model, education hours will now vary by provider certification level. As your state transitions to the new recertification model, your traditional state approved refresher course can fulfill your national component.

- When you click "add class" under the national component, first enter the class information.

- Under class detail, select "[YOUR STATE] approved refresher course."
- Finally, enter the total hours, click add, and then submit.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Any remaining hours may be applied to other components.

### 4. What if the hours I've entered have disappeared?

It may look as though your hours have vanished, but they haven't—they're still there. You will just need to move the data to the new model. The process is simple:

- Click "My Certification" and then click "Manage Education"
- Click the "MOVE HOURS" button
- Select a course and, from the drop down list, select whether to apply the hours to your national, local or individual requirement. Repeat this step for each course.

### 5. Why haven't I received my email that I'm authorized to test (ATT)?

The ATT's are not sent through email. You can locate your ATT by using the following steps:

- Select on the "CBT Candidate" role
- Select "My Applications"
- Click "Application Status/ATT"
- Click "Print/View ATT"

It can take 1-2 business days for an ATT to be issued once an application is complete.

### 6. How long is an Authorization to Test valid for?

An authorization to test (ATT) is valid for 90 days from the completion of an application. Completion includes course, and in some cases, practical skills verification, and payment. The ATT will list the expiration date of the authorization on the letter.

Recertification by Exam ATT's are valid from the date issued until 03/31 of the candidate recertification cycle.

Once an ATT has expired, no refunds can be issued.

**7. What does the NREMT accept as valid continuing education?**

The NREMT accepts continuing education that has received official approval through your State EMS office and/or the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE; formerly CECBEMS). Continuing education topics may include subject matter contained within the National Scope of Practice as well as other subject matter specifically related to emergency medical patient care. Continuing education may be obtained through a variety of delivery methods including didactic sessions, practical drills, workshops, EMS conferences, and distributive education.

**8. Where can I find refresher courses/ continuing education?**

The NREMT accepts continuing education that has received official approval through your state EMS office and/or the Commission on Accreditation of Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE; formerly CECBEMS). Continuing Education can be completed with any state approved education program, including but not limited to community colleges, vocational schools, local EMS agencies, or online education providers. Contact your state office or visit the CAPCE website (formerly CECBEMS), for more information. Continuing education may be obtained through a variety of delivery methods including didactic sessions, practical drills, workshops, EMS conferences, and distributive education

**9. How long does it take to process paperwork submitted for applications?**

- Paper Recertification Applications: 2-4 weeks
- Incomplete Paper Recertification Applications: 5-7 business days
- Audit Documents: 10 business days
- Incomplete Audit Documents: 10 business days
- Background Issues: 30-45 business days
- ADA Accommodations: 30-45 business days
- Incomplete Applications for cognitive exams: 5-7 business days

All of these times are subject to change during times of high volume of applications being submitted. The NREMT reserves the right to conduct a random audit of applications at any time.

**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.**

**Fill out an application at [nremt.org/iwcd](http://nremt.org/iwcd). If you have questions, contact the NREMT at [ItemWriting@NREMT.org](mailto:ItemWriting@NREMT.org).**

## Remember: Fees increase effective January 1, 2017

As a reminder, examination fees are set to increase effective January 1, 2017. The NREMT remains committed to administering one of the lowest examination fees in high-stakes health career certification, and the increase marks the first price adjustment in several years.

NREMT Level	Current Fees	Fees Effective 1/1/17
EMR	\$65	\$75
EMT	\$70	\$80
AEMT	\$100	\$115
Paramedic	\$110	\$125

## Update On Certification Delivery

Effective July 1, 2017, the NREMT will transition to digital delivery of certification materials. Traditionally, candidates have been mailed a letter to inform them of updates to their certification status. After July 1, 2017, candidates will instead be notified only online.

The change to digital delivery is intended to grant candidates faster and easier access to their certification information.

Physical copies of certification materials will remain available for purchase through the NREMT.

## NREMT EMS Research Fellowship Opportunity

The NREMT is looking for interested and qualified candidates for an EMS Research Fellow position. The ideal candidate is a Nationally Certified, field-experienced EMS professional possessing a Bachelor's or Master's degree. Successful candidates must be able to gain admission to The Ohio State University's (OSU) graduate school for an approved Master's and Doctoral studies program.

The NREMT EMS Fellowship is a rare opportunity to pursue a doctoral degree while benefiting from mentoring, hands-on research skill development, and a unique education at both the NREMT and OSU. You must be highly motivated and committed to positively impacting EMS on a national level. The successful EMS Research Fellow will enjoy a reduced workload and fully-funded tuition while pursuing graduate studies at OSU. Work responsibilities at the NREMT will include research activities, conference presentations, committee memberships, running projects, and publications. Upon completion of their doctoral studies, EMS Research Fellows

sponsored by the NREMT have secured important EMS research positions helping the NREMT heed the call to provide appropriately trained EMS researchers identified in the *EMS Research Agenda for the Future*.



## THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

If you are interested, please send a cover letter and your resume or curriculum vitae to Andrea Culp, NREMT, 6610 Busch Blvd., Columbus, OH 43229 or [aculp@nremt.org](mailto:aculp@nremt.org).

The NREMT is an equal opportunity employer.

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