

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

CHAPTER 8

CONTINUING MEDICAL EDUCATION RECERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Section 1. General Requirements and Criteria. To assure the maintenance of skill levels attained by BECs, EMTs, EMT-Intermediates, and Paramedics which are the basis for the conduct of authorized acts, as provided in Chapter 5, the Division, the Task Force, and the Board hereby establish criteria for continuing medical education.

(a) Criteria for recertification. BECs, EMTs, or EMT-Intermediate and Paramedics may be recertified by complying with the following requirements:

(i) Making application to the Division, as described in Chapter 5; and

(ii) Submitting documentation of satisfactory completion of the continuing medical education program for the BEC, EMT, or EMT-Intermediates and Paramedics, as appropriate, no more than ninety (90) and no less than thirty (30) days prior to the expiration date to insure continuous certification.

(b) Accurate records of the person's involvement in the continuing medical education program must be maintained. Educational records may be reviewed by the Division at any time. Information in such records shall include, but need not be limited to, attendance at lectures or demonstrations, subject matter, name of instructor, time spent in each clinical area and special clinical experiences.

(c) Criteria for testing. Recertification examinations for EMTs, EMT-Intermediates, and Paramedics shall be scheduled on a regional basis during the one hundred fifty (150) days prior to the expiration of the certification period. A maximum of two (2) attempts to pass the test are allowed. Any retest must be completed within sixty (60) days after receipt of notice of failure, but in no event later than the certificate expiration date. Individuals failing both attempts shall be required to repeat the entire training course specific to their category in order to be eligible for further testing or certification.

Section 2. Certified Basic Emergency Care (BEC) Technician Continuing Medical Education Recertification Criteria. To be eligible for recertification within the certification period, the BEC shall have completed:

(a) CPR certification. Regardless of the teaching agency, all CPR training must adhere to the **Healthcare Provider** standards of the American Heart Association or its equivalent;

(b) Eighteen (18) hours of continuing medical education, including:

- (i) 3 hrs - Cardiac arrest and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (may include for CPR recertification);
- 2 hrs - Patient assessment, diagnostic signs and triage;
- 1 hr - Chest and abdominal injuries;
- 1 hr - Head and spinal injuries, spinal immobilization;

- 1 hr - Fractures and dislocations;
- 1 hr - Medical emergencies;
- 1 hr - Environmental emergencies; and

(ii) Eight (8) unstructured hours of any subject covered in the BEC course. These topics may be presented utilizing critiques, didactic sessions, practical drills, workshops, seminars or other approved inservice training. Those topics not listed within the BEC curriculum shall require prior written approval by the Division.

(c) If authorized for defibrillation, participate in a one (1) hour inservice every six (6) months in which the equipment, precautions and skills of defibrillation are reviewed. This shall include a practice session with the particular (AED) used by the service.

(d) Twenty (20) points in EMS activities exclusive of hours utilized to meet the requirements of (b) above. **If used for hours they cannot be used for points.** Attach copy of appropriate certificate.

- (i) Emergency patient contacts 1 pt each
(20 max)
Patient contacts directly involving assessment and treatment, in any setting.
- (ii) CPR instructor certification 10 pts.
CPR instructor certification by the American Heart Association, American Red Cross, or the National Safety council.
- (iii) First aid instructor 10 pts.
American Red Cross First Aid Instructor or equivalent.
- (iv) Emergency vehicle operations/defensive driving course
..... 10 pts.
- (v) Extrication Course 10 pts.
- (vi) Disaster Drills 10 pts.
(20 max)
- (vii) BTLS courses 10 pts.
- (viii) PEPP classes 10 pts.
- (ix) Incident Command/ Hazmat/ Bioterrorism Classes 10 pts/ea.

Section 3. Certified EMT Continuing Medical Education Recertification

Criteria. To be eligible for recertification within the certification period, the EMT shall complete:

(a) CPR certification. Regardless of the teaching agency, all CPR training must adhere to the **Healthcare Provider** standards of the American Heart Association or its equivalent;

(b) Forty (40) hours of continuing medical education, including:

- (i) 1 hr - EMT roles and responsibilities, medico legal issues;

- 2 hrs - Wounds, bleeding and shock;
- 3 hrs- Patient assessment, diagnostic signs and triage;
- 2 hrs - Chest and abdominal injuries;
- 3 hrs - Head and spinal injuries, spinal immobilization;
- 3 hrs - Fractures and dislocations;
- 4 hrs - Medical emergencies (2 hrs on emergency medical services for children topics);
- 1 hr - Emergency childbirth;
- 2 hrs - Environmental emergencies;
- 1 hr - Lifting and moving patients;
- 2 hrs - Emergency vehicle operations, communications, records and reports;

(ii) Sixteen (16) unstructured hours: Any subject covered in the EMT course shall be accepted for continuing medical education credit. These topics may be presented utilizing critiques, didactic sessions, practical drills, workshops, seminars or other approved in service training. Those topics not listed within the EMT curriculum shall require prior written approval by the Division.

(c) Twenty-five (25) points in EMS activities exclusive of hours utilized to meet the requirements of (b) above. **If used for hours then they cannot be used as points.** Include copies of appropriate certificate.

- (i) Emergency patient contacts 1 pt. each.
Patient contact directly involving assessment and treatment, in any setting, to a maximum of 25.
- (ii) CPR instructor certification 10 pts.
CPR instructor certification by the American Heart Association, the American Red Cross, or the National Safety Council.
- (iii) First aid instructor 10 pts.
American Red Cross First Aid Instructor, BEC instructor, or equivalent.
- (iv) Emergency vehicle operator/defensive driving course
..... 10 pts.
- (v) Extrication course 10 pts.
- (vi) Disaster drills 10 pts.
(20 pts. max)
- (vii) Completion of Instructor/Coordinator Development Program ... 10 pts.
- (viii) Formal Coordination of EMT basic class 20 pts.
- (ix) BTLS or PHTLS type courses..... 10 pts.
- (x) PEPP classes 10 pts.
- (xi) Formal Division sponsored evaluator class 10 pts.

- (xii) Evaluating an EMT class final practical exam (Maximum 10 points).5 pts.
- (xiii) Formal Incident Command/Hazmat/WMD/Bioterrorism classes .. 10 pts.
- (xiv) Auditing an Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) class ... 10 pts.

(d) Pneumatic anti-shock trousers (PASG) - Participate in one (1) one-hour inservice each twelve (12) month period;

(e) Self-assisted medication administration - participate in a one (1) hour inservice every six (6) months on the preparation and administration of the Division authorized medications, to include dosages, indications, contraindications, available preparations and concentrations, and techniques of administration;

(f) Defibrillation - participate in a one (1) hour inservice every six (6) months in which the equipment, indications, precautions and skills of defibrillation using an automatic or semiautomatic defibrillator are reviewed. This should include a practice session with the AED used by the agency;

(g) It is recommended that EMT personnel audit an American College of Surgeon's Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) program. Attach copy of certificate;

(h) Recertification exam. Successfully complete the EMT written recertification exam administered by the Division or its representative, during the final one hundred fifty (150) days of the recertification period;

(i) Practical skills verification. Verification of practical skills shall be provided by the physician medical director unless this was accomplished during a formal Division approved EMT-Refresher course; and

(j) Successful completion of a Division approved Paramedic course during the certification period shall fulfill all continuing medical education requirements for EMT recertification.

Section 4. Certified EMT-I (Intermediate). Continuing Medical Education Recertification Criteria. Within the certification period, the EMT-I (Intermediate) must:

(a) Complete all continuing medical education requirements listed in Section 3 of this Chapter;

(b) Submit to the Division documentary verification of a favorable recommendation from the physician medical director for EMT-I (Intermediate) continuing medical education. The Division has established the following as appropriate criteria in meeting continuing medical education specific to the EMT-Intermediate's skill authorization. The physician medical director shall verify the EMT-Intermediate's practical performance competency in the following areas:

(i) Intravenous therapy. Successfully perform six (6) venipunctures in each six (6) month period;

(ii) Authorized medications. Participate in a one (1) hour inservice each six (6)

month period on the preparation and administration of the Division approved list of drugs, to include dosages, indications, contraindications, available preparations and concentrations, and techniques of administration. This should include a practice session. Drawing blood samples, glucose determination, saline locks, and Heparin locks, must be included in such inservice training; and

(iii) Defibrillation. Participate in a one (1) hour inservice every six (6) months in which the equipment, indications, precautions and skills of defibrillation are reviewed. This must include a practice session with the device used by the service for which the EMT-Intermediate is affiliated;

(iv) Chest Decompression: Participate in a one (1) hour inservice, presented at least every six (6) months, in which related anatomy, indications, precautions, equipment, protocol, and techniques of needle decompression of the chest are reviewed.

(v) Electrocardiogram monitoring: **If authorized**, participate in a one (1) hour inservice, presented at least every six (6) months, in which the electrophysiology, equipment and protocols for EKG monitoring are reviewed.

(vi) **If authorized**, for the optional level, EMT-Intermediates shall have completed an Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) course equivalent to American Heart Association guidelines and submit a legible copy of a current certificate to the Division.

(c) **If authorized**, complete the following required advanced airway management continuing medical education, in advanced airway management:

(i) In multi-lumen lower airway adjuncts:

(A) Successfully insert six (6) multi-lumen lower airways during each six (6) month period; and

(B) Participate in a one (1) hour inservice of the utilized airway every six (6) months, including indications for use, contraindications, precautions, insertion and removal techniques;

(ii) Endotracheal intubations:

(A) Successfully insert six (6) endotracheal tubes during each six (6) month period. Intubations performed during each six (6) month period shall be in humans, however if necessary, may be performed on an intubation manikin under supervision; and

(B) Participate in a one (1) hour inservice on endotracheal intubation every six (6) months. The review must include indications for use, contraindications, precautions, insertion and removal techniques;

(d) It is recommended that EMT-I (Intermediate) personnel audit an American College of Surgeon's Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) program. Attach copy of certificate;

(e) Participate in EMT-Intermediate case reviews, for a minimum of one (1) hour each month. EMT-Intermediate cases shall be reviewed by the physician medical director to provide medical audit and control; and

(f) Successfully completed the EMT-Intermediate written recertification exam administered by the Division or its representative, during the final one hundred fifty (150) days of the recertification period.

Section 5. Certified Paramedic Continuing Medical Education
Recertification Criteria. Within the certification period, the Paramedic must have:

- (a) Completed all continuing education requirements listed in Section 3 of this Chapter;
- (b) It is recommended that Paramedic personnel audit an American College of Surgeon's, Advanced Trauma Life Support (ATLS) program. Attach copy of certificate;
- (c) Completed an Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) program that is equal to or equivalent that presented by the American Heart Association and submit a legible copy of a current certificate to the Division;
- (d) Submitted to the Division documentary verification of a favorable recommendation from the physician medical director for Paramedic continuing medical education. The Division has established the following as appropriate criteria in meeting continuing medical education specific to the Paramedic's skill authorization. The physician medical director shall verify the attendant's practical performance competency in the areas listed below:
 - (i) Complete twelve (12) hours of advanced continuing medical education: [Note that these hours are above and beyond those as shown in Section 3]
 - 6 hrs - Cardiology and arrhythmia recognition
 - 6 hrs - Advanced patient assessment;
 - (ii) Intravenous therapy: Successfully perform six (6) venipunctures during each six (6) month period;
 - (iii) Authorized medications: Participate in a one (1) hour inservice every six (6) months on the preparation and administration of the Division approved drugs, to include dosages, indications, contraindications, available preparations and concentrations, and techniques of administration. This should include a practice session. Drawing blood samples, glucose reagent strips, saline locks, and Heparin locks, must be included in such inservice training;
 - (iv) Defibrillation and Cardioversion: Participate in a one (1) hour inservice every six (6) months in which the equipment, indications, precautions and skills of defibrillation and cardioversion are reviewed. This must include a practice session on the particular monitor/defibrillator used;
 - (v) Electrocardiogram monitoring: Participate in a one (1)hour inservice, presented at least every six (6) months, in which the electrophysiology, equipment and protocols for EKG monitoring are reviewed;
 - (vi) If an authorized skill, orogastric/nasogastric intubations: Participate in a one (1) hour inservice, presented at least every six (6) months, in which related anatomy, indications, precautions, equipment and techniques of orogastric/nasogastric intubations are reviewed;
 - (vii) Cricothyroidotomy: Participate in a one (1) hour inservice, presented at least

every six (6) months, in which related anatomy, indications, precautions, equipment and the Division and Board approved technique of cricothyroidotomy are reviewed; and

(viii) Chest Decompression: Participate in a one (1) hour inservice, presented at least every six (6) months, in which related anatomy, indications, precautions, equipment, protocol, and techniques of needle decompression of the chest are reviewed.

(e) Complete the following advanced airway management continuing medical education, if the attendant has skill authorization in advanced airway management, complete the following:

(i) In Multi-lumen lower airway adjuncts:

(A) Successfully insert six (6) multi-lumen lower airways during each six (6) month period; and

(B) Participate in a one (1) hour inservice of the utilized airway every six (6) months, to include indications for use, contraindications, precautions, insertion and removal techniques;

(ii) Endotracheal intubations:

(A) Successfully insert six (6) endotracheal tubes during each six (6) month period. Intubations performed during each six (6) month period shall be on humans, however if necessary, may be performed on an intubation manikin under supervision and

(B) Participate in a one (1) hour inservice of endotracheal intubation every six (6) months. The review to include indications for use, contraindications, precautions, insertion and removal techniques;

(f) Participate in paramedic case reviews, for a minimum of one (1) hour each month. Paramedic cases shall be reviewed by the physician medical director to provide medical audit and control; and

(g) Successfully complete the paramedic written recertification exam, as administered the Division or its representative, during the final one hundred fifty (150) days of the certification period.

Section 6. Responsibilities.

(a) It is the responsibility of the individual certified to keep current one's continuing medical education and testing and to renew one's certification in a timely fashion. Because the physician medical director is ultimately responsible for the EMT, EMT-Intermediate or Paramedic's competency during the certification period, a physician medical director has the right to request that the Division test the EMT, EMT-Intermediate, or Paramedic for competency, or the physician medical director may conduct competency testing independent of the Division. The physician medical director may withdraw EMT, EMT-Intermediate, or Paramedic sponsorship at any time for any reason. It is also the physician medical director's, or his designee's, responsibility to notify the Division at any time when an EMT, EMT-Intermediate, or Paramedic is deficient or lacking annual or semiannual continuing medical education requirements.

(b) It is the responsibility of the Division to see that the continuing medical education

requirements are consistent with current medical education trends. The Division may, at its sole discretion, initiate pilot continuing medical education programs in order to keep abreast of current national trends.