

PURPOSE: To establish standard requirements to be met by all applicants currently seeking to become certified in West Virginia as an Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT), or Paramedic, who are certified in equivalent levels in another US State or territory. These applicants MUST currently possess a valid National Registry or State Certification in a state other than West Virginia with 120 days remaining on their current certification.

POLICY: To ensure consistent standards and procedures for obtaining legal recognition of credentials held in states other than West Virginia.

PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS:

- A.** Create a valid WVOEMS account utilizing Image Trend.
- B.** Possess a valid National Registry account.
- C.** Educational Requirements:

1. Emergency Medical Responder:

- a. Successful completion of a state-approved Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) course that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for the Emergency Medical Responder as well as required State and Federal mandated education (See WV Code §64-48-6.5.a).
- b. Haz Mat awareness meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards. This must have been completed within the past two (2) years.
- c. MCI or Disaster Management courses totaling **6 hours**.
- d. Approved CPR refresher meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.7.a.4 at the professional/healthcare provider level.

2. Emergency Medical Technician:

- a. Successful completion of a state-approved Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) course that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards for the Emergency Medical Technician as well as required State and Federal mandated education (See WV Code §64-48-6.5.a).
- b. Haz Mat awareness meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards. This must have been completed within the past two (2) years.

- c. MCI or Disaster Management courses totaling 6 hours.
- d. Approved CPR refresher meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.7.a.4 at the professional/healthcare provider level.
- e. Successful completion of the current WVOEMS Protocol course for the appropriate level of certification being sought. (*This may require additional education to ensure competency in skills and medications not utilized in transferring states.*)
- f. EMT candidates are required to complete the additional West Virginia Module for the Expanded Scope of Practice.

3. **Advanced Emergency Medical Technician:**

- a. AEMT education program appropriate for the level of certification as prescribed by the Commissioner *and* completion of the WVOEMS AEMT Module for Expanded Scope of Practice.
- b. Haz Mat awareness meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards. This must have been completed within the past two (2) years.
- c. MCI or Disaster Management courses totaling 6 hours.
- d. Approved CPR refresher meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.7.a.4 at the professional/healthcare provider level.
- e. Successful completion of the current WVOEMS Protocol course for the appropriate level of certification being sought. (*This may require additional education to ensure competency in skills and medications not utilized in transferring states.*)
- f. AEMT candidates are required to complete the additional West Virginia Module for the Expanded Scope of Practice.
- g. AEMT candidates shall also show proof of the following:
 - i. ACLS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course)
 - ii. PHTLS or ITLS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course)
 - iii. PEPP or PALS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course)

4. Paramedic

- a. Paramedic education program appropriate for the level of certification as prescribed by the Commissioner (See WV Code §64-48-6.5.a).
- b. Haz Mat awareness meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards. This must have been completed within the past two (2) years.
- c. MCI or Disaster Management courses totaling 6 hours.
- d. Approved CPR refresher meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.7.a.4 at the professional/healthcare provider level.
- e. Successful completion of the current WVOEMS Protocol course for the appropriate level of certification being sought. (*This may require additional education to ensure competency in skills and medications not utilized in transferring states.*)
- f. Paramedic candidates shall also show proof of the following:
 - i. ACLS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course)
 - ii. PHTLS or ITLS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course)
 - iii. PEPP or PALS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course)

D. Demonstration of Competency: An applicant must demonstrate competency by one of the following methods (See WV Code §64-48-6.5.d.):

1. **National Registry:** If the applicant possesses a current National Registry certification at the appropriate level, with 120 days or more remaining, the applicant shall submit a copy of their National Registry card to WVOEMS along with completing the other requirements outlined in this policy.
2. **Current State Certification:** If the applicant possesses a valid state certification in a state other than West Virginia with 120 days or more remaining they shall meet the following requirements:
 - a. Upon application for certification pursuant to WV Code §64-48-6.5, the Commissioner may issue a temporary emergency medical service personnel certificate to an applicant, with or without examination, who submits to a preliminary criminal history background check.

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- b. Applicants shall be required to obtain National Registry certification during the 120 day temporary certification period utilizing any method outlined by National Registry. The applicants shall submit a copy of their National Registry card to WVOEMS.
- c. Unless suspended or revoked, a temporary certificate shall be valid initially for a period not exceeding 120 days and may not be renewed unless the Commissioner finds the renewal to be in the public interest. (See WV Code §64-48-6.13.b).
- d. The applicant shall complete all other requirements outlined in this policy.
- E. Complete the WVOEMS Certification Verification Form and have it submitted to WVOEMS directly from your transferring state.
- F. Apply for certification by completing an application in your Image Trend account.
- G. Submit the appropriate fees as required in WV §64 CSR 48-6.8 and 48-6.9.
- H. Be 18 years of age or greater.
- I. Disclose any limitation or exclusion by any EMS Agency, EMS Medical Director, or any other healthcare professions certification or licensing authority in any state, territory or the U.S. Military Services.
- J. Apply for and be cleared by the State and National background checks for WVOEMS as required in WV §16- 4C-8.1.1.
- K. Proof of education shall be verified through your Image Trend account and shall be subject to audit at any time during the certification/recertification process or during an active investigation.
- L. **Important Notice:** An EMR/EMT/AEMT/Paramedic certified by WVOEMS must be continually certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) during the duration of your WVOEMS certification. Failure to retain uninterrupted National Registry Certification will result in the immediate suspension of your WVOEMS certification and your right to practice in West Virginia.
- M. Meet other requirements established by the Commissioner.

This policy replaces all policies for Credential Recognition prior to September 1, 2024.
APPLICABLE CODE/RULE: WV Code §16-4C-6, §16-4C-8.1, and §64 CSR 48-6.