



EMS Personnel Division

— TOOLS, TIPS, AND HOT TOPICS—

NREMT Changes Affect Paramedic Training Programs

The National Registry of EMT (NREMT) is changing the requirements for the NREMT psychomotor exam. These changes will affect paramedic training courses beginning August 1, 2016 and continuing. Paramedic training programs will need to have a psychomotor competency portfolio in place for each student beginning August 1, 2016.

Highlights of the changes include:

- A psychomotor skills portfolio documenting the paramedic students competency in specified skills is a pre-requisite for the psychomotor exam.
- Reduction of skills tested in the exam from 12 skills station to a six skill scenario based exam.
- Students must complete the entire training program prior to taking the psychomotor exam.

The NREMT is improving its psychomotor exam in order to ensure that paramedics who pass the NREMT exams are competent and field ready. These changes, however, do affect how the training programs are doing business. The training programs will need to start creating processes for tracking every skill attempt and producing a portfolio for each student. The NREMT has provided a “playbook” to guide training programs through the new requirements. The playbook can be accessed [here](#).

Any student who starts a training program on or after August 1, 2016 will be required to have a portfolio in order to take the NREMT psychomotor exam. The students will also have to wait longer to take the psychomotor exam. Current regulations (Chapter 4, Section 1000164 (b)) allow students to take the psychomotor exam following the completion of the didactic portion of their training; the NREMT policy no longer allows students to take the exam this early. In order to meet the portfolio requirements, students will need to complete their training in its entirety prior to taking the exam.

Please communicate these changes to all current and prospective paramedic training programs to prevent any issues as these changes are implemented.

Training Program Database/Transition Courses

With the National Registry of EMT (NREMT) transition dates approaching, EMS personnel are searching for transition courses so they can maintain their NREMT status. EMSA has added paramedic and EMT transition courses and Critical Care Paramedic course options to the training database. LEMSA's can now enter those course types in the database for improved public access. EMSA has posted paramedic and EMT transition courses that are currently available on the [EMT page](#) of the EMSA website.

Transition courses are a requirement for recertification with the NREMT as part of NREMT's commitment to

implement their transition to the new National EMS Scope of Practice Model, National Education Standards, and relevant Instructional Guidelines, which is also the goal of the EMS Authority.

The following are the timeframes allowed by NREMT for completing the transition:

NREMT-Basic expires:	Complete EMT Transition by:
March 31, 2011	March 31, 2015
March 31, 2012	March 31, 2016

NREMT-Paramedic expires:	Complete Paramedic Transition by:
March 31, 2011	March 31, 2015
March 31, 2012	March 31, 2016
March 31, 2013	March 31, 2017

Tip: Completion of a transition course is not necessary to maintain California EMT certification or paramedic licensure.

EMT Regulations Update

A work group of subject matter experts and EMS stakeholders has been convened to revise the Chapter 2 EMT regulations to adopt amendments required by Senate Bill (SB) 1438 (Pavley, 2014) *Controlled Substance: Opioid Antagonists*. SB 1438 requires EMSA to develop and adopt training standards for all prehospital emergency medical care personnel regarding the use and administration of naloxone hydrochloride and other opioid antagonists. The bill also expands the scope of practice for certified emergency medical technicians.

In addition to naloxone, regulation revisions that are under consideration include scope of practice changes to allow EMTs to use epinephrine auto-injectors and glucometers; simplification of the initial and renewal certification requirements; changes to reinstatement requirements; and consistent expiration dates.

Get involved! Help EMSA revise the EMT regulations by sharing your EMT regulation revision suggestions with your LEMSA administrator today!

Public Safety Regulations Update

Following several public comment periods, EMSA's proposed revisions to the Chapter 1.5 First Aid and CPR Training Standards for Public Safety Personnel regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and became effective April 1, 2015.

The revised regulations replace outdated training standards with the current National EMS Education Standards and update training standards for first aid and CPR to include AED training. Further, training standards were added to address emerging health and safety issues including anaphylaxis, drug overdose and response to active shooter type events. The proposed regulations clarify which skills public safety personnel are authorized to perform following training and demonstrated competency, and add optional skills that may be approved by the local EMS agency medical director.

Of note for LEMSA's: Courses based upon American Red Cross or American Heart Association now require LEMSA approval, and must meet all other course content requirements of the chapter.

Typically public safety personnel will complete their training requirements through a course approved by the EMSA; however some local public safety agencies may seek approval from the LEMSA directly.

Epinephrine Auto-injector Training for Lay Rescuers

A work group of subject matter experts collaborated in developing regulation text to implement the epinephrine auto-injector training and certification standards as authorized by Senate Bill 669 (Huff, Chapter 725) for off-duty prehospital emergency personnel and lay rescuers. This training will allow trained individuals to use an epinephrine auto-injector to assist a person suffering from anaphylaxis.

The proposed regulations were released for an initial 45-day public comment period from March 6, 2015 through April 20, 2015 followed by a public hearing on April 21, 2015. Comments are currently under review, with a 15-day public

comment period anticipated in May 2015. EMSA may seek approval of the regulations from the Commission on EMS during the June 17, 2015 meeting depending on the outcome of the 15-day public comment period.

The notice of proposed regulations, initial statement of reasons and the proposed regulation text are available for review on EMSA's public comment [webpage](#). Contact [Corrine Fishman](#) with questions concerning the epinephrine auto-injector training program at (916) 431-3727.

Verifying an Out of State Certification or License

To help in processing reciprocity applications, use this [link](#) provided by NASEMSO (National Association of State EMS Officials) to verify EMT and paramedic status in other states. You can also navigate to it from www.nasemso.org. Click on "Resources" then "Look up a License."

Paramedic Accreditation Reminder

The Central Registry database provides local EMS agencies (LEMSAs) with a more efficient and timely way to report paramedic accreditations. With a special log-in established by the EMS Authority, LEMSAs are able to update paramedic licenses with accreditation information in real time. This will remove the need for LEMSAs to send accreditation reports to the EMS Authority.

- When entering an accreditation - do not enter an "end date;" the accreditation "end date" will be auto-populated in the *public registry look-up* based on the paramedic license expiration.
- If an accreditation end date is entered by a LEMSA, that is the date that will be reflected on the *public registry look-up* as the accreditation expiration date.

If you are interested in entering accreditations through the Central Registry, please send a request to: MLOhelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov for an accreditation login and password.

LEMSAs not electing to utilize the central registry process must continue with the monthly accreditation reporting per Section 100166 (j) of Chapter 4. Paramedic: "The LEMSA shall submit to the Authority the names and dates of accreditation for those individuals it accredits within twenty (20) working days of accreditation."

DUI Within Five Years? Consult the MDOs

Appendix A of the Model Disciplinary Orders (MDOs) sets forth standards for discipline of alcohol and drug related convictions within 5 years. Please refer to the [Model Disciplinary Orders](#) for more information.

The MDOs establish discipline standards that must be considered in order to apply consistent and equitable certification actions to EMT certificate holders or applicants with drug/alcohol related investigations, arrests, and other convictions pursuant to H&S 1798.200.

Due to their incorporation into the California Code of Regulations Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 6, the MDOs carry the force of law. Please contact Shona Merl at (916) 431-3692 for more information.

2015 EMS Law Books Now Available

Hard copies of Health and Safety Code, Division 2.5 - commonly referred to as the "EMS Act" - are available while supplies last. Title 22, Division 9 regulation books are also available.

Complete a request form [here](#). Electronic copies are also available for download [here](#).



EMT 2010 Central Registry

New Reports Available

Want to know which paramedics are accredited in your LEMSA? We have a report for that!

Interested in knowing which EMTs have changed certifying entities? We have a report for that too!

Curious about which EMTs have been disciplined by your LEMSA? You guessed it, we have a report for that!

Find these new reports and more in the Central Registry by clicking the "Reports" panel, and selecting Custom Crystal Reports. Contact Betsy Slavensky (916-431-3717) with any questions, or suggestions for additional reports you would like EMSA to develop.

Not in the Registry? Not Certified!

An EMT is not *legally certified* until the certification is entered into the Central Registry according to State regulations (Chapter 10, Article 2, Section 100344).

Don't let this happen to you! When documentation of certification is "on-file" but not in the registry, the EMT will be required to reinstate as a lapsed EMT and fulfill all of the necessary requirements, which may include completion of an EMT training course and or passing the NREMT exams.

Tip: Don't print an EMT certification card until the certification has been entered into the Central Registry.

Searching for an EMT? Search by SSN

National Registry of EMT (NREMT) test results are uploaded nightly into the Central Registry, creating a *person record*. When creating or searching for a record via social security number, you will receive a message that the person already exists in the registry. This is because of the NREMT results being uploaded in the Central Registry for exams completed after August 19, 2013. Over the last 20 months, 94% of person related data for certified EMTs was pre-entered by using NREMT data.

Tip: Always use a social security number to search the Central Registry, and verify the person's name and date of birth. This will avoid creation of duplicate records and lessen the workload of certification staff. Use the person record from the existing information to create the licensee record.

Not only will searching by an SSN reduce your workload, it will also allow test results to be viewed and used to verify documentation presented for certification.

Revised Central Registry User Application

The form to add new users and inactivate existing users has been revised for ease of use. You will find this form on the [EMT page](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT) (www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT) of the website in the section titled EMT Central Registry: Information for Certifying Entities. Please fill out this form and email it to mlohelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov with the keywords **NEW USER** or **DELETE USER** in the subject line of the email.

We maintain an authorized registry user list so it is important to submit a Central Registry User Application for all new users and anyone who is no longer in your employ or needs to be inactivated. Registry user email addresses are used to allow us faster response time in technical assistance as well as the dissemination of this quarterly newsletter!

Central Registry Procedure Updates

EMSA staff are collaborating with EMSAAC and LEMSA coordinators to create and update central registry procedures with regulation guidance for easy reference. Several procedures are posted on the bottom of the [EMT page](#). Many of these procedures will be updated as well, but are there to help guide certification specialists and staff.

Tip: Book mark the [EMT page](#) to access Central Registry user guides.

Need to reprint an EMT Card?

Central Registry users now have permission to re-queue and print an EMT card through the registry. This procedure will allow a user to reprint an EMT card within six months of the initial print. As with all registry procedures, you can locate the re-queue procedure at the bottom of the [EMT page](#). Thank you for your suggestions to make the registry more user friendly - keep them coming!

Most Common "Glitches" When Re-certifying EMTs

1. Compatibility View Settings – a guide can be found on the [EMT page](#) of the EMSA website.
2. Make Complete Tab – anytime an EMT status reflects "pending," the certification record must be completed in the Applicant edit module of the registry. Finishing the "Requirements Checklist" and "Make Complete" tab will activate the EMT in the registry.
3. Initial eligibility and expiration dates - a chart to assist in identifying eligibility for initial EMT certification, re-certification and lapsed certification expiration dates can be found on the [EMT page](#) of the EMSA website.
4. Adding a blank Background Check line that contains no information - this will cause an error and the inability to complete the process. NLI submissions should be reported on the same line as the CORI status and original ATI number.
5. Leaving the SSN blank in the Person Record - this is a requirement and will cause an error if it is left blank.

Tip from Central Registry users: Save the EMS Personnel Newsletter in a binder or create a folder on your computer for easy reference!

Do you have suggestions for procedures that you would like to see on the [EMT page](#)? Send your requests to betsy.slavensky@emsa.ca.gov.

Grandfathering Rules

Grandfathering only applies to the certifying entity who issued the EMT certificate prior to July 1, 2010. Keeping the EMT certificate number is simply a convenience to our central registry system...look at this as more of a bookkeeping function. All criminal conduct is new to your agency when looking at someone who has been grandfathered by their prior certifying entity and whose criminal conduct indicates a potential for disciplinary cause as stated in 100214.3 and the Health & Safety Code 1798.200 (c).

If your investigation reveals criminal conduct that hasn't previously been addressed through discipline, take action!

Still have questions about grandfathering? Please email mlohelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov, or call Shona Merl at (916) 431-3692.

Question & Answer on NLI Forms

BCII 8302/No Longer Interested (NLI) Forms:

How should I notify EMSA of an NLI that I submitted, when the person is not in the Central Registry? What information should I include?

- Email Shona Merl at shona.merl@emsa.ca.gov with the following information:
- First and last name of the applicant

- Date of birth of the applicant
- **REASON:** When an agency submits an NLI to discontinue receipt of DOJ/FBI CORI report, the agencies NLI form does not automatically discontinue the CORI report to the EMS Authority too. EMSA must submit a separate NLI form in order to discontinue receiving CORI reports.

Should I document my NLI dates in the Central Registry when my agency has never certified the person identified in the CORI record?

- No
- **REASON:** Chapter 10, section 100349 states that certifying entities and/or employers that receive a CORI report, including subsequent arrest notification, that no longer certify/re-certify or employ an EMT shall notify the California DOJ within twelve months of the certification lapse that they no longer have a business need to receive the CORI on that individual.

What if my agency is the employer AND the certifying entity?

- Chapter 10, section 100349, states that an NLI form shall be submitted to DOJ when the EMT certificate has been lapsed for 12 months or more.

Live Scan Forms

Does your agency use different live-scan forms for EMTs?
Applicants such as emergency medical responders (EMRs) and dispatchers who live-scan must use a different form so that EMSA does not receive a secondary copy of their DOJ and FBI records.

Using live-scan forms specific to the applicant type will help to reduce inquiries from EMSA staff about records received without a corresponding EMT record in the central registry.

Help Desk Keywords

Do you know the 4 keywords to submit when requesting assistance to the MLO Help Desk?

KEYWORDS:

PASSWORD

To reset a Central Registry password, be sure to include your user ID in the e-mail body.

PRINTER

Having printer issues? Notify EMSA and request assistance (not for print re-queues).

NEW USER

Establish a new Central Registry user by filling out and emailing the "[Blank User Form.](#)"

DELETE USER

Delete a Central Registry User by filling out and emailing the "Blank User Form."

Please submit the applicable keyword in the **email subject line** to: mlohelpdesk@emsa.ca.gov
and include your return email address

EMS Authority Contacts: EMS Personnel Division

PARAMEDIC LICENSURE GENERAL INFORMATION:

(916) 323-9875; Paramedic@emsa.ca.gov

Sean Trask (Chief of EMS Personnel Division):

(916) 431-3689; Sean.Trask@emsa.ca.gov

* Oversees Personnel Standards Unit, Paramedic Licensure Unit and Enforcement Unit.

Michael Smith (Manager - Enforcement Unit)

(916) 431-3703; Michael.Smith@emsa.ca.gov

* Oversees EMT2010 Enforcement Process and Paramedic Enforcement Unit.

Lisa Witchey (Manager - Personnel Standards Unit):

(916) 431-3707; Lisa.Witchey@emsa.ca.gov

* Oversees BLS Program, Central Registry and Regulatory Updates.

June Leicht (Manager - Paramedic Licensure Unit):

(916) 431-3702; June.Leicht@emsa.ca.gov

* Oversees Paramedic Licensure Unit and Paramedic Programs, NREMT Representatives, and EMT and Paramedic Billing.

Betsy Slavensky (Personnel Standards Unit):

(916) 431-3717; Betsy.Slavensky@emsa.ca.gov

* Provides My License Office (MLO)/Central Registry technical assistance, interpretations and amendments of regulations, and assists EMTs/AEMTs with questions.

Shona Merl (Enforcement Unit)

(916) 431-3692; Shona.Merl@emsa.ca.gov

* Handles questions regarding CORIs, EMT disciplinary questions, and interpretations of regulations pertaining to EMT/AEMT discipline.

Ken Campbell (Paramedic Licensure Unit):

(916) 431-3648; Kenneth.Campbell@emsa.ca.gov

* Prints and sends the EMT certification cards, returns dishonored checks, and processes EMT and Paramedic invoices.

Priscilla Rivera (Paramedic Licensure Unit):

(916) 431-4741; Priscilla.Rivera@emsa.ca.gov

* Monitors CE provider and training program database, and paramedic central registry assistance..

Caroline Fudge (Paramedic Licensure Unit):

(916) 431-3652; Caroline.Fudge@emsa.ca.gov

* Handles renewal paramedic licensure applications.

Brad Beltram (Paramedic Licensure Unit):

(916) 431-3648; bradley.beltram@emsa.ca.gov

* Handles audit renewal applications.

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