FAQ’s for Advanced Placement and EMS Board-Certified Physicians and Fellows

What does a pathway to certification mean for an EMS Board-Certified Physician and Fellows?

After a review of the EMS Board Certification and EMS Fellows education standards, the education meets or exceeds the needed requirements to test for National Certification. Meaning that you have completed this specific education and are eligible to gain certification. You are required to complete both the cognitive and psychomotor examinations to gain full certification.

What are the requirements to take the National Registry exam?

To be eligible to take the National Registry exam, you must show proof of board certification as an EMS physician or enrollment in an EMS fellowship program and hold CPR certification or equivalent credentials. The sub-specialty in emergency medical services (EMS) is required for this process, not a specialty in emergency medicine. Documentation of EMS board certification or enrollment in or completion of an EMS fellowship can be emailed to support@nremt.org.

- EMS Fellowship - an ACGME-accredited program and medical sub-specialty that involves prehospital emergency patient care including initial patient stabilization, treatment, and transport to hospitals in specially equipped ambulances or helicopters (ABEM, 2020).

- Board-Certified EMS Physician – Certified physicians who attained sub-specialty certification in EMS by meeting the eligibility criteria, fulfilling specific credential requirements, and passing the EMS Certification Examination as recognized by AOBEM/ABEM (ABEM, 2020).

Once the documentation of EMS board certification or enrollment or completion of an EMS fellowship is received and verified by the National Registry, you will create an account and apply to test at your chosen level. The National Registry will approve your application to test. If you are eligible, you are required to complete both the cognitive and psychomotor examinations to gain full certification.

Can other healthcare professions test for National EMS Certification?

If you are a nurse, physician assistant or in a different healthcare profession and want to gain certification, you will need to work with the appropriate EMS level education program and use the advanced placement pathway.
**What is advanced placement pathway?**

Advanced placement allows you to apply previously earned course work or work experience towards meeting course completion requirements. Please note, not all the credits, course work and work experience may apply, and not all EMS programs offer advanced placement.

**Does the National Registry allow or support advanced placement for EMS certification?**

The National Registry supports the appropriate use of advanced placement by accredited paramedic educational programs, as well as some state-approved EMS educational programs.

**Once the advanced placement pathway is complete, what are the next steps?**

Once a program determines that EMS course completion requirements are met, you will create an account and apply to test at the chosen level for the program to verify course completion. You are required to complete both the cognitive and psychomotor examinations to gain full certification.

**What happens after I gain certification?**

Once you successfully gain certification, you will need to maintain your certification by completion of either the required continuing education or recertification by examination.