



# Advanced Life Support (ALS) Certification Examinations Key Initiative

## What you Need to Know

Effective July 1, 2024, candidates seeking National Registry certification must take the updated AEMT Certification Examination or Paramedic Certification Examination, depending on their level. These updated examinations replace the discontinued ALS Psychomotor Examination and introduce new Student Minimum Competency (SMC) requirements.

Both examinations incorporate advancements in clinical practice, research, science, emerging technologies, and national standards. They reflect evidence-based guidelines and align with the testing experience of other health professions to ensure fairness, reliability, validity, and clinical accuracy.

These updates also meet accreditation standards set by the National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA).

## Key Takeaways

- ✦ Effective July 1, 2024, all candidates for AEMT and Paramedic certification are required to take the National Registry's updated AEMT or Paramedic Certification Examinations.
- ✦ Comprehensive resources for the AEMT Certification Examination and the Paramedic Examination can be found on the National Registry's website.
- ✦ The test plans for the AEMT Certification Examination and the Paramedic Certification Examination, as determined through the 2019 National EMS Practice Analysis and the 2021 National EMS Practice Analysis Addendum, are found here:
  - [AEMT Certification Examination Test Plan](#)
  - [Paramedic Certification Examination Test Plan](#)
- ✦ The National Registry is discontinuing the ALS Psychomotor Examination (AEMT and Paramedic) because there have been advancements in testing practices and testing science, and there has been a consistent, resonant call for modernization and efficiency by stakeholders across the industry.



## Questions

**Q-** My state still requires a psychomotor examination for state licensure. Will that be a requirement for National Certification?

**A-** No. Beginning July 1, 2024, a psychomotor examination will no longer be a requirement for National Registry certification. Check with your State EMS Office to determine state requirements.

**A-** Does the discontinuation of the psychomotor examination alter any of the National Registry's eligibility or assessment policies, such as the two-year eligibility window from the point of course completion or the number of attempts allowed on the examination?

**Q-** No. The discontinuation of the ALS psychomotor examination does not alter the two-year eligibility timeframe. Candidates will continue to have two years to complete all testing requirements. The number of retests allowed is not changing. As an example: If a candidate fails the examination

**Q-** four times, the candidate would still be allowed two attempts at the updated AEMT or Paramedic Certification Examination, so long as they are within their two-year window of eligibility.

**A-**

### What fees are associated with the new certification examinations?

**Q-** The updated AEMT Certification Examination launched on July 1, 2024, with the new fee amount of \$159.00. One examination - no psychomotor examination required.

**A-** The updated Paramedic Certification Examination launched on July 1, 2024, with the new fee amount of \$175.00. One examination - no psychomotor examination required.