



## NREMT 2016 Winter Newsletter

### NRP Psychomotor Examination and Regional Scenario Development Workshops

The National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) is changing the way it verifies psychomotor competency for National Registry Paramedic (NRP) certification. All students who begin their paramedic program on or after August 1, 2016, are required to complete a portfolio that becomes a part of their permanent education file and is a prerequisite to seeking NRP certification.



Beginning January 1, 2017, the NREMT will start testing Phase 1 of the new scenario psychomotor exam. In this phase, a total of six (6) skills will be tested, five (5) currently evaluated in the NRP psychomotor examination and one (1) out-of-hospital scenario. This out-of-hospital scenario will reflect either a pediatric, geriatric, or adult patient. Each candidate will be provided with a trained paramedic partner and evaluated on his/her ability to manage a call, lead the team, effectively communicate, and maintain professionalism throughout the simulated patient encounter.

To assist Paramedic programs in preparing for these changes, the NREMT will be conducting Regional Scenario Development Workshops in 2016. The NREMT has partnered with the National Association of Emergency Medical Service Educators (NAEMSE) to facilitate these workshops. NAEMSE will reach out to the national EMS educator community and provide information, registration, and continuing education hours for those who attend a workshop in 2016.

These workshops are designed to provide Paramedic Program Directors and educators hands-on experience with formative and summative scenarios. Participants will be guided through the scenario development process by NREMT staff and Workshop Instructors who have experience piloting the portfolio and scenario psychomotor examination. Activities include scenario writing, calibration, and evaluation when student volunteers run the scenarios during the workshop. All of the scenarios created will then be available for use by participants in their training programs following the workshop.

Click the following links for more information on [Paramedic Portfolios](#) and registration for our [Regional Scenario Development Workshops](#).

### In this issue:

**2016 Transition Guidelines**

**AHA Guideline 2015  
Implementation**

**NCCP Recertification**

**Research Update**

**Webinar and Conference  
Schedules**


**FAQs**

# NREMT 2016 Winter Newsletter

## MARCH 2016 Recertification Season is Now Open for Business

In preparation for the March 31, 2016 recertification deadline, please remember that online recertification is the easiest and most cost-effective way to recertify your NREMT certification.

By recertifying online, you will navigate through a user-friendly online recertification process. Since the verification is electronic, you can avoid having to mail documentation or obtain signatures. In addition, you may now select if you would like to print an e-card immediately upon approval of the recertification application or have the card mailed.



New for recertification paper applications, effective October 1, 2015, all paper recertification applications submitted to the NREMT (excluding recertification by examination applications) will be assessed a \$5.00 processing fee. This fee will be in addition

to the standard recertification cost for that level. Any paper recertification applications received without the additional \$5.00 processing fee will receive an incomplete letter and the application will be held until the outstanding balance is paid in full. All providers that have not submitted fees by the end of their recertification cycle will expire.

Additional resources are now available on the NREMT YouTube channel. This channel offers video tutorials. These brief videos offer information regarding many online processes including how to manage your education and submit your recertification application. Visit our website to see the latest videos available with more to come.

March 31, 2016 is just around the corner. Consider saving time and money this recertification season by recertifying online. For more information on recertification and the new recertification paper processing fee, visit our website [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org).

## 2016 TRANSITION DEADLINES

### How long do I have to complete my transition?

In accordance with the [NREMT Transition Policy](#), some of the recertification providers due to expire this year are required to have completed a state-approved transition program. More specifically, EMT-Basic, EMT-Intermediate 85, and EMT-Paramedic will have a mandatory deadline of March 31, 2016. This is the first transition year for EMT I-85 and EMT-Paramedic, so if you expire in 2017, you will have an additional year to complete this requirement.

### What is the process to transition?

To complete the transition process you must submit a completed recertification application that states you have met the transition requirements. You can submit that application in the six months prior to your expiration date. It is important to note that EMT I-85 and EMT I-99 providers who have to test to transition can do so at any time. Currently certified NREMT EMT I-85 applicants will have to take the transition course as well as take the Advanced EMT cognitive exam; however, they will not be required to complete the psychomotor requirement. The AEMT transition course must be completed prior to the March 31, 2016 expiration date in order to have 2 years and up to 6 attempts to take the cognitive exam. You will need to meet the transition requirements prior to your recertification expiration date.

### What if I did not transition?

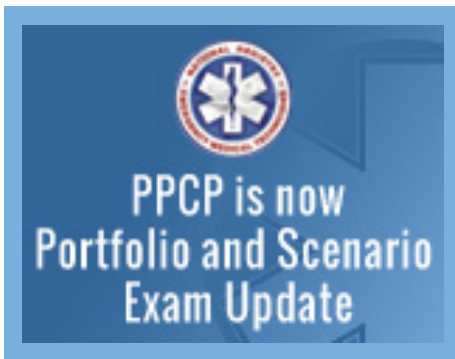
Consequences for not completing the transition course prior to your expiration date will result in a drop of your certification level. EMT-Basics will drop to EMR, EMT I-85 will drop to EMT, EMT I-99 will drop to Advanced EMT, EMT-Paramedic will drop to Advanced EMT and First Responders will lose certification status with the NREMT. Your certification will drop only if all other recertification requirements have been met. If not, then you will lapse in certification and must then utilize the "lapsed certification process" to gain national certification. Lapsed NREMT EMT I-85 providers that did not successfully transition, but completed a transition course that is equivalent to a full AEMT course, may challenge the AEMT cognitive and psychomotor exams for the next two years, as long as all other entry requirements are met.

## 2015 AHA Guidelines

On October 15, 2015, the American Heart Association (AHA) released its 2015 Guidelines Update for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. The 2015 version is not a comprehensive revision of the previous 2010 AHA Guidelines and only addresses topics from the 2015 ILCOR evidence review or those requested by the AHA training network. A complete, integrated version of the 2015 AHA Guidelines is available online.



The NREMT is currently finalizing its review of the 2015 AHA Guidelines and assembling two specific content review committees to meet early in 2016. Both BLS and ACLS recommendations from the 2015 AHA Guidelines will be reviewed to help assure the compliance of NREMT examination content. As in previous implementations of AHA revised guidelines, the NREMT will release an Executive Summary of the effects that the new Guidelines will have on NREMT content months ahead of the implementation. It will be distributed to all State EMS Offices, Program Directors, and posted on our website. We anticipate that effective September 1, 2016, all NREMT cognitive and psychomotor examinations will reflect the 2015 American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. Watch for additional information in your email and on our [website](#).



### UPCOMING WEBINARS Portfolio and Scenario Exams Update:

Thursday,  
March 3, 2106,  
1200 – 1300  
hours EST

[Click here to register](#)

## OUR NEW DECAL!

Thanks to your suggestions, we now have an updated version of the Paramedic decal and it will be available for purchase beginning January 1, 2016! It features a rocker and a glittered background to better compliment the current emblem. The price will remain the same at \$4.50 for each one-sided decal.



## NCCP: A NEW WAY TO RECERTIFY

In 2012, the NREMT introduced a new recertification model, the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP). While reduced hours are just one of the many benefits with the new model, the change allows a platform for evidence-based medicine to reach EMS professionals all over the country. Additionally, it gives state and local agencies the control to dictate a portion of the recertification requirements and provide a foundation for the EMS professional to embrace life-long learning.

The new model streamlines the recertification process into three categories of continuing education: National, Local, and Individual. The National requirement (NCCR) or the 'new' refresher makes up 50% of the new recertification model. Topics will be updated every four years and will reflect current trends and changes in EMS. The Local requirement (LCCR) accounts for 25% of your recertification. These hours will be decided by local entities, including the state, region or agency. Finally, the Individual requirement (ICCR) will complete the remaining 25% of your recertification. Much like the "additional continuing education" section for the traditional model, an individual is free to take any EMS related education. For more information about NCCP education requirements, please review the [NCCP brochures](#).

Another benefit of using this model is an increase in the amount of distributive education that can be used towards your recertification. Distributive education is defined as an approved CECBEMS F3 course. You can now take just over half of your hours as distributive

	NCCR	LCCR	ICCR	Total Hours
EMR	8 (up to 3 DE)	4 (up to 3 DE)	4 (up to 4 DE)	16 (10 DE)
EMT	20 (up to 7 DE)	10 (up to 7 DE)	10 (up to 10 DE)	40 (24 DE)
AEMT	25 (up to 8 DE)	12.5 (up to 8 DE)	12.5 (up to 12.5 DE)	50 (28.5 DE)
Paramedic	30 (up to 10 DE)	15 (up to 10 DE)	15 (up to 15 DE)	60 (35 DE)

Table 1. Distributive Education (DE) Breakdown by Level

education. This breaks down to allow for 1/3 of your national component, 2/3 of your local component, and your entire individual component to be distributive education (Table 1).

States across the nation are beginning to implement this new recertification model. Please check with your state EMS office for information on the upcoming implementation in your state. The NREMT website has NCCP Recertification Resources available to assist you and your state through the transition to the new model.

## Certification Tips For U.S. Navy Corpsman Transitioning to Civilian Workforce

By Jeremy D. Miller, B.S. Ed, NRP, Certification Dir., National Registry of EMTs, & Member, NAEMT Military Relations Comm.

U.S. Navy Corpsman perform advanced medical procedures in various locations on many different platforms. Whether they are on a submarine or in the back of a military vehicle, they act as first-line medical providers for U.S. service members, coalition and enemy forces, and civilians. The Navy practice of medicine is not exclusive – Corpsman often provide medical care for wounded Marines and their units.

they transition out of the military and into the civilian workforce. The U.S. Department of Labor expects Emergency Medical Services (EMS) jobs to rise faster than most career fields, and U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics report a 7.2 percent unemployment rate for veterans. This could be a marriage in professionalism that is a win-win situation.



(Photo courtesy NAEMT)

The U.S. Army has the 68W (Healthcare Specialist) and the U.S. Air Force has the 4N0X1 as their respective services "Medics." It is a condition of employment for both the 68W and the 4N0X1 to maintain certification from the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) to stay in the military as a Medic. The use of the NREMT is to verify cognitive and psychomotor competencies at a national level. The Navy Corpsman (HM) does not have this requirement, which has left a large number of Corpsman without the ability to gain civilian employment upon leaving military service.

Many agencies have collaborated with the military services to see what can be done to assist Sailors as

The National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) has lobbied on behalf of transition programs for military medics in Washington D.C. The Department of Transportation, along with the National Association of State Emergency Medical Offices (NASEMSO) and the National Association of EMS Educators (NASEME) have performed countless hours of gap analysis and research to help the civilian side understand what it is that Corpsman do. The NREMT has worked directly with the U.S. Navy in order to allow Corpsman to challenge the national exam at the EMT level and in some cases an Advanced EMT certification.

Currently, Corpsman graduate from an approved EMT course while attending their "A" school, or initial job-specific training in Joint Base San Antonio, Texas. This meets the entry requirement for national certification, but the Navy does not require Sailors to test at that time. Historically, Navy Corpsman had problems paying for their certifications, but a new program may change that issue. The Navy COOL, or Credentialing Opportunities On-Line, [offers a funding stream](#) for active and reserve (less IRR) service members to gain their NREMT certification without cost.

The first step in challenging the NREMT exams will be to contact the NREMT to verify eligibility. Eligibility will consist of a current training record, a certification on completion of "A" school EMT course, or a DD214. The next step will be to complete an EMT refresher course. This course is generally a 24-hour course, with exceptions made for states that offer the NREMTs new

*continued to next page*

*continued from previous page*

recertification platform. In that case you can complete the national component of 20 hours. Then you will complete a state approved psychomotor exam and then finally, pass the cognitive exam through a Pearson Vue testing center. If you work with the Navy you may be able to complete your psychomotor exam on a Naval station and possibly the refresher requirement. Coupled with the free exam from Navy COOL, you may be able to gain civilian certification without a cost to you as the service member. If you have any questions regarding the NREMT and military certification, please contact me at [jmiller@nremt.org](mailto:jmiller@nremt.org).

(Previously published on Military1.com in conjunction with the NAEMT Military Relations Committee) Formed in 1975 and more than 50,000 members strong, the National Association of Emergency Medical Technicians (NAEMT) is the nation's only organization solely dedicated to representing the professional interests of all EMS practitioners, including those in special operations and the military.



## TOP FIVE EXAM QUESTIONS

1

### **Why didn't I receive all of my certification material when I became certified?**

When you created your application to test you may have selected to print your card and/or certificate. Please contact the Examinations Department (extension 256) if you would like to change your selection.

2

### **Where do I go to on the NREMT website to find my psychomotor exam results?**

Log into your NREMT account and click on "CBT Candidate" then, "Advanced Level Psychomotor Exam." In most your results will post to your NREMT account within 2-3 weeks.

3

### **What do I do if I have a question about an item on my cognitive examination?**

If you have a question about the examination, raise your hand and the Pearson VUE Test Administrator will document your concern. The Test Administrator cannot answer any questions related to the examination content. The NREMT reviews all documented concerns and will contact you if your concern is valid.

4

### **Where do I go on the NREMT website to find my CBT (cognitive) exam results?**

Log into your NREMT account and click on "CBT Candidates" then, "Check Initial Entry App Status." In most cases, your results will post to your NREMT account within 1-2 business days.

5

### **I would like to request a review of my cognitive examination. How do I do this?**

If you have questions about the accuracy of your exam results, please visit our website for more information at [NREMT Examination Review Policy](#). Please follow the instructions if you would like to request a review of your cognitive examination results.

## WINTER NEWSLETTER FAQs

### 1 What if I can't remember my username and/or password?

If you know your username you can reset your password on the NREMT website by clicking the "Forgot Password" link. If you need both username and password, you can use the automated phone system by calling the NREMT at 1-614-888-4484 and choosing option #1.

### 2 Why haven't I received my email that I'm authorized to test?

The ATT letters are not sent through email. You can locate your ATT letter by using the following steps:

- Log in to your NREMT account at [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org)
- Click on the "CBT Candidates" link
- Then click on "Check Initial Entry Application Status"
- Then click on the link "Print/View ATT" (It can take 24-48hrs for an ATT to be issued.)

### 3 How long is an Authorization to Test valid?

An authorization to test (ATT) is valid for 90 days from the completion of an application. Completion includes course, and in some cases, practical skills verification, and payment. The ATT will list the expiration date of the authorization on the letter. Once an ATT has expired, no refunds can be issued.

### 4 How to submit an application for my 4th attempt and where do I submit my remedial training?

To submit your 4th application use the following steps

- Log in to your NREMT account
- Go to the "CBT Candidate" link
- Click on "Create Initial Entry Application"
- Select your level as "EMR, EMT, AEMT or Paramedic" Check the box next to "I have read and understand" then click "Next"
- The next page shows an option to submit an "Express Application" do not make any changes to the application and just click "Submit"

Once you have submitted the application it will be reviewed by one of the NREMT Certification Representatives. You will be contacted via email with a request to send in the necessary documentation.

### 5 How long does it take for an advanced level practical to be scored?

Advanced level psychomotor exams can take up to 3 weeks to be received at the NREMT office. Once the exams have been received it takes 24-48 hrs for the psychomotor to be scored and updated to a candidate's account. Candidates must have a complete AEMT or Paramedic Initial Entry application submitted to the NREMT for a psychomotor exam to be scored.

### 6 Where can I find my advanced level psychomotor exam results?

Psychomotor exam results can be located using the following steps:

- Log in to NREMT account
- Click on "CBT Candidates"
- On the left hand side of the page, scroll to the bottom and click on "Advanced Level Psychomotor Exam"
- Then click "Print Results"

## NOW PLAYING ON A SCREEN NEAR YOU:

The NREMT has a YouTube Channel!



Have Recertification questions? Save yourself a call because we have videos for that! From creating your NREMT account to submitting your online recertification, the [NREMT YouTube channel](#) is a great resource for step-by-step instructions on many of our current processes. Visit the NREMT YouTube Channel to see the latest videos available. We're always adding more so don't forget to check back often.

## 7 How do I complete the Transition?

Your level of National Certification dictates the process for completing the Transition. If your certification card states First Responder (F), EMT-B (B), I/85 (I), and EMT-P (P) and has an expiration date of 2016, this will be your last chance to transition your certification.

Those at the First Responder, EMT-B and EMT-P levels need to complete a state approved transition course. Those at the I-85 level need to complete a state approved transition course and test the NREMT AEMT cognitive exam.

Nationally certified I-99's have additional time to complete the transition, which is a state approved I-99 to Paramedic transition course and test the NREMT Paramedic cognitive exam. All levels can use the link to the Transition Policy for more information.

If your certification card states EMR (R), EMT (E), AEMT (A) or Paramedic (M) you do not need to transition.

## 8 What is the process of regaining National Certification after it has lapsed?

If your National EMS Certification lapsed within a two year period or you are currently state licensed as an EMR, EMT, AEMT or Paramedic, you can obtain National EMS Certification by completing a state-approved Refresher course and successfully completing the cognitive and psychomotor examinations.

If your National EMS certification lapsed beyond a two-year period and state certification at EMR or AEMT level has not been maintained, you will need to complete a new course to be eligible for National Certification. If you have lapsed beyond a two-year period and state certification at the EMT or Paramedic level has not been maintained, you can use EMT or Paramedic Re-Entry to regain National Certification. You can review those policies by clicking on the blue links.

## 9 What does the NREMT accept as valid continuing education?

The NREMT accepts continuing education that has received official approval through your State EMS office and/or the Continuing Education Coordinating Board of Emergency Medical Services ([www.cecbems.org](http://www.cecbems.org)). Continuing education topics may include subject matter contained within the National Scope of Practice as well as other subject matter specifically related to emergency medical patient care. Continuing education may be obtained through a variety of delivery methods including didactic sessions, practical drills, workshops, EMS conferences, and distributive education.

## 10 Where can I find refresher courses/ continuing education?

The NREMT accepts continuing education that has received official approval through your State EMS office and/or the Continuing Education Coordinating Board of Emergency Medical Services (CECBEMS). Continuing Education can be completed with any state approved education program including, but not limited to, community colleges, vocational schools, local EMS agencies, or online education providers. Contact your state office or visit the CECBEMS website ([www.cecbems.org](http://www.cecbems.org)), for more information. Continuing education may be obtained through a variety of delivery methods including didactic sessions, practical drills, workshops, EMS conferences, and distributive education.



## NREMT Will Be in Attendance for These Upcoming Conferences:

- Jan. 14-16** NAEMSP  
San Diego, CA
- Jan. 27-30** WI EMS Conference  
Milwaukee, WI
- Feb. 19-20** Eagles  
Dallas, TX
- Feb. 25-27** EMS Today  
Baltimore, MD
- Feb. 26** ITLS Ohio Emergency Care Conference  
Columbus, OH
- Mar. 18-20** NEMSA  
Omaha, NE
- Apr. 4-6** NASEMSO Spring  
Bethesda, MD
- Apr. 7-9** ND Rendezvous  
Bismarck, ND
- Apr. 10-11** CAAHEP  
Memphis, TN
- Apr. 21-24** MEMTA  
Tunica MS

## NREMT Research Update

### 2015 Research at a Glance

The NREMT research department has had an exciting year. This year's projects have centered on important topics for the field of out-of-hospital care such as pediatric medication dosages, pediatric spinal immobilization, ketamine, and burnout. In 2015 we had the opportunity to collaborate with distinguished organizations including the Pediatric Emergency Care Applied Research Network (PECARN), The George Washington University and the Center for Patient Safety.

### November-December Issue of Air Medical Journal

The current issue of Air Medical Journal features a two-part series from the NREMT research department on Helicopter Air Ambulances (HAA). The first manuscript focuses on access, protocols, and utilization of HAA, while the second article explores into the criteria for utilization and HAA-related training among EMS professionals.

### Longitudinal EMT Attributes and Demographics Study (LEADS)

As many of you are already aware, the Longitudinal EMT Attributes and Demographics Study (LEADS) began in 1998 with the mission to describe the characteristics that accurately reflect the individuals who provide EMS throughout the United States. Like the first LEADS project, LEADS II is a longitudinal effort to follow a cohort of EMS professionals over 10 years to assess changes in our profession. In 2015, we collected the third year of data from the LEADS II cohort. In addition to the longitudinal component, every year a LEADS census survey is sent to all current nationally-certified EMS professional. At this time, the annual census survey is being sent out by e-mail. This year's focus is on the culture of safety in EMS. Watch you inboxes for your chance to get involved in this important EMS research project! As always, we'd like to thank you for your continued support and participation in EMS research.

## NREMT is looking for pictures of you sporting NREMT emblems.

Not only do we want to see your pictures we want to share them as well! NREMT would love to see photos of you hard at work performing EMS related tasks, as well as team or individual shots, which proudly show your NREMT apparel. Submissions may be chosen for use on the NREMT website or other publications, so please be aware that your submission grants the NREMT permission to use the image. Send in those pictures and be on the lookout for your picture to be featured in a future publication. Pictures should be sent to [photos@nremt.org](mailto:photos@nremt.org).

### OUR EDITORS:

Severo Rodriguez, MS, NRP  
Rob Wagoner, BSAS, NRP  
Sherry Mason, BS  
J. Todd Vreeland, MPA, NRP  
Anne Weideman, BS