



NEWSLETTER

Summer 2015

EMS Personnel Division

— TOOLS, TIPS, AND HOT TOPICS—

Good News! Online Transition Courses Coming Soon

EMSA is currently looking at online NREMT transition courses to approve...so stay tuned! Courses have not yet been selected, but we are in the process. We will alert all certifying agencies and interested personnel as soon as courses are approved.

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. Paramedic and EMT transition courses are currently available on the [EMT page](#) of the EMSA website.

Transition courses are a requirement for re-certification 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.

Time frames 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.

Reminder - NREMT Upcoming Changes

The National Registry of EMT (NREMT) is changing the requirements for the NREMT psycho-motor exam. Paramedic training programs will need to have a psycho-motor competency portfolio in place for each student beginning August 1, 2016.

Highlights of the changes include:

- A psycho-motor skills portfolio documenting the paramedic students competency in

- specified skills is a pre-requisite for the psycho-motor 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 psycho-motor exam.

For more information, take a peek at the last Newsletter - Spring 2015! The NREMT has provided a “playbook” to guide training programs through the new requirements. The playbook can be accessed [here](#).

Spirit of Cooperation During an Investigation

LEMSA’s, non-LEMSA’s, and employers...in the spirit of cooperation, should communicate with each other whenever allegations of misconduct centering on patient care and or criminal activity is discovered.

- What if my department is a non-LEMSA (relevant employer) - do I need to notify the LEMSA’s when an EMT has been arrested and or convicted? Spirit of cooperation-Per §100208.1 (Ch. 6, T-22) contains provisions where the relevant employer shall notify the LEMSA, within three working days, of an investigation once the allegation has been validated or if the EMT has been suspended, terminated, resigns, retires, or removed from EMT duties based on disciplinary cause.
- What if I am a LEMSA, do I need to notify the non-LEMSA (relevant employer) about notifications of an arrest and or conviction? If you are a local EMS Agency and you receive allegations of misconduct centering on patient care and or criminal activity, you should contact the relevant employer to verify if the relevant employer is aware of the allegation and/or plans to investigate. The relevant employers and LEMSAs are compelled by regulation to notify, be informed, and maybe conduct separate investigations for complaints or allegations of misconduct. Spirit of cooperation - Per §100210 (b) the LEMSA shall forward a complaint to the relevant employer within three working days to determine if the relevant employer wishes to conduct an investigation. The LEMSA and the relevant employer may conduct simultaneous investigations if they wish.

See section, §100209 (Ch. 6, T-22) for clarification on jurisdiction of the medical director.

EMT Regulations Update

A work group of subject matter experts and EMS stakeholders 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 by July 1, 2016. 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.

EMSA anticipates opening the rule-making in July 2015 and seeking approval of the regulations from the EMS Commission at the December 2015 meeting.

We would like to acknowledge the following stakeholder groups for their participation in assisting EMSA in amending these regulations:

*California Healthcare Association
FIRESCOPE
California Highway Patrol*

*California Medical Association
California National Guard
California Nurses Association
California Peace Officers Association
CPCA
California State Firefighters Association
Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training
Emergency Nurses Association, California Chapter
Local EMS Agency Administrators
Local EMS Agency Medical Directors
California Professional Firefighters
Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
California Prehospital Program Directors*

Public Safety Regulations Update

Revisions to the Chapter 1.5 regulations were approved by the Office of Administrative Law and took effect April 1, 2015. The regulations require 21 hours of initial training for peace officers, firefighters and lifeguards, and 8 hours of retraining every two years.

All training programs must include a curriculum that complies with the new public safety course content no later than April 1, 2017. The regulations do not specify a date when everyone must be trained under the new course content, though an agency may establish a date for their personnel.

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.

There is a 3rd 15-day public comment period from July 1, 2015 through July 15, 2015. EMSA anticipates seeking approval of the regulations from the EMS Commission at the September 2, 2015 meeting.

The notice of proposed regulations, initial statement of reasons and the proposed regulation text are available for review on EMSA's public comment [web-page](#). 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."

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 Requirements Checklist Coming Soon!

Ever been confused about what fee to choose while processing an EMT certification in the Central Registry? That is about to change! A new checklist is being developed that will eliminate this issue as well as billing errors. The fee will auto-populate based on what type of certification you are processing, whether it is an initial, renewal, reinstatement or change of certifying entities. EMSA has posted a chart on the EMS Authority's EMT web page (<http://www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT>) explaining the EMT certification fees and requirements based on current regulations. We will also be emailing a copy of this chart to all central registry users. Stay tuned!

Not in the Registry? Do Not Issue Certification!

According to the Central Registry Regulations (Chapter 10, Section 100344), the certifying entity must enter the certification data within 14 days from the date the applicant successfully meets the certification or re-certification requirements, otherwise the certifying entity is out of compliance with the regulations.

When an EMT is issued a state card, this implies that all requirements have been met and the process of certification, *including entry to the Central Registry, is complete*. If a card is issued without following this requirement, it creates a huge problem for staff at EMSA as well as for the certifying entity.

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, search by social security number. If the person record already exists, you will receive a message as such and may proceed to create a new license.

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 New 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.

Ongoing Central Registry Procedure Updates

EMSA is 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](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT). 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](http://www.emsa.ca.gov/EMT) to access Central Registry user guides.

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

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.

EMT's on Probation Who Wish to Change Certifying Entities

When an EMT certificate holder submits an application to renew their EMT certificate with your LEMSA/certifying entity and is currently on probation with another LEMSA, **what should you do?**

It is helpful to first check the central registry to verify if the applicant has completed the probation terms with the current certifying entity. If you are not clear on how the discipline is documented, contact the LEMSA who rendered the discipline. If the applicants probation terms have not been fulfilled, **DO NOT RENEW!** Pursuant to Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 6, Section 100214.3(h), an EMT whose certification is placed on probation must complete their probationary requirements with the LEMSA that imposed the probation. You cannot renew an EMT certificate if the EMT certificate is currently on probation with another LEMSA.

No Longer Interested Forms (BCII 8302)

Certifying entities will no longer have to notify the EMS Authority when an NLI has been submitted on a EMT certificate holder. EMSA will run reports that will reveal all documented NLI's submitted by certifying entities.

- **REMEMBER:** When an agency submits an NLI to discontinue receipt of DOJ/FBI CORI report, the agency's NLI does not automatically discontinue the CORI report to the EMS Authority. EMSA must submit a separate NLI form in order to discontinue receiving CORI reports. An agency does not have to document NLI dates in the Central Registry, if the agency has never certified the person identified in the CORI record.
- **REASON:** Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 10, § 100349. Responsibility of Certifying Entity and/or Employer After Terminating Certification or Employment Relationship. Certifying entities and/or employers that receive a CORI report, including a subsequent arrest notification that no longer certify/re-certify or employ an EMT or an Advanced EMT shall notify the California DOJ using the “No Longer Interested Notification Form (BCII 8302, Rev 08/07)” 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? A non-LEMSA/certifying entity “should” continue to receive criminal record information as long as the EMT certificate is active with that non-LEMSA/certifying entity!

- **REASON:** If an NLI is submitted before the EMT certificate cycle expires, there will be no criminal record oversight for this EMT certificate holder. Try to keep in mind that it is a requirement and condition to initial and re-certification of an applicant that CORI records to include subsequent arrest notification are received by the certifying entity and the EMS Authority. See the following sections in Title 22, Division 9, Chapter 10 for clarification: §100347, Responsibility of the Initial and Re-certification Applicant, §100348, Responsibility of Certifying Entity and/or Employer Prior to July 1, 2010, and §100349, Responsibility of Certifying Entity and/or Employer after terminating certification or employment relationship.

Help Desk Keywords

Do you know the four 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.

Priscilla Rivera (Manager - Personnel Standards Unit):

(916) 431-3707; Priscilla.Rivera@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.

Caroline Fudge (Paramedic Licensure Unit):

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* Handles renewal paramedic licensure applications.

Brad Beltram (Paramedic Licensure Unit):

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* Handles audit renewal applications.

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