

SUGGESTED CURRICULUM FOR LOCAL EMS AGENCIES FOR USE IN APPROVING NREMT TRANSITION COURSES FOR EMS PERSONNEL WISHING TO MAINTAIN THEIR NREMT CERTIFICATION

INTRODUCTION

The suggested transition course curriculum should assist local emergency medical services (EMS) agencies in developing policies to approve transition courses for use by EMS personnel who wish to maintain their National Registry (NREMT) certification. These transition courses are a requirement for recertification with NREMT as part of NREMT's commitment to fully 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. Completion of a transition course is not necessary to maintain California EMT certification or paramedic licensure.

The suggested transition course curriculum was developed in coordination with various stakeholders, including EMS educators, local EMS agencies and other interested parties. Additionally, the suggested curriculum relies heavily on the work produced by the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) in their gap analysis of the differences between the prior National Standard Curricula and the new National Education Standards.

BACKGROUND

In 1996, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) published the national consensus document titled EMS Agenda for the Future (Agenda.) The intent of the Agenda is to create a common vision for the future of EMS and is designed for use by government and private organizations at the national, state and local levels to help guide EMS planning, decision making, and policy. In 2000, the Agenda was followed by the EMS Education Agenda for the Future: A Systems Approach (Education Agenda). Since the release of the Agenda, the National EMS Core Content (Core Content), National EMS Scope of Practice Model (Scope of Practice Model), and the National EMS Education Standards (Education Standards) have been completed and published along with Instructional Guidelines geared to each certification level. The National Education Standards are the basis for EMS personnel training in California and in order to practice as an EMT or Paramedic, an individual must successfully pass the National Registry of EMTs' written and skills exams prior to being initially licensed/certified or after an extended period of being lapsed for renewal or recertification processes.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES

1. All local EMS agencies should have a policy for the approval of NREMT transition courses in their local jurisdiction for EMTs and Paramedics.
2. All local EMS agencies should utilize the following criteria in approving NREMT transition courses in their local jurisdiction:

- a) NREMT transition courses for EMTs and Paramedics should only be taught by approved EMT or Paramedic training programs that offer either initial training or approved refresher courses.
- b) Course curriculum should be consistent the “gap content” identified in the National Association of State EMS Officials' “National EMS Education Standards Transition Template”.
 - The transition templates for EMTs can be found at this website: <http://www.nasemso.org/EMSEducationImplementationPlanning/documents/EMT-BasictoEMTJune2011.pdf>
 - The transition template for Paramedics can be found at this website: <http://www.nasemso.org/EMSEducationImplementationPlanning/documents/EMT-PtoParamedicJune2011.pdf>
- c) Training programs offering transition courses should be responsible for ensuring that their students complete the ICS-100, ICS-700, and HAZMAT First Responder Awareness level training (or the equivalent to these courses) either as prerequisites or co-requisites to the transition courses.
- d) Transition courses for both EMTs and Paramedics should be at minimum 24 hours.
- e) Transition course completion records should include the following information on a tamper resistant document:
 1. NREMT-Paramedic's or NREMT-Basic's name
 2. Transition course completion date
 3. The certificate must contain the following statement: "has completed a state approved EMT-Paramedic to Paramedic transition course.", or "has completed a state approved EMT-Basic to Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) transition course."
 4. Name of the sponsoring agency
 5. Signature of the individual responsible for the training

3. 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