

INITIAL CERTIFICATION VERSION

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS REGARDING

**MASSACHUSETTS &
NATIONAL EMS STANDARDS**

NATIONAL EMS EDUCATION STANDARDS

**NATIONAL EMS CERTIFICATION STANDARDS
& THE ADOPTION OF NATIONAL EMS
CERTIFICATION BY THE NREMT**

NATIONAL SCOPE OF PRACTICE TRANSITION

VERSION I.B

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M A S S A C H U S E T T S
OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
— DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH —

OVERVIEW

There are a lot of changes currently occurring to EMS in Massachusetts. The goal of this document is to answer many of the questions regarding these changes and **initial certification**. This document is intended for **initial certification candidates, educators, training officers, physicians, and other leadership**.

The most significant distinction to make is that there are two separate changes occurring that affect Massachusetts EMS providers' certifications:

- The adoption of National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) certification as the basis for Massachusetts initial certification and recertification, as part of the requirement to maintain MA state certification (licensure). and;
- The transition to the National EMS Scope of Practice model. These two changes are occurring independently of each other.

If you do not see your question answered, please email it to gibson.mccullagh@state.ma.us. Please be sure to regularly check our website (<http://mass.gov/dph/oems>) for the most recent version of this guide.

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FUTURE CANDIDATES: NREMT ADOPTION

Q1. I am currently an **EMT-Basic** candidate; what **practical** (psychomotor) examination will I take after July 1, 2013?

A1. At the EMT-Basic level, you will take the same state practical as candidates prior to July 1, 2013; the stations and skill sheets will not change. What will change is the processing time. Practical exams will be able to be held immediately following course completion (versus a current three week administrative delay) and results will be available approximately 24-48 hours after the exam occurs (versus a current turn-around period of 8-10 weeks).

Q2. I am currently an **EMT-Basic** candidate; what **written** (cognitive) examination will I take after July 1, 2013?

A2. At the EMT-Basic level, you will take the NREMT written (cognitive) exam after July 1, 2013. To sign up for this exam, candidates would create an application with the NREMT on its website (<http://nremt.org>), affiliate with their Educational Program (Accredited Training Institution), and pay the NREMT application fee (includes testing fee). When the application is approved and successful course completion verified, an Authorization To Test (ATT) will be issued. The ATT is obtained via the candidate's NREMT login and contains the instructions on how to schedule the computer-based exam with Pearson VUE, at a time and location that works best for that individual.

Q3. I am currently an **EMT-Intermediate** candidate; what **practical** (psychomotor) examination will I take after July 1, 2013?

A3. These candidates should contact OEMS for information on completing their certification and a transition course to become an Advanced EMT.

Q4. I am currently an **EMT-Intermediate** candidate; what **written** (cognitive) examination will I take after July 1, 2013?

A4. These candidates should contact OEMS for information on completing their certification and a transition course to become an Advanced EMT.

Q5. I am currently an **EMT-Paramedic** candidate; what **practical** (psychomotor) examination will I take after July 1, 2013?

A5. At the EMT-Paramedic level, you will take the NREMT EMT-Paramedic practical (psychomotor) exam after July 1, 2013; the stations and skill sheets are fairly similar to that of the old-MA practical and can be found at:

http://www.nremt.org/nremt/about/psychomotor_exam_advanced.asp

Please note that the NREMT EMT-Paramedic psychomotor examination consists of the following stations:

- Ventilatory Management - Adult (Endotracheal Intubation)
- Supraglottic Airway Device

