

# JULY 1, 2013... WHAT DOES

There's been a lot of talk about the looming July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline and what it means for the EMS community in Massachusetts. Here are the facts...

## What changes on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013?

### EXAMS FOR NEW EMT-BASIC & PARAMEDIC CANDIDATES...

EMT-Basic candidates will take the current state practical exam and the NREMT written exam; successful candidates will be eligible for NREMT certification and Massachusetts certification

Paramedic candidates will take the NREMT practical exam and the NREMT written exam; successful candidates will be eligible for NREMT certification and Massachusetts certification.

### PROCESSING TIME FOR EXAMS...

Practical exams will be processed in a matter of days, not weeks or months

Written exams can be taken before or after the practical exam.

### DUAL CERTIFICATION FOR NEW EMTS/PARAMEDICS...

Initial certification candidates who are successful with both exams and meet the NREMT's criteria will receive a national standard EMS certification allowing them to more easily get certified/licensed out of state.

### LAPSED NREMT CERTIFICATION...

Current MA EMS providers who once held a NREMT-certification will be able to reinstate it without testing between July 1, 2013 and January 1, 2014 if they want to.

## IT MEAN?

## What doesn't change on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013?

### NO NEW REQUIREMENTS FOR CURRENT EMS PROVIDERS...

Currently MA-certified EMS providers will NOT be required to test into the NREMT. Current providers are not affected by the July 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

### MAINTAINING MASSACHUSETTS CERTIFICATION...

To provide EMS care in the Commonwealth, EMS providers will continue to obtain MA-certification (even if they have NREMT-certification). This is how NREMT works in all other states; the NREMT provides the examination but the state certification is the authorization to work as an EMT in that state.

## What changes before July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013?

### RECIPROCITY...

Effective immediately candidates who hold NREMT status are eligible to apply for a MA certification without the need to take a practical or written exam, enabling an easier process for current and future qualified EMS providers to work in the Commonwealth.

For more information, please refer to our FAQ guides, available on our website at: [mass.gov/dph/oems](http://mass.gov/dph/oems)