

EMT

(Emergency Medical Technician)

Initial Certification Policy

WEST VIRGINIA
Department of

**Health &
Human
Resources**
BUREAU FOR PUBLIC HEALTH
Office of Emergency Medical Services



EMT Initial Certification Policy and Procedures

PURPOSE: To establish requirements necessary for all applicants seeking certification and authorization to be credentialed and practice at the Emergency Medical Technician level.

POLICY: To ensure consistent standards and procedures for certifying as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in West Virginia.

PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Create a valid WVOEMS account.
- B. Create a valid National Registry account.
- C. Apply for certification by completing an online application at www.wvoems.org/ecert.
- D. Submit the appropriate fees as required in WV §64 CSR 48-6.9.
- E. Be 16 years of age or greater.
 - 1. Candidates that have not reached their 18th birthday shall not function as the primary patient care attendant or driver of any EMS emergency vehicle per WV §64 CSR 48-6.1.a.
 - 2. Candidates that have not reached their 18th birthday, upon completion of a WVOEMS approved EMT program, shall apply to take the National Registry EMT Assessment Exam. They will receive a test score but not a National Registry certification.
 - 3. Once reaching their 18th birthday, they will simply request to apply the assessment test results to their National Registry account and they will be issued a National Registry Certification per NREMT policies.
- F. Disclose any limitation or exclusion by any EMS Agency, EMS Medical Director, or any other healthcare professions certification or licensing authority in any state, territory or the U.S. Military Services.
- G. Apply for and be cleared by the State and National background checks for WVOEMS as required in WV §16- 4C-8.1.1:

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- H. Successfully complete Hazmat Awareness training meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards.
- I. Successfully complete WVOEMS approved MCI Awareness and Operations Training (6 hours). *This requirement only applies if the applicant has never completed this program previously. This initial program is a onetime only requirement.*
- J. Successfully complete an approved CPR Training course meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.7.a.4 at the professional/healthcare provider level.
- K. Successfully complete a WVOEMS Initial BLS Protocol Course (4 hours).
- L. Complete a WVOEMS approved course meeting the current approved education standards consisting of a competency based program conducted by a WVOEMS approved BLS training institute.
- M. Successfully complete and pass all practical skills evaluations for the EMT level of certification as outlined by the National Registry and conducted by WVOEMS approved skills evaluators.
- N. Successfully complete and pass all cognitive examinations with a certifying score for the EMT level determined by the National Registry cognitive examination.
- O. Proof of education shall be verified through an attestation statement submitted as part of your WVOEMS EMS application and shall be subject to audit at any time during the certification/recertification process or during an active investigation.
- P. **Important Notice:** An EMR/EMT/AEMT/Paramedic certified by WVOEMS must be continually certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) during the duration of your WVOEMS certification. Failure to retain uninterrupted National Certification will result in the immediate suspension of your WVOEMS certification and your right to practice in West Virginia.
- Q. Meet other requirements established by the Commissioner.
This policy replaces all previous policies for EMT initial certification.
APPLICABLE CODE/RULE: WV Code §16-4C-6, §16-4C-8.1, and §64 CSR 48-6.