

MASSACHUSETTS EMT-INTERMEDIATE

All individuals seeking to recertify their Massachusetts EMT-Intermediate certification in 2017 need to follow the steps outlined on this page. Please read it carefully.

REQUIRED TRANSITION STEPS

In accordance with AR 2-205, the level of EMT-Intermediate is being phased out. For the 2017 recertification cycle, no EMT-Intermediates (with or without NREMT) can renew at that level. Personnel have the following options:

- **Transition to Advanced EMT**—Locate and successfully complete an OEMS approved “Intermediate to Advanced” transition course. Then apply for and successfully test into the National Registry Advanced EMT certification. Using the newly gained NRAEMT certification, apply for Massachusetts certification as an AEMT; or
- **Change level to EMT-Basic**— Download change in level form located on the EMT page of the OEMS website and submit to OEMS. Your level of certification will be dropped from EMT-Intermediate to EMT-Basic with the same expiration date. Then following the recertification steps for an EMT Basic, renew prior to the expiration date.

****Note: If you have NREMT-Intermediate certification, you must either transition or drop your NREMT certification to the EMT level prior to renewing your state EMT certification****

OEMS strongly recommends that any EMT-Intermediate that expires 04/01/2017, completes either the transition or change in level on or prior to **February 15, 2017**. This will allow the personnel adequate time to complete the renewal steps as an EMT-Basic as needed. Otherwise, all certifications at the EMT-Intermediate level after 04/01/2017 will expire. Expired EMT-Intermediates who wish to reinstate their certification by examination after expiration would do so at the EMT-Basic level.

Need help? Direct your questions first to your EMS Agency Training Officer; if more help is required, email oems.recert@state.ma.us.



SCOPE OF PRACTICE TRANSITION

WHY?	HOW?	WHEN?
<p>Prior to this initiative, there were over 40 different EMS certification levels across the country. In many cases the same title meant very different skill sets and training requirements. In an effort to standardize all EMS certifications there is a nationwide initiative to update all EMTs to the most modern <i>minimum</i> standards on top of which Statewide Treatment Protocols will build.</p> <p>The Massachusetts EMT-Intermediate certification is based on curriculum from 1985. At that time, there was a significant shortage of Paramedics in especially rural areas. In the almost 30 years since the 1985 curriculum was developed, there have been a number of significant changes that have reduced the need for the EMT-I in its current design. The goal of the Advanced EMT is to provide a higher level of care than the EMT-I for chronic medical patients (a health population we are dealing with far more than trauma patients). The AEMT still has the ability to perform advanced airway interventions (not intubation, but supraglottic airways) and IV access (with additional medications), but the focus is on enhanced assessment with much more anatomy/physiology education and an understanding of disease processes.</p>	<p>This transition course will be more extensive than the other levels. The skills and knowledge gap between what an EMT-Intermediate and AEMT are expected to know is significant. At the AEMT level, there is a much heavier emphasis placed on anatomy and physiology in addition to a focus on chronic disease processes.</p> <p>The Department has released guidelines regarding the curriculum for these EMT-I to AEMT transition courses (AR 2-212A) and courses are beginning to become available around the state. Please visit the OEMS website for more information.</p>	<p>EMT-Intermediates must transition to “Advanced EMT” by 03/31/2017, <u>or</u> submit the change in level form by 2/15/2017 to drop to the EMT-Basic level before completing the EMT-Basic recertification process.</p> <p>Contact oems.recert@state.ma.us for assistance.</p>

IMPORTANT NOTE: Completing the transition process to AEMT will result in NREMT certification.