**PURPOSE**:

To establish the minimum requirements of an EMT-Intermediate to Advanced EMT transition course (“I-A transition course”) for EMS personnel currently certified in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts at the EMT-Intermediate level.

**REQUIREMENTS**:

1. All I-A transition courses shall be conducted by a primary instructor who has primary responsibility for that training course. The primary instructor may utilize other experienced persons to teach individual segments of the course, provided that the primary instructor maintains overall responsibility for the course.
2. The primary instructor shall have the following qualifications:
   1. Experience instructing and evaluating students;
   2. Current working knowledge and experience with the Massachusetts Statewide Treatment Protocols;
   3. Current working knowledge of the Massachusetts EMS system;
   4. Current Massachusetts EMT certification at the Paramedic level;
   5. Minimum of two years’ experience working as an EMT in Massachusetts at the Paramedic level, and
   6. Current working knowledge of the certification processes for Massachusetts.
3. All I-A transition courses shall be conducted in accordance with the applicable EMS System regulations, depending on whether the course sponsor is a Department-accredited EMS training institution, or a non-accredited training provider, with the exception that all proposed I-A transition courses shall be submitted directly to OEMS for registration (accredited training institutions) or approval (non-accredited training providers), and not to the Regional EMS Council.
4. All I-A transition courses shall meet the following additional requirements:
   1. Be conducted according to the National EMS Education Standards and Instructor Guidelines; covering at least the content listed in Course Curriculum below, and Statewide Treatment Protocols.
   2. Ensure the candidate’s competency of all skills covered in the course;
   3. Ensure all candidates are eligible to sit for the NREMT’s Advanced EMT cognitive examination.
   4. Ensure students are familiar with the process of becoming certified an Advanced EMT in Massachusetts.

**COURSE CURRICULUM**:

1. Content:
   1. Preparatory
   2. Pathophysiology
   3. Life Span Development
   4. Public Health
   5. Pharmacology
   6. Airway Management, Respiration, Artificial Ventilation
   7. Patient Assessment
   8. Critical thinking
   9. Medicine
   10. Trauma
   11. Shock and Resuscitation
   12. Special Patient Populations
   13. EMS Operations
2. Anatomy & Physiology
   * 1. Terminology/Definitions
     2. Cells
     3. Skeletal/muscle tissue
     4. Circulatory
     5. Lymphatic/immune
     6. Respiratory
     7. Nervous system
     8. Gastrointestinal
     9. Metabolism/Acid/Base/Fluids
     10. Reproductive/urinary
     11. Endocrine
     12. Integumentary
     13. Special sensory
3. Skills:
   1. IV Access and fluid management
   2. Pediatric IO Access and fluid management
   3. Cardiac Arrest Management
   4. Medication administration
   5. Airway/Ventilation Management (using King LT or LMA) for Adult and Pediatric
   6. Patient Assessment / Management (Medical and Trauma)
   7. Bleeding control/Shock Management

**OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**:

1) Minimum hours: (dependent on which configuration is used for providing the course):

a) I-A transition course without in-depth coverage of Anatomy and Physiology in the course.

This option can be used if students have a previous, documented, successfully passed Anatomy and Physiology course, which could have been taken online, in the classroom or through a combination of both means. The recommended length for this preparatory course is at least 20 hours. The remaining content as listed above will be taught in an instructor-led format of 40-50 hours, with at least 12 hours of laboratory time ensuring competency in the above skills. OR

b) I-A transition course with in-depth coverage of Anatomy and Physiology in the course.

Students must be provided a 60-70 hour instructor-led format program, incorporating significant anatomy and physiology, in addition to the final exams and the minimum of 12 hours of laboratory time, as described above.

2) Required Program-Administered End of Course Examinations:

a) A final written exam, with a passing grade to be determined by the primary instructor of the I-A transition course, and

b) A program-administered practical examination to ensure competency in the skills listed above, under section 3 of Course Curriculum.

3) Post-course obligations:

a) After successfully completing the course, including end of course examinations, all EMT-Intermediates must successfully **complete the NREMT Advanced EMT cognitive (written) exam only**;

b) The I-A transition course must issue to all EMT-Intermediates who successfully complete the course, including the course final exams, a certification stating that the EMT-Intermediates have “completed a state approved EMT-Intermediate/85 to Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT) transition course, including successful completion of a course-ending practical examination.”

c) Once the EMT successfully completes a course, he or she must submit an application for NREMT Advanced EMT certification. The EMT must select the EMS Educational Program “TRANSITION EMT-I85 to NR Advanced EMT” when submitting the application, no matter where he or she took this program.

d) The I-A transition course’s primary instructor will submit to the Department a list of EMT-Intermediates who successfully completed the course requirements as described above. This list must include the full name of the EMT, the EMT’s state certification number, the course end date, and the course approval number; and

e) Once the EMT successfully obtains NREMT Advanced EMT certification, he or she must submit an application for initial Massachusetts Advanced EMT certification to the Department. This can be done using the Department’s online licensing system or by paper application.