

M A S S A C H U S E T T S

OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH

ADMINISTRATIVE REQUIREMENT MANUAL

EFFECTIVE DATE: November 4, 2024 **AUTHORIZATION:** Susan Lewis, Director
TITLE: Massachusetts EMT certification procedure based upon NREMT certification, out of state licensure/certification or Massachusetts MD, RN, NP or PA licensure
SUPERSEDES: 7/12/2021

I. PURPOSE

To define the requirements and procedures for Massachusetts EMT certification for the following categories of individuals:

- A. An individual who holds National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) certification, with or without current or prior licensure/certification as an EMT-Basic in another state;
- B. An individual who is currently licensed or certified as an EMT-Basic in another state, and does not hold NREMT certification, and
- C. An individual who is currently licensed or registered in Massachusetts as a physician, registered nurse, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant.

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR MASSACHUSETTS CERTIFICATION BY CATEGORY

- A. A candidate who **holds NREMT certification** at the EMT level, and is currently, or has previously held EMT certification/licensure in another state or jurisdiction (at any level) must submit the following:
 1. An application for Massachusetts certification as an EMT-Basic, on a form or electronic platform provided by the Department;
 2. The required nonrefundable certification fee of \$150, payable to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts;
 3. Documentation of current NREMT certification as an EMT level (or above);
 4. Current Basic Cardiac Life Support (BCLS) course or equivalent, provided by a nationally recognized organization and reflecting current cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and emergency cardiac care resuscitation science and treatment recommendations issued by the International Liaison Committee on Resuscitation's (ILCOR's) International Consensus on Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care Science With Treatment Recommendations (CoSTR), as documented by a current training certificate, renewed biennially, in Basic Cardiac Life Support health care professional CPR. CPR training must be obtained through an instructor-led program or blended learning experience with an in-person hands-on skills evaluation, and must include a cognitive examination;
 5. If the applicant currently or has previously held EMT certification/licensure in any other state or jurisdiction, a verification of EMT certification/licensure status form completed by the state agency that issued the candidate's EMT license/certification. The Verification form must be received by OEMS directly from the issuing authority with the signature of the person who completed the form. **A verification of EMT status form must be received from every state in which the candidate has ever been licensed or certified as an EMT. Certifications that have expired must have been in good standing when they expired.** Verification forms are valid for 60 days following receipt by the Department;
 6. If the applicant currently, or previously held any other health care provider licensure or certification, a description of the credentials held, and statement regarding whether this license or certification is current, in good standing and whether there are any past disciplinary actions relating to this license or certification, and
 7. A Criminal Offender Records Information (CORI) authorization form, giving the Department permission to access conviction and pending criminal case data.
 8. Applications for Massachusetts EMT certification are valid for 1 year from initial submission date.

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- B. A candidate who is **currently licensed/certified as an EMT in another state and does not hold NREMT certification** at the EMT/EMT-Basic level is required to obtain NREMT certification prior to applying for Massachusetts certification. Such a candidate must complete the following steps:
1. **Contact the NREMT directly to initiate the process to obtain NREMT certification at the EMT level, at www.nremt.org.**
 - A. Candidate must successfully meet NREMT entry requirements including but not limited to having documentation of successful education, cognitive examination, and psychomotor examination.
 2. **Once the candidate has obtained NREMT certification, the candidate submits the remaining items listed in section II. A, above: 1 through 7, meeting the timeline in A.8.**
- C. A candidate who is currently licensed or registered in Massachusetts as a physician, registered nurse or nurse practitioner, or physician assistant and **does not hold NREMT certification as an EMT or EMT-Basic**, must successfully complete the NREMT certification process as required by NREMT, and obtain NREMT certification at the EMT level. Such a candidate must complete the following steps:
1. Contact the NREMT directly to initiate the process to obtain NREMT certification at the EMT level, at www.nremt.org.
 - A. Candidate must successfully meet NREMT entry requirements, including but not limited to, documenting successful completion of education, cognitive examination, and psychomotor examination.
 2. Hold current a Massachusetts license or registration as a physician, physician assistant, nurse or nurse practitioner. This license or registration must be current and in good standing with the applicant's respective licensing board throughout the process of obtaining certification as a Massachusetts EMT.
 3. Affiliate with a Department-accredited EMT training institution (ATI) as an Advanced Placement candidate. The ATI is responsible for verifying the applicant's successful completion of all of the cognitive, psychomotor and affective objectives of an EMT-Basic course, through prior learning assessment, assessment of knowledge and documentation of skill proficiencies. The ATI is then responsible for documenting this verification on the NREMT website and is therefore eligible for examination. The ATI is responsible for entering the candidate's psychomotor examination results on the NREMT website when the candidate passes the psychomotor exam.
 4. The candidate must complete the psychomotor examination within three attempts. If the candidate does not successfully complete within three attempts, they are no longer eligible for this process, and must complete an EMT course in order to be eligible for certification.
 5. Successfully complete the NREMT certification process and obtain NREMT EMT certification
 6. Once the candidate has obtained NREMT certification, the candidate submits the remaining items listed in section II. A, above: 1 through 7, meeting the timeline in A.8.

III. CATEGORIES THAT OBTAIN MASSACHUSETTS CERTIFICATION THROUGH INITIAL CERTIFICATION

In order to obtain Massachusetts certification as an EMT, the following categories of candidates apply for **initial Massachusetts certification** as an EMT-Basic, as follows:

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- A. Candidates who **hold NREMT certification** as an EMT/EMT-Basic but **are not certified or licensed as an EMT in any state**: They apply for Massachusetts initial EMT certification, as described above in section II. A, number 1 through 8.
- B. Candidates who have **previously taken and failed any portion of the NREMT EMT cognitive examination and are still eligible to continue testing**: They must contact the NREMT directly to initiate and successfully complete the process to become NREMT certified at the EMT level. Contact the NREMT at www.nremt.org. Then they may apply for initial Massachusetts certification as once they obtain NREMT certification.
- C. Candidates who have **trained in-state or out-of-state as an EMT or EMT-Basic or have training they believe is equivalent to EMT or EMT-Basic training, but in either case are not certified or licensed as an EMT in any state and do not hold NREMT certification as an EMT or EMT-Basic**: They must contact the NREMT directly to initiate and successfully complete the process to become NREMT certified at the EMT level. Contact the NREMT at www.nremt.org. Then they may apply for initial Massachusetts certification as an EMT-Basic once they obtain NREMT certification.
- D. **Candidates who are returning veterans or military “medics,” do not hold NREMT certification as an EMT or certification/licensure in another state as an EMT or EMT-Basic, and believe their training is equivalent to EMT or EMT-Basic training**: Follow the procedures set out in AR 2-238.