

Virginia Department of Health
Office of Emergency Medical Services
Division of Educational Development

Training Catalog



Everything you need to know about your Virginia EMS Certification

The Virginia Department of Health's Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) Training Guide is provided by the OEMS Division of Educational Development (DED). This guide is a resource on certifying and recertifying as an EMS provider, instructor or coordinator.

For more information, visit the OEMS Web site at www.vdh.virginia.gov/oems. Below are just a few of the resources available on the Web site:

- Change your address
- Get locality funding
- Obtain rules and regulations
- Get CE reports
- Locate test site information
- Check provider agency affiliation
- Get EMS agency file uploads like PPCR & CGAP
- Test Schedules
- Instructor / ALS Coordinator updates
- Accredited Intermediate & Paramedic Sites
- EMS Training Funds
- And more...

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1 Training Programs & Recertification

How to Locate a Program

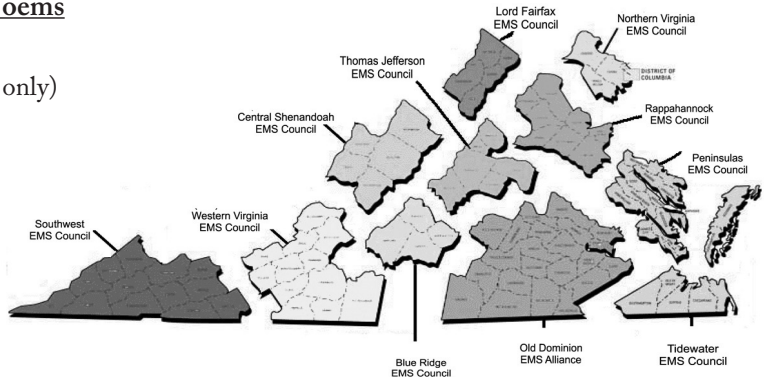
Look on the OEMS Website:

All of the classes that have open enrollment statewide are listed. It provides the course date, location and a breakdown of the different areas that are offered in each class. For more information contact the course coordinator. www.vdh.virginia.gov/oems

Virginia Office of EMS
 804-888-9100 or 800-523-6019 (VA only)
 Fax #: 804-864-7580
 DED: 804-888-9120
 DED Fax #: 804-371-3409

Regional EMS Councils

Your local council can advise you of all the classes that are available in your region of the state and can provide you with information as to how to sign up for the course.



Council	Web site	Phone	Fax
Blue Ridge	www.blueridge.vaems.org	434-947-5934	434-947-3987
Central Shenandoah	www.csems.vaems.org	540-886-3676	540-886-3735
Lord Fairfax	www.lfems.vaems.org	540-665-0014	540-722-0094
Northern Virginia	www.northern.vaems.org	877-261-3550	571-261-5244
Old Dominion	www.odemsa.vaems.org	804-560-3300	804-560-0909
Peninsulas	www.peninsula.vaems.org	804-693-6234	804-693-6277
Rappahannock	www.rems.vaems.org	877-892-9465	540-373-0536
Southwest Virginia	www.southwest.vaems.org	276-628-4151	276-676-0800
Thomas Jefferson	www.tjems.vaems.org	434-295-6146	434-295-2009
Tidewater	www.tidewaterems.org	757-963-0632	757-963-2325
Western Virginia	www.wvems.org	540-562-3482	540-562-3488

Reciprocity, Legal Recognition & Challenges

Virginia offers certification through formal reciprocity to providers with a current certification from a state or recognized EMS certifying body that has a formal written agreement of reciprocity with Virginia. Full certification will be issued for a period not to exceed the expiration date of current certification or no longer than the certification period for the level requested in Virginia. Formal reciprocity is currently available for the following certification:

1. EMT-Basic certification issued by District of Columbia and Pennsylvania.
2. EMT-Intermediate-99 certification issued by the National Registry of EMTs.
3. EMT-Paramedic certification issued by the National Registry of EMTs
4. You must be ELIGIBLE for certification in the state you are transferring from.

In the absence of a formal reciprocity agreement, a person having completed a training program that meets or exceeds the minimum training requirements of the National Standard Curriculum for EMT-Basic may request legal recognition. The provider will be issued a certification at the EMT-Basic level for the period of one (1) year or the duration of their current certification; whichever is shorter. Legal recognition is currently available at the EMT-Basic level based on the following certifications:

1. EMT-Basic certification issued by the National Registry of EMTs.
2. EMT-Basic certification issued by any other state or U.S. Territory except the District of Columbia or Pennsylvania. (See Above)
3. EMT-Intermediate/85 certification issued by the National Registry of EMTs

4. Any Advanced Life Support certification issued by any other state or U.S. Territory.

Legal Recognition is not currently available at the EMS First Responder or any Advanced Life Support level.

Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Registered Nurses, Licensed Practical Nurses, Military Corpsmen, Dentists, Chiropractors and 3rd or 4th year Medical Students may request to challenge for full certification at the EMT-Basic level based on previous training and experience upon completion of required prerequisites. This request to challenge must be submitted to OEMS to initiate the process.

Physician Assistants, Nurse Practitioners, Dentists, Chiropractors and 3rd or 4th year Medical Students may be eligible for Virginia Endorsement to sit for the National Registry written and practical Paramedic exams upon completion of required prerequisites.

All candidates for Formal Reciprocity, Legal Recognition or Challenge must contact the Office of EMS at 804-888-9120 for required prerequisites and paperwork.

Steps to Recertify

To recertify in Virginia, EMS providers must complete the state requirements prior to their certification expiration date. These requirements include:

1. Obtain required CE Credits at the appropriate Level of Certification
 - ⇒ Contact your local EMS Council, EMS agency or OEMS Web site for availability of CE classes approved by the Office of EMS.
2. CE Documentation
 - ⇒ A state computerized scan card **MUST** be

submitted to the Office of EMS to document your Continuing Education. CE cards for individual classes/programs must be submitted within 15 days of student attendance.

⇒ You should receive your Recertification Eligibility Notice within ten days after the Office of EMS receives and authenticates all required CE credits.

⇒ All CE documentation must be received in the OEMS prior to the provider expiration date to prevent lapsing into re-entry.

3. Final Recertification Process

⇒ Successfully complete the state written examination

OR

⇒ If actively affiliated with an EMS agency, that is licensed to provide care at your current level of certification, your OMD has the option of waiving you from testing.

⇒ You must present your Recertification Eligibility Notice to your OMD prior to being exempted from testing.

⇒ If being waived from testing, you must present to the Office of EMS no later than thirty days past your certification expiration, a completed Virginia EMS Certification Application with your OMD's signature, date, OMD number and level to be waived. **(You can not practice without a current Virginia certification card).**

Re-entry

If you fail to complete the recertification process before your expiration date, your certification will lapse and you cannot practice at that level of certification. In Virginia, providers are allowed a re-entry period of two years from their expiration date to complete their

CE requirements and pass the state certification exam. During this two-year period, you only have to earn the CE credits currently required to recertify. Note: If the state CE requirements change, providers must meet the requirements in place when they wish to regain certification.

All CE credits must be earned, any required state testing completed and a new certification issued by the Office of EMS before the end of the two-year period. No additional time is allowed beyond the two year re-entry period to complete any classes, tests or retests to regain certification. Once the two year re-entry period has passed, providers must complete the entire initial training course to regain certification at the level lost.

Advanced Life Support level providers who fail to recertify before their expiration date, are automatically reduced to the Emergency Medical Technician level for a period of two years. During this two-year EMT certification period, you may either regain your lost ALS level or recertify as an EMT.

NREMT Allowed Distributive Education

The NREMTs limits the awarding of continuing education via distributive (on-line) education for the various certification levels.

The Office of EMS does not limit the awarding of CE via distributive (on-line) education at the ALS certification levels. However, the awarding of CE at the BLS levels are limited in Areas 09 and 10, because they are skills based which must be taught/evaluated by a qualified instructor.

Please note that NREMT paramedics must maintain ACLS certification. ACLS certification is not required for Intermediate-99 certified providers.

Below is a table that lists the CE allowed at each certification level:

NREMT Allowed Distributive Education		
	Mandatory & Flexible Areas	Additional Hours
First Responder of the 12 total hrs	0	6/12
EMT-Basic of the 24hrs of refresher	10	24/48
Intermediate 99 of the 36hrs of refresher	10	18/36
Paramedic of the 48hrs of refresher	10	12/24

CPR Requirements

Please refer to the OEMS Web site for the most current CPR information www.vdh.virginia.gov/oems/training/cprrequirements.htm.

On July 1, 2006 the written certification examinations became “guideline” neutral. This means that questions regarding CPR are not specific to either the 2000 or 2005 guidelines.

National Registry Computer Based Testing Sites

Pearson VUE Testing Centers

Providers can complete their National Registry written test at one of seven testing sites located throughout the state.

The advantages of computer based testing include:

- Rapid Turnaround of Test Results
- Increased Testing Flexibility
- Accurate Evaluation
- Security

- Online Registration and Scheduling

The Testing Centers are located in:

- Lynchburg • Newport News • Richmond
- Richlands • Roanoke • Vienna
- West Virginia

If you would like to view more information, go to : www.pearsonvue.com

EMS Training Funds

The Emergency Medical Services Training Funds (EMSTF) provide financial assistance for Virginia Certified BLS & ALS EMS providers and OEMS approved training courses. These funds supplement local support for EMS training courses.

The EMSTF monies are available for expenses related to EMS Certification programs whose lessons are based upon or resemble the learning objectives in the United States Department of Transportation’s curricula and/or Virginia curricula as defined in 12 VAC 5-31. These funds are designed for non-profit entities and individuals participating in Virginia’s EMS System.

An overview of the EMSTF program and links to the various forms and documents associated with this program can be found on the EMSTF Web page at: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/oems/training/emstf.htm>

This page contains links to information about the EMSTF program to include a detailed PowerPoint presentation, program guidelines, contracts and other required paperwork. The program information, contracts and forms listed on this web site will be updated as warranted. New contracts will be posted annually in June in time for the new fiscal year.

If you have questions regarding the EMS Training Funds program, please contact Jacqueline Hunter at 804-888-9107 or via e-mail at Jacqueline.Hunter@vdh.virginia.gov

2 Basic Life Support

Basic Life Support Programs

The following Basic Level EMS Programs are offered in Virginia:

EMS First Responder

EMT-Basic

EMS First Responder to EMT-Basic Bridge

EMS First Responder (4 year certification)

The EMS First Responder Program is a 40-hour (minimum) course developed to provide training in the provision of emergency care for those who are likely to be the first medical personnel responding to the scene of an accident, fire, or medical emergency. The emphasis of the course prepares the responder to address immediate life threats and injuries until more highly trained personnel are available.

This training is appropriate for professionals such as firefighters, law enforcement officers, school bus drivers, postal employees, and large segments of industry such as miners or factory workers and as an introduction to prehospital medicine.

Emergency Medical Technician – Basic (4 year certification)

The Emergency Medical Technician – Basic course is designed to provide training to prepare an individual to function independently in a medical emergency. This course provides the basic knowledge and skills

needed to provide basic life support (BLS) care and is required to progress to more advanced levels of prehospital patient care.

The course requires a minimum of 111 hours of classroom and skills instruction and 10 hours of Clinical/Field rotations for a total of 121 hours of training. Virginia certification requires successful completion of a written and practical skills examination. This course is designed to train individuals to serve as a vital link in the chain of the health care team. This includes all skills necessary to provide emergency medical care as an attendant-in-charge with a basic life support ambulance service or other specialized rescue service.

Upon successful completion of the training program, the student will be capable of performing the following functions:

1. Recognize the nature and seriousness of the patient's condition or extent of injury to assess the need for emergency care.
2. Administer appropriate emergency care to stabilize the patient's condition.
3. Lift, move, position and otherwise handle the patient in a way as to minimize discomfort and further injury.

The EMT-Basic curriculum will be based upon the DOT National Standard Curriculum for the EMT-Basic (1994 edition) and the 2002 Supplemental Airway Modules for the 1994 EMT-Basic National Standard Curriculum. The EMT-Basic will be trained and proficient in all skills described in the DOT National Standard Curriculum for the EMT-Basic (1994 edition) and the 2002 Supplemental modules for the

EMT-Basic: National Standard Curriculum.

EMS First Responder to EMT-Basic Bridge Program

The EMS First Responder to EMT-Basic Bridge Program builds on the information and skills learned in the First Responder Program and leads to certification at the EMT-Basic level. This program allows a certified First Responder to opt out of selected lessons within an EMT-Basic Course to qualify for the EMT-Basic examinations.

Prerequisites for Basic Level Programs

Eligibility to attend an EMS First Responder, EMS First Responder Bridge, or an Emergency Medical Technician-Basic course in Virginia requires that you must:

- A. Be proficient in reading, writing and speaking the English language.
- B. Be a minimum of 16 years of age at the beginning date of the certification course. If less than 18 years of age, you must provide the course coordinator with a completed parental permission form with the signature of a parent or guardian verifying approval for enrollment in the course. If you are less than 18 years of age and affiliated with an EMS or other Public Safety agency, you must also provide the Course Coordinator with documentation from an Officer of the agency stating you will be covered by the agencies insurance while attending the course.
- C. Have no physical or mental impairment that would render you unable to perform all practical skills required for that level of certification
- D. Hold current certification in an Office of Emergency Medical Services approved cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) course at the beginning date of the course. This certification must also be current at

the time of state testing.

E. Not have been convicted of or found guilty of any crime, offense or regulatory violation, or participated in any other prohibited conduct identified in state EMS regulations as follows:

1. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any crime involving sexual misconduct where lack of affirmative consent by the victim is an element of the crime.
2. Have never been convicted of a felony involving the sexual or physical abuse of children, the elderly or the infirm.
3. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any crime (including abuse, neglect, theft from, or financial exploration) of a person entrusted to their care or protection in which the victim is a patient or is a resident of a health care facility.
4. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any crime involving the use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs except that the person is eligible for affiliation or enrollment five years after the date of final release if no additional crimes of this type have been committed during that time.
5. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any other act that is a felony except that the person is eligible for affiliation or enrollment five years after the date of final release if no additional felonies have been committed during that time
6. Are not currently under any disciplinary or enforcement action from another state EMS office or other recognized state or national healthcare provider licensing or certifying body. Personnel subject to these disciplinary or enforcement actions may be eligible for certification provided there have been no further disciplinary or enforcement actions for five years prior to application for certification in Virginia

7. Have never been subject to a permanent revocation of license or certification by another state EMS office or recognized state or national health-care provider licensing or certifying body.

F. All references to criminal acts or convictions under this section refer to substantially similar laws or regulations of any other state or the United States. Convictions include prior adult convictions, juvenile convictions, and adjudications of delinquency based on an offense that would have been, at the time of conviction, a felony conviction if committed by an adult within or outside Virginia.

G. If you are bridging to the EMT-Basic certification level, you must hold a current Virginia certification at the EMS First Responder level.

H. Be clean and neat in appearance.

I. May not be under the influence of any drugs or intoxicating substances that impairs your ability to provide patient care or operate a motor vehicle while in class or performing clinicals, while on duty or when responding or assisting in the care of a patient.

Please check Virginia code 12 VAC 5-31-1450 for updates or changes that may occur to the prerequisites.

State Authorization for NREMT Basic Testing

Eligible candidates are defined as:

1. Successfully completed a Virginia written and practical certification examination within one year of this request.

2. Possess a Virginia EMS certification issued not more than 2 years from the date of this request.

A. Eligible candidates must submit an application to

the Office for approval to test. The application can be found at: http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OEMS/Files/page/Training/NREMT_EMT_Applicants.pdf

B. The date of request is based upon the postmark date on the mailing envelope used to deliver the application.

C. If your Virginia EMS certification was issued greater than two (2) years prior to the request date, you are not eligible for National Registry EMT testing authorization until you recertify your Virginia EMS Certification.

D. Authorization for National Registry EMT testing requires the applicant to possess current Virginia EMS certification at the EMT or Virginia Enhanced level.

E. Attach a copy of your current CPR card to the application.

F. After mailing this application to the Office of EMS you must go to the National Registry web site and complete the on-line registration. When asked for a program name choose "Virginia Office of EMS. The site number is 76000.

G. The Office of EMS will go on-line weekly to approve registrants after which you will receive an Authorization-To-Test (ATT) letter from the National Registry.

H. Once the ATT letter is received, you must contact a National Registry approved Pearson Vue Test center to arrange for taking the test.

I. Incomplete applications will not be processed.

J. You should allow for up to thirty (30) days from the start of this process to receive an ATT letter from National Registry.

3

Advanced Life Support & Instructors

Advanced Life Support Programs

The following advanced level EMS courses are offered in Virginia:

- EMT-Enhanced
- EMT-Intermediate
- EMT-Paramedic
- EMT-Enhanced to EMT-Intermediate Bridge
- EMT-Intermediate to EMT-Paramedic Bridge
- Registered Nurse to Paramedic Bridge Program
- EMT-Shock Trauma to EMT-Enhanced Transition
- EMT-Cardiac to EMT-Intermediate Transition

EMT-Enhanced (3 year certification)

The Emergency Medical Technician-Enhanced Virginia Standard Curriculum, represents the minimum required information to be presented within a course that leads to a Virginia EMT-Enhanced certification eligibility. All skills and subjects contained in the curriculum for EMT-Enhanced are covered in a minimum of 80 hours of instruction plus a minimum of 48 hours devoted to extensive clinical rotations in specialty units and field internship. Additional hours may be required to complete all the required competencies. Clinical rotations of this type are not usually available for lower level providers to attend. These additional

clinical rotations include time spent in OR/Recovery Units, Critical Care Units, Labor & Delivery Units, Pediatrics, Emergency Department, Family Practice, Mental Health Clinics, Dialysis Clinics, Neurovascular Rehabilitation Clinics, Detoxification Units, and Extended Care Facilities.

It is recognized that there is additional specific education that will be required of the EMT-Enhanced who practices in the field, i.e. ambulance driving, heavy and light rescue, basic extrication and special needs, for example. It is also recognized that this information might differ from locality to locality, and that each training program or system should identify and provide special instruction for these additional training requirements.

EMT-Intermediate-99 (3 year certification)

The Emergency Medical Technician – Intermediate-99 Program is designed to certify technicians to a mid-level of pre-hospital advanced life support care in Virginia. This program fulfills all the requirements of the National Standard Curriculum for the EMT-Intermediate-99.

All skills and subjects contained in the curriculum for Intermediate-99 are covered for a minimum of 272 hours of instruction with a minimum of 68 hours devoted to extensive clinical rotations in specialty units. In addition to the above, the candidate must complete a minimum of 10 patient contact calls in which they act as the team leader on an ALS ambulance. Additional hours may be required to complete all the required competencies. Clinical rotations of this type are not usually available for lower level providers. These additional clinical rotations include time spent in OR/Recovery Units, Critical Care Units, Labor &

Delivery Units, Pediatrics, Emergency Department, Family Practice, Mental Health Clinics, Dialysis Clinics, Neurovascular Rehabilitation Clinics, Detoxification Units, and Extended Care Facilities.

The Intermediate-99 Program is designed to educate the technician in the following areas of pre-hospital care: preparatory skills, airway management and ventilation, patient assessment, trauma, medical, special considerations and assessment based management.

In Virginia, all initial Intermediate-99 Programs are required to satisfy the testing guidelines established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Upon successful course completion and National Registry EMT – Intermediate-99 certification, the technician must apply for Virginia certification through reciprocity before being allowed to practice at this level. After receiving Virginia credentials, the Intermediate-99 has the option to maintain National Registry Intermediate certification without affecting their Virginia certification. However, Virginia certification must be maintained in order to provide patient care at this level in this state.

Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic (3 year certification)

The Emergency Medical Technician – Paramedic Program is designed to certify the technician to the highest level of pre-hospital advanced life support care available in Virginia. This program fulfills all the requirements of the National Standard Curriculum for EMT – Paramedic.

The Paramedic program expands on the skills and subjects contained in the Enhanced and Intermediate courses with a minimum of 800 - 1200 hours of instruction. Of these hours, a minimum of 400 hours is devoted to extensive clinical rotations in specialty critical care units. Additional hours may be required to complete all the required competencies. Clinical rotations of this type are not usually available for lower

level providers to attend. These additional clinical rotations include time spent in OR/Recovery Units, Critical Care Units, Labor & Delivery Units, Pediatrics, Emergency Department, Family Practice, Mental Health Clinics, Dialysis Clinics, Neurovascular Rehabilitation Clinics, Detoxification Units, and Extended Care Facilities.

The Paramedic Program is designed to educate the technician in all areas of pre-hospital patient care. These areas include instruction in: pre-hospital environments, preparatory skills, airway management and ventilation, patient assessment, trauma care, medical patient management, obstetrical/gynecological conditions, pediatric patients, neonatal care, psychiatric and behavioral emergencies, special considerations, and assessment based management.

In Virginia, all initial Paramedic Programs are required to satisfy the testing guidelines established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Upon successful course completion and National Registry EMT – Paramedic certification, the technician must apply for Virginia certification through reciprocity before being allowed to practice at this level. After receiving Virginia credentials, the Paramedic has the option to maintain National Registry Paramedic certification without affecting their Virginia certification, however, Virginia certification must be maintained in order to provide patient care at this level in this state.

Registered Nurse to Paramedic Bridge Program (3 year certification)

The Registered Nurse to Paramedic Bridge Program is designed to certify the Virginia Licensed Registered Nurse to the highest level of pre-hospital advanced life support care available in Virginia. This program fulfills all the requirements of the National Standard Curriculum for EMT – Paramedic.

The Registered Nurse to Paramedic Bridge Program

reviews the skills and subjects contained in the DOT Paramedic Curriculum (1999) over approximately 120 hours of didactic instruction with an additional minimum of 136 hours devoted to extensive clinical rotations acquiring specific competencies. Additional hours may be required to complete all the required competencies. Clinical rotations of this type are not usually available for lower level providers to attend. These additional clinical rotations include time spent in OR/Recovery Units, Critical Care Units, Labor & Delivery Units, Pediatrics, Emergency Department, Family Practice, Mental Health Clinics, Dialysis Clinics, Neurovascular Rehabilitation Clinics, Detoxification Units, and Extended Care Facilities.

The Registered Nurse to Paramedic Bridge Program is designed to educate the technician in all areas of pre-hospital patient care. These areas include instruction in: pre-hospital environments, preparatory skills, airway management and ventilation, patient assessment, trauma care, medical patient management, obstetrical/gynecological conditions, pediatric patients, neonatal care, psychiatric and behavioral emergencies, special considerations, and assessment based management.

In Virginia, all initial Paramedic and RN to Paramedic Bridge Programs are required to satisfy the testing guidelines established by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians. Upon successful course completion and National Registry EMT – Paramedic certification, the technician must apply for Virginia certification through reciprocity before being allowed to practice at this level. After receiving Virginia credentials, the Paramedic has the option to maintain National Registry Paramedic certification without affecting their Virginia certification. However, Virginia certification must be maintained in order to provide patient care at this level in this state.

Prerequisites for Advanced Level Programs

To be eligible to attend an advanced level EMT course

in Virginia you must:

A. Be proficient in reading, writing and speaking the English language.

B. Be a minimum of 18 years of age at the beginning date of the certification course.

C. Hold a current certification as an EMT-Basic or higher.

D. Hold, at a minimum, a High School or General Equivalency Diploma.

E. Have no physical or mental impairment that would render them unable to perform all practical skills required for that level of certification

F. Not have been convicted of or found guilty of any crime, offense or regulatory violation, or participated in any other prohibited conduct identified in state EMS regulations as follows:

1. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any crime involving sexual misconduct where lack of affirmative consent by the victim is an element of the crime.

2. Have never been convicted of a felony involving the sexual or physical abuse of children, the elderly or the infirm.

3. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any crime (including abuse, neglect, theft from, or financial exploration) of a person entrusted to their care or protection in which the victim is a patient or is a resident of a health care facility.

4. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any crime involving the use, possession, or distribution of illegal drugs except that the person is eligible for affiliation or enrollment five years after the date of final release if no additional crimes of this type have been committed during that time.

5. Have never been convicted or found guilty of any other act that is a felony except that the felon is

eligible for affiliation or enrollment five years after the date of final release if no additional felonies have been committed during that time.

6. Are not currently under any disciplinary or enforcement action from another state EMS office or other recognized state or national healthcare provider licensing or certifying body. Personnel subject to these disciplinary or enforcement actions may be eligible for certification provided there have been no further disciplinary or enforcement actions for five years prior to application for certification in Virginia

7. Have never been subject to a permanent revocation of license or certification by another state EMS office or recognized state or national healthcare provider licensing or certifying body.

G. All references to criminal acts or convictions under this section refer to substantially similar laws or regulations of any other state or the United States. Convictions include prior adult convictions, juvenile convictions, and adjudications of delinquency based on an offense that would have been, at the time of conviction, a felony conviction if committed by an adult within or outside Virginia.

H. Be clean and neat in appearance.

I. May not be under the influence of any drugs or intoxicating substances that impairs your ability to provide patient care or operate a motor vehicle while in class or clinicals, while on duty or when responding or assisting in the care of a patient.

J. If in an ALS Bridge certification Program, must have completed the eligibility requirements for certification at the lower ALS level prior to the beginning date of the ALS Bridge Certification program.

K. If in an ALS Bridge certification Program, must have become certified at the lower level prior to certification testing for the higher level of ALS certification.

Please check Virginia code 12 VAC 5-31-1460 for updates or changes that may occur to the prerequisites.

Physician Assistant & Nurse Practitioner Eligibility Requirements for Paramedic Program

Physician Assistants (P.A.) and Nurse Practitioners (N.P.) may be eligible to challenge the NREMT Paramedic written and practical examinations and then request Virginia reciprocity as a paramedic.

All P.A.s and N.P.s must receive Virginia EMT-Basic certification as described in the section on Reciprocity, Legal Recognition and Challenges prior to pursuing Paramedic certification.

After obtaining Virginia EMT-Basic certification, the P.A./N.P. must be endorsed by a Virginia EMS physician. Endorsement is indicated by submitting the completed "Physician Assistant & Nurse Practitioner Paramedic Program Competency Summary" form (TR-37).

In addition, 50 team leader skills must be completed on an ALS ambulance with an approved paramedic preceptor.

For a more complete explanation of the process and sequence of events, contact the ALS Training Specialist at 800-523-6019 or 804-888-9120.

ALS Coordinator Program



The Advanced Life Support Coordinator program is designed to train and endorse individuals to coordinate advanced life support training programs that seek to award ALS certification or Category 1 continuing education credit from the Office. An ALS Coordinator may coordinate the basic and continuing education training programs for EMT-Enhanced, EMT-Intermediate and EMT Paramedic up to their level of EMS certification or other healthcare certification/licensure.

Prerequisites for Endorsement as an ALS Coordinator

1. Must be a minimum of 21 years of age.
2. Must hold ALS certification or licensure as one of the following: Registered Nurse; Physician Assistant; or Physician.
3. Must submit an “ALS Coordinator Application” form with the required recommendations and supporting documentation of qualifications to the Office of EMS including:

- a. A recommendation for acceptance from an EMS physician knowledgeable of the applicant’s qualifications. If the applicant is an EMS physician, the support of another EMS physician is not required on his “ALS Coordinator Application.”

- b. A recommendation for acceptance of the applicant’s qualifications from the regional EMS council or local EMS resource.

4. An ALS coordinator candidate that completes all requirements for ALS coordinator endorsement may be issued an endorsement that is valid for two years. An ALS coordinator endorsement does not provide concurrent provider credentials at any EMS certification level. You do not have to become an ALS Coordinator to teach in an ALS Program, only to announce and coordinate them. You must be certified at the level you are instructing.

5. A separate ALS Coordinator Application is required for each region in which the applicant intends to coordinate ALS certification or CE programs. An application submitted for approval to serve in additional regions will not alter the expiration date of the current ALS coordinator endorsement and all regional endorsements will be due for renewal on the current expiration date.

6. An ALS coordinator candidate meeting the requirements for endorsement shall attend an ALS Coordinator Seminar (Administrative Program).

EMS Instructor Program

The EMT-Instructor holds one of the most responsible positions an individual technician may achieve in Virginia. The EMT-Instructor is authorized to instruct each of the Basic Life Support Programs (First Responder and EMT) offered at both the basic level (initial) and continuing education.

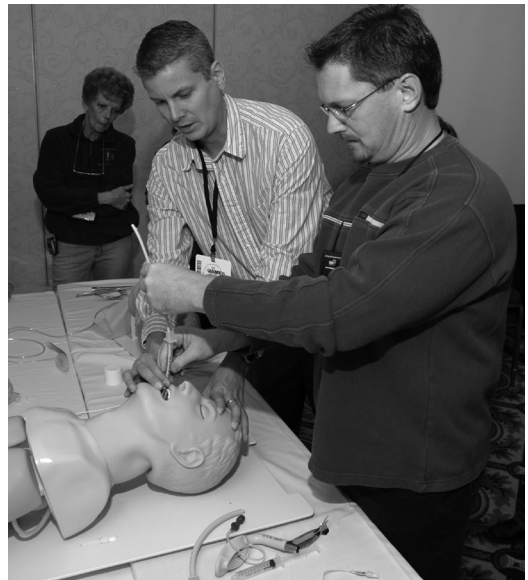
The EMT- Instructor Institute is a five-day program designed to provide training in adult instruction techniques, use of audio-visuals, test construction and skills instruction. The administrative procedures involved in conducting each BLS program are also included. EMT-Instructor Institutes are conducted three times each year by the Virginia Office of EMS.

Upon successful completion of the written pre-test and practical examination, each Instructor Candidate is prioritized for selection to attend an Instructor Institute. Due to space limitations, an individual Instructor Candidate may not be selected to attend the first Institute conducted after their successful completion of the entry testing process.

Prerequisites for the EMT Instructor Program

1. Must be a minimum of 21 years of age.
2. Hold current certification as an EMT or higher EMS certification level, and have been certified as an EMT for a minimum of two years.
3. Must be a high school graduate or equivalent.
4. Must obtain a minimum score of 85 percent on the written pretest. The pretest score shall remain valid for a period of two (2) years from the date tested. (NOTE: Individuals failing the pretest must wait a period of 90 days from the date of the initial exam in order to retest.)

5. Demonstrate proficiency and ability to perform all skills during a formal practical examination conducted by the Office of EMS staff.



5 Continuing Education

EMS Satellite and Web-Based Training



EMSAT is a free, monthly one-hour interactive training and information program for Virginia EMS providers. Viewers at Designated EMSAT Sites in Virginia receive category 1 and 2 CE credit at both the ALS and BLS levels. This includes required topics and enrichment classes that may not be widely available throughout the state.

The hour consists of prerecorded video followed by a live question and answer segment. The instructors are physicians, nurses, paramedics and EMTs. There are currently about 50 active EMSAT sites around the Commonwealth where EMS providers can go the third Wednesday evening of every month to get continuing education credit. These sites are at rescue squads, fire departments, schools and other facilities equipped with a C-band satellite dish; or for the web based site, a computer, LCD projector and high-speed internet. Small digital satellite dishes do not receive EMSAT. Applications to become a Designated EMSAT site are available from the Office of EMS.

Providers may also receive category 3 continuing education credit for viewing EMSAT DVDs. These DVDs may be borrowed from your local Regional

EMS Council. A list of current EMSAT programs and designated EMSAT sites where the satellite broadcast may be viewed can be found on the training section of the OEMS website.

TRAINVirginia

All aboard! The Division of Educational Development is pleased to announce the launch of TRAIN-Virginia, our new Learning Management System (LMS) which allows the Office of EMS to offer web-based Category 1 and Category 2 continuing education credits.

Before you hand the Conductor your ticket and jump on board the TRAIN, please make sure you read all the fine print on your boarding pass.

In order to ensure that your continuing education credit is properly recorded on your CE report, you must understand the rules before you are allowed to board! The Office wants to ensure that you have a positive experience using our new web-based training interface.

The link to our web page which explains TRAIN-Virginia in more detail including how you can get on board is listed below.

<http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/OEMS/Training/TRAINVirginia.htm>

Last call....all aboard TRAINVirginia!

Online Continuing Education

The DED has added an online option for fulfilling CE requirements. Only Web sites specified on the OEMS Web page will be utilized for online CE credit, as they have met the requirements set forth by OEMS. Courses completed by providers on non-approved Web sites will not receive credit towards their certification.

In order to receive credit towards recertification, each provider must complete the registration form from the approved online CE vendor, paying special attention to any links that are specific to Virginia's EMT's.

Nightly, each approved vendor will send course results to OEMS electronically. These credits will be automatically applied to the provider's OEMS CE report with 24 hours of completion of the course. Course completion certificates issued by the online CE vendor are printed out by the student for future reference - they are not to be sent to OEMS.

Virginia providers must utilize their certification number and level as printed on their certification card. Failure to utilize the proper certification number and/or level will result in credit not being awarded.

Visit the OEMS Web site for list of approved on-line CE providers. As other vendors meet the requirements set forth by OEMS, they will be listed on the OEMS Web site as eligible sites for online CE credit. Please verify that the service that you want to use for online CE credit is approved by OEMS or you will not receive CEs.

Instructions to Submit CE Cards for Magazine Articles

The OEMS approved magazine is *EMS Magazine* (The office no longer accepts *JEMS*)

1. The course number will always begin with the number 1, followed by the two digit month and two digit year

Example: January 2005 - The Course number would be: 10105

Example: December 2003 - The Course number would be: 11203

2. Topic number will always be : 00260

3. Category will always be : 3

Following these instructions will ensure timely processing of your Continuing Education credits.



First Responder Recertification Training Requirements

To recertify as a Virginia First Responder, you must complete the following Continuing Education requirements and submit a Virginia EMS Certification Application from to the Office of EMS after your eligibility is met.

Category 1 Required Topics	Area #	Hours Required
Patient Assessment with Practical	02	2
Airway Management	03	2
Practical Skills	09	3
Automated External Defibrillation with Practical or Obstetrics	10	2
Total Category 1 Required		9 hours
Category 2 - other		Up to 9 hours
Category 3 - multimedia		Up to 9 hours
Total Categories 2&3 combined must =		9 hours
Total First Responder Recertification Hours		18 hours

Length of Certification: 4 Years
 Initial Training: 40 Hours



Emergency Medical Technician Recertification Training Requirements

To recertify as a Virginia EMT, you must complete the following Continuing Education requirements and submit a Virginia EMS Certification Application form to the Office of EMS after your eligibility is met.

Category 1 Required Topics	Area #	Hours Required
Patient Assessment	02	3
Airway Management with Practical	03	3
Trauma Emergencies with Scenarios	04	4
Medical Emergencies with Scenarios	05	4
Infection Control	06	2
Medical Legal	07	1
Infants and Children	08	2
Practical Skills	09	3
Automated External Defibrillation or Obstetrics	10	2
Total Category 1 Required		24 hours
Category 2 - other		Up to 12 hours
Category 3 - multimedia		Up to 10 hours
Total Category 2&3 combined must =		12 hours
Total EMT-B Recertification Hours		36 hours

Length of Certification: 4 Years
 Initial Training : 121 Hours

BLS Recertification Status Worksheet

First Responder EMT-Basic (Circle level)

These requirements directly match NREMT-B recertification hours

Category 1 Required Topics	Area #	FR Hours	EMT Hours	Hours you have	Hours Still required
Patient Assessment	02	2	3		
Airway Management with Practical	03	2	3		
Trauma Emergencies with Scenarios	04		4		
Medical Emergencies with Scenarios	05		4		
Infection Control	06		2		
Medical Legal	07		1		
Infants and Children	08		2		
Practical Skills	09	3	3		
Automated External Defibrillation or Obstetrics	10	2	2		
Total Category 1 Required		9 hours	24 hours		
Category 2 - other		Up to 9 hours	Up to 12 hours		
Category 3 - multimedia		Up to 9 hours	Up to 10 hours		
Total Recertification Hours		18 hours	36 hours		

Basic Life Support Auxiliary Program Summary

Basic Disaster Life Support (BDLS), Geriatric Emergency Medical Services (GEMS), Prehospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS), Prehospital Pediatric Care (PPC), Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP), International Trauma Life Support (ITLS), and International Trauma Life Support – Pediatric (ITLS - Pediatric)

TOPIC	CREDIT HOURS										LEVEL	
	ART A #	BDS	GEMS	ITLS (Ped)	ITLS	PHTLS	PEPP	PPC	A	B		
		HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS				
CATEGORY 1 BASIC LIFE SUPPORT REQUIRED TOPICS												
Patient Assessment	02	1	3.5 2.5	1	2 3	2 3	2.5 1		2	3		
Airway Management with Practical	03			1	1 1	1 1	1.5 1		2	3		
Trauma Emergencies	04		1.5 1.5	3	3.5 2	3.5 2	2		-	4		
Medical Emergencies with Scenarios	05		4 3				2 1		-	4		
Infection Control	06								-	2		
Medical Legal	07	0.5	1						-	1		
Infants and Children	08			3	0.5	0.5	4.5 2	6	-	2		
Practical Skills	09		1 1		9 2	9 2	2 1		3	3		
Automated External Defibrillation	10								2	2		
TOTAL CATEGORY 1 – REQUIRED TOPICS									9	24		
TOTAL CATEGORY 2 – OTHER			6.5	5	0 0 0	0 0 0	3.5 0	2	9	12		
TOTAL HOURS		8	8 8	8	16	16 8	16 8	8	18	36		

ALS Continuing Education Worksheet

VIRGINIA C. E. PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS FOR PARAMEDIC / INTERMEDIATE 99 AND EMT-ENHANCED		Virginia Category 1 Continuing Education in a NREMT Format	
NEW AREA #	DIVISION HOURS PER CERTIFICATION LEVEL	Section 1A	
		Mandatory Core Content	
		E	J
71	1	1	1
72	2	2	0
73	2	1	0
74	2	2	0
-	8	6	1
		Airway, Breathing and Cardiology	
		1	1
		0.5	0
		0.5	0
		2	1
		Medical Emergencies	
75	1	1	1
76	1	0.5	0
77	1	0.5	0
-	3	2	1
		Trauma	
78	0.5	0.5	0.5
79	1	1	0
80	1	0.5	0
81	1	1	0
82	0.5	0.5	0
83	1	0.5	0.5
-	5	4	1
		Obstetrics and Pediatrics	
84	2	1	0
85	2	2	0
86	2	1	0
87	2	2	0
-	8	6	0
		MANDATORY CORE CONTENT TOTAL	
	24	18	3

Section 1B

		Flexible Core Content	
E	I	J	
Airway, Breathing and Cardiology			
88			Assess and provide care for respiratory distress in an adult patient
88			Perform techniques to assure a patent airway
88			Use oxygen delivery system components
88			Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing non-traumatic chest pain/discomfort
-	6	6	TOTAL
Medical Emergencies			
89			Assess and provide care to a patient with an altered mental status
89			Assess and provide care to a patient with a history of diabetes
89			Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing a seizure
89			Assess and provide care to a patient exposed to heat or cold
89			Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing a behavioral problem
89			Assess and provide care to a patient with a suspected communicable disease
-	4	0	TOTAL
Trauma			
90			Provide care of a patient with a painful, swollen, deformed extremity
90			Assess and provide care to a patient with a burn injury
-	1	0	TOTAL
Obstetrics and Pediatrics			
91			Assess and provide care to an infant or child with suspected abuse or neglect
91			Assess and provide care to an infant or child with a fever
91			Assess and provide care for the obstetric patient
91			Provide care to the newborn
91			Provide care to the mother immediately following delivery of a newborn
-	6	0	TOTAL
Operational Tasks			
92			Use body mechanics when lifting and moving a patient
92			Communicate with a patient while providing care
-	1	1	TOTAL
24	18	7	FLEXIBLE CORE CONTENT TOTAL

ACLS, GEMS, AMLS, PALS, ITLS, PHTLS, PPC & PEPP

Auxiliary programs summary for ALS, Enhanced, EMT-Intermediate '99 and EMT-Paramedic

TOPIC	AREA #	CREDIT HOURS										LEVEL							
		ACLS	GEMS	AMLS	PALS	ITLS	PHTLS	PEPP	PPC	E	I	J							
		HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS									
CATEGORY 1																			
MANDATORY CORE CONTENT																			
Section 1A																			
Provide ventilatory support for a patient	71	2	2												2	1	1		
Attempt to resuscitate a patient in cardiac arrest	72	2	2	1											2	2	0		
Provide care to a patient experiencing cardiovascular compromise	73	2	2	1.5											2	1	0		
Provide post resuscitation care to a cardiac arrest patient	74	2	2												2	2	0		
Assess and provide care to a patient experiencing an allergic reaction	75				1	1									1	1	1		
Assess a patient with possible overdose	76		1	1	1	1									1	.5	0		
Assess and provide care to a near-drowning patient	77			1	1	1									1	.5	0		
Perform a rapid trauma assessment	78		1					1	1	1	1				.5	.5	.5		
Assess a patient with head injury	79		.5					1	1	1	1				1	1	0		
Assess and provide care to a patient with a suspected spinal injury	80		2					1	1	1	1				1	.5	0		
Provide care to a patient with a chest injury	81							1	1	1	1				1	1	0		
Provide care to a patient with an open abdominal injury	82							1	1	1	1				.5	.5	0		
Provide care to a patient with shock/hypoperfusion	83							1	1	1	1				1	.5	.5		
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with cardiac arrest	84							2	2						2	2	2	1	0
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with respiratory distress	85							2	2						2	2	2	0	
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with shock/hypoperfusion	86							2	2						2	2	2	1	0
Assess and provide care to an infant or child with trauma	87							2	2						2	2	2	2	0

TOPIC	CREDIT HOURS												LEVEL			
	AREA #	ACLS	GEMS	AMLS	PALS	ITLS	PHTLS	PEPP	PPC	E	I	J				
		HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS	HOURS							
CATEGORY 1 FLEXIBLE CORE CONTENT Section 1B	88	2 0	1.5													
	88	2 0														
	88	2 0														
	88	2 0														
	TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR AREA 88 PER LEVEL													8	6	6
	89		1	1	1	1										
	89		.5	1	1											
	89		1	1	1	1										
	89		.5	1	1											
	89		1	1	1	1										
89		.5	1	0												
TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR AREA 89 PER LEVEL													5	4	0	
90			1.5			1	1									
90			.5			1	1									
TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR AREA 90 PER LEVEL													1	1	0	
91					0	0			1	0	1	0				
91					0	0			2	0	2	0				
91					0	0			2	0	2	0				
91					8	0			2	0	2	0				
91					0	0			1	0	1	0				
TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR AREA 91 PER LEVEL													8	6	0	
92																
92		1														
TOTAL HOURS REQUIRED FOR AREA 92 PER LEVEL													2	1	1	

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