

NONRULE POLICY DOCUMENT

TITLE: EMS – Reciprocity Testing
DOCUMENT #: 2024-1--EMSC
DATE ADOPTED:
ADOPTED BY: Indiana Emergency Medical Services Commission (EMSC)

Overview

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Indiana EMS Commission develop this policy to provide guidance for consideration of EMS reciprocity and the requirements for taking written and practical examinations

Background

This policy addresses all individual certifications continuing education standards for EMS certified or licensed personnel.

836 IAC 4-4-3 Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)

Current: Emergency Rule, LSA #12-393(E), Section 52

Pending New Rule: 836 IAC 4-7-4

836 IAC 4-9-6 Paramedic

Policy

A. EMT Reciprocity

1. Currently all levels of EMT reciprocity require that the applicant also successfully complete the Indiana EMT written and practical examinations.
2. The Commission has indicated that written and practical examination testing is appropriate for entrance into EMT certification and a factor of minimum competency.
3. The Commission has determined that an active state certification is itself an indication of competency.
4. For reciprocity and transfer of certification the Commission believes that under certain

conditions, that IDHS may waive the requirement of successfully passing the EMT written and practical exams consistent with below for many applicants:

- a. For individuals with a valid EMT certification from another State, the following applicants should have the testing requirements waived:
 - i. Applicants coming from another EMS Compact state.
 - ii. Applicants who can demonstrate that they are or have been employed/actively affiliated in the state from which their EMT certification is active from within the past 180 days AND have an Indiana EMS provider organization that is affiliating the EMT.
- b. For military reciprocity, the military training substitutes for the classroom portions but the competency testing of the written and practical exams is still needed.
- c. For physician reciprocity, there is no need for competency testing via examination testing.
- d. For individuals with a NREMT certification, if the NREMT is active and initial testing occurred within the four (4) years prior to application.
 - i. If an individual is only NREMT certified (eg. no current state or state organization affiliation) then testing may be waived if the individual is affiliating with a certified Indiana EMS provider organization which is willing to determine competency as verified in writing by the organization. There are no time restrictions other than currently certified by the NREMT at the level they are applying to be certified at.
5. For reciprocity, applicants must still comply with all biometric criminal background checks.

B. Advanced EMT (AEMT) Reciprocity

1. Currently all levels of AEMT reciprocity require that the applicant also successfully complete the Indiana AEMT written and practical examinations.
2. The Commission has indicated that written and practical examination testing is appropriate for entrance into AEMT certification and a factor of minimum competency.
3. The Commission has determined that an active state certification is itself an indication of competency.
4. For reciprocity and transfer of certification the Commission believes that under certain conditions, that IDHS may waive the requirement of successfully passing the AEMT written and practical exams consistent with below for many applicants:
 - a. For individuals with a valid AEMT certification from another State, the following applicants should have the testing requirements waived:

- I. Applicants coming from another EMS Compact state.
 - II. Applicants who can demonstrate that they are or have been employed/actively affiliated in the state from which their AEMT certification is active from within the past 180 days AND have an Indiana EMS provider organization that is affiliating the AEMT.
- b. For individuals with a NREMT certification, if the NREMT is active and initial testing occurred within the four (4) years prior to application.
- I. If an individual is only NREMT certified (eg. no current state or state organization affiliation) then testing may be waived if the individual is affiliating with a certified Indiana EMS provider organization which is willing to determine competency as verified in writing by the organization. There are no time restrictions other than currently certified by the NREMT at the level they are applying to be certified at.
5. For reciprocity, applicants must still comply with all biometric criminal background checks.

C. Paramedic Reciprocity

1. Currently all levels of paramedic reciprocity require that the applicant also successfully complete the Indiana paramedic written and practical examinations.
2. The Commission has indicated that written and practical examination testing is appropriate for entrance into paramedic certification and a factor of minimum competency.
3. The Commission has determined that an active state certification is itself an indication of competency.
4. For reciprocity and transfer of certification the Commission believes that under certain conditions, that IDHS may waive the requirement of successfully passing the paramedic written and practical exams consistent with below for many applicants:
 - a. For individuals with a valid paramedic certification from another State, the following applicants should have the testing requirements waived:
 - I. Applicants coming from another EMS Compact state.
 - II. Applicants who can demonstrate that they are or have been employed/actively affiliated in the state from which their paramedic certification is active from within the past 180 days AND have an Indiana EMS provider organization that is affiliating the paramedic.
 - b. For individuals with a NREMT certification, if the NREMT is active and initial testing occurred within the four (4) years prior to application.

- i. If an individual is only NREMT certified (eg. no current state or state organization affiliation) then testing requirements may be waived if the individual is affiliating with a certified Indiana EMS provider organization which is willing to determine competency as verified in writing by the organization. There are no time restrictions other than currently certified by the NREMT at the level they are applying to be certified at.
- 5. For reciprocity, applicants must still comply with all biometric criminal background checks.
- D. For all levels and pathways for reciprocity, the issuance of a state certification/licensure is procedural and an indication of a grounds for minimal competency. All provider organizations should measure individual qualifications and competency for reciprocity clinicians that they affiliate.