

MASSACHUSETTS PARAMEDIC

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

RECERTIFICATION STEPS

Go to **MASSEMT.ORG** and follow the prompts to access all steps of recertification

STEP-1: TRAINING PROFILE	STEP-2: PROFILE REVIEW	STEP-3: STATE APPLICATION
<p>A. Create a training profile. If you have NREMT certification, you will be redirected to log into your NREMT account through NREMT.org, otherwise utilize MASSEMT.org.</p>	<p>A. Work with TO for profile review and submission of continuing education. Your EMS agency Training Officer (TO) will review your training profile for accuracy and document the proficiency of your skills (if applicable).</p>	<p>A. Log into state's eLicensing website at: www.mass.gov/dph/oems/elicensing Find your eLicensing account. First time users should find their information based on SSN and birthdate.</p>
<p>B. Affiliate with your EMS agency. If you are unaffiliated (and non-NREMT): select unaffiliated based on your region (<i>more info available on massemt.org</i>).</p>	<p>B. Make any necessary edits. If your Training Officer recognizes the need for further explanations or edits, be sure to complete the edits & resubmit.</p>	<p>B. Review, attest & pay state recertification fee. Review your information for accuracy, answer questions, and submit the recertification fee (\$125) electronically.</p>
<p>C. Enter <u>all</u> required continuing education hours. Hours this cycle can be used from 04/01/2015 through 03/31/2017.</p>	<p>NREMT Paramedics Only: <i>Your agency Medical Director will also review and authorize your training profile and skills.</i></p>	<p>C. Submit your state application by 03/31/17. As long as you have completed all of the required steps, you will receive your new certification card in the mail within 2-3 weeks.</p>
<p>D. Pay for training profile & send to Training Officer. Send your training profile & training profile fee electronically using the Department designated site. MA-only Paramedics: \$25 MA/NREMT Paramedics: \$20</p>	<p>Non-NREMT who are unaffiliated: <i>You must submit <u>all</u> of your training records (including course completion documentation) to your EMS region, who will act as your training officer (more info available on massemt.org).</i></p>	<p>CHECK! As you approach the expiration of your current state EMT certification, be sure to login to eLicensing to ensure you have renewed! www.mass.gov/dph/oems/elicensing</p>

Need help with steps 1 or 2? Direct your questions first to your agency's Training Officer; if more help is required, contact the **NREMT at 614-888-4484**.

Need help with step 3? Contact the **eLicensing help desk at 617-973-0935**.

For additional information regarding the Massachusetts OEMS, including recertification, please visit: www.mass.gov/dph/oems.
If you have general questions for OEMS regarding your recertification, please email: oems.recert@state.ma.us.



TIMELINE

APRIL 1, 2015	OCTOBER 1, 2016	FEBRUARY 15, 2017	MARCH 31, 2017	APRIL 30, 2017
Continuing education completed after this date can be used for 2017 recertification.	Training profile & state application open for online payment & submission.	Recommended date to complete & submit all steps in to order receive your new card by 04/01/17.	<u>Last day to compete continuing education</u> . Last day to submit renewal application without penalty. After midnight, if not recertified, you cannot staff an ambulance!	Last day to have <u>all</u> renewal steps complete. \$50 late fee will apply after April 1, 2017.

SEE PAGE 2 FOR IMPORTANT CHANGES TO THE CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS FOR 2017

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SCOPE OF PRACTICE TRANSITION

WHY?	HOW?	WHEN?
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 minimum standards on top of which statewide treatment protocols will build.	At the Massachusetts Paramedic level, the transition course will be limited and can count towards continuing education (under either the local or individual categories). The content is driven by the National Scope of Practice. The goal is that at the end of the course, EMT-Paramedics know and understand all topics covered within the new Paramedic Scope of Practice. It is up to the service to decide how to best fill their students "knowledge gaps" and document how that new standards are met. Course hours will depend on material required to be covered. Completing the ALS National Continued Competency Requirements (NCCR) does not include all the knowledge needed for Massachusetts transition.	Massachusetts "Paramedics" must transition by 03/31/2017.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Completing this transition process does not result in a NREMT certification. The only way to obtain NREMT certification is to successfully complete the exam process. Obtaining NREMT certification is **optional** for currently certified Massachusetts Paramedics. If you have an NREMT number, and it starts with an "M" you have already transitioned.



CONTINUING EDUCATION REQUIREMENTS

OVERVIEW: Current continuing education requirements are broken into 3 categories listed below, totaling 60 hours. The requirements involve redesigned and innovative education focused on increased clinical skills and changes in practice. In accordance with the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP, effective July 1, 2015).

APPROVAL & SUBMISSION: Course sponsors do not send rosters to OEMS, but must retain them on file and instead issue EMTs documentation of course completion. It is the individual EMT's responsibility to retain the documentation of completed continuing education in the form of either a course certificate or copy of roster. **All courses** must have an OEMS approval number or CAPCE (formerly CECBEMS) approval number.

TIMELINE FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION ACCRUAL: For personnel expiring in 2017, continuing education hours can be used from 3/31/15 to 4/1/2017. However, after renewing this cycle, hours can be used from the date that personnel complete renewal until next expiration. Example, if you renew October 15, 2016, you can start accruing hours October 16, 2016 for your 2019 renewal.

Reminder for 2017 expiration — DISTRIBUTIVE EDUCATION GUIDELINES: In accordance with AR 2-212, personnel recertifying in 2017 may only take 1/3 of their National continuing education hours (10h), none of their Local hours (0h) and ALL of their Individual hours (15h) via distributive education (DE). Please reference AR 2-212 for a complete definition of distributive education.

NATIONAL <i>Content that all EMTs nationwide need to take.</i>	LOCAL <i>Content that all EMTs in your state, region and/or service need to take.</i>	INDIVIDUAL <i>Content that individual EMT can choose to take.</i>
30 Total Hours Required	15 Total Hours Required	15 Total Hours Required
1/3 of the NATIONAL hours can be Distributive Education (10 hours) This is a defined course which takes the place of the old refresher.	None of the LOCAL hours can be Distributive Education (0 hours) Beginning with the 2017 recertification, the method of instruction for LOCAL hours is now defined as elective courses that must be done via non-distributive education (in person only).	All of the INDIVIDUAL hours can be Distributive Education (15 hours) Elective course requirement. Courses must be within the EMS scope of practice.

IMPORTANT NOTE: If you do not have NREMT certification and elect to test into the NREMT, obtaining a 2019 expiration date during your recertification period (which is **optional**), you will fulfill the continuing education and transition requirements for your Massachusetts certification expiring in 2017 and can finish the state recertification process by submitting a state recertification application and fee (step 3).