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TO: All MA Accredited Training Institutions
CC: All MA Ambulance Services; EMCAB Members
FROM: Jamie Pianka, Director
DATE: February 20, 2013
RE: National EMS Educational Standards

The purpose of this advisory is to announce that the Department formally recognizes the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) National Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Educational Standards as one that "exceeds" the specific U.S. Department of Transportation training curricula mentioned in the regulatory definition of "initial training" in the EMS System regulations, at 105 CMR 170.020. Therefore, the National EMS Educational Standards satisfy the regulatory definition of "initial training." As a result, Department-accredited EMT training institutions that are prepared to do so may immediately begin offering initial EMT training programs based on these Standards.

Please note that the Department is reviewing the EMS System regulations at this time for update, including eventually moving to adopt the National EMS Educational Standards as the primary basis for initial training of EMTs in the Commonwealth, as part of the EMS Education Agenda and based on the National EMS Scope of Practice Model.

If you have any questions, please contact me at jamie.pianka@state.ma.us, or at 617-753-8016.