



IT'S IMPORTANT TO THE PUBLIC



Helping to Improve the EMS Profession

Measuring EMS competency is one of the major ways the NREMT serves the EMS community. As a non-profit agency, the NREMT is committed to *helping to improve the EMS profession* by:

- Helping to assure the competence of EMS personnel
- Partnering with state officials in protecting the public
- Supporting the EMS community
- Increasing awareness of the EMS community
- Partnering with other medical professions
- Strengthening the role of the EMS profession
- Developing pride among the EMS community



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National Registry of
Emergency Medical Technicians®
THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION



Public Protection and Patient Safety: Our Mission and Priority

The average American citizen doesn't plan on getting sick or injured. But when sudden illness or injury strikes, the public expects and deserves a quick response and the best care possible. How can those who are responsible for the public's safety be sure they are providing competent, safe and effective care?

The single most important goal of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) is to *offer assurance that EMS personnel providing treatment to patients—at their highest moment of need—are competent.*

The NREMT accomplishes this goal with a staff that includes highly qualified EMS experts *who understand what is involved in treating patients in the out-of-hospital setting.* They are responsible for implementing a process that involves meeting specific educational requirements, developing legally defensible and psychometrically sound exams to measure entry-level competency, implementation of a felony policy and more. This process is necessary due to the critical nature of the EMS profession and the level of trust placed on EMS personnel.



Continuously Developing Exams that Fairly and Accurately Measure Competency

Because the top priority of the National Registry is the safety of the American public, the NREMT is continuously researching methods for the most accurate, precise and fair method of measuring candidate competency. Thousands of hours are devoted each year by experts from the EMS medical community on question development, validation, practice analysis, and standard setting. In this way, exams can accurately measure the competency of EMS candidates. Because of its non-profit status, all funds collected support the NREMT testing functions and are reinvested into the EMS community.

In addition, the NREMT is committed to using the best technology available. That's why National Registry professionals and the EMS community team up with psychometricians to design and develop tests that precisely and accurately assess a candidate's competency.

The NREMT is dedicated to serving EMS by upholding the integrity of the profession. In turn, the American public can receive the consistent, quality care they deserve. The NREMT is proud to serve its country in this manner.

More information on the history and services of the NREMT can be found at www.nremt.org. The NREMT looks forward to serving you.



NREMT Mission Statement

To serve as the national EMS certification organization by providing a valid, uniform process to assess the knowledge and skills required for competent practice required by EMS professionals throughout their careers and by maintaining a registry of certification status.

Certification for EMS Professionals at All Levels

The NREMT provides certification services for all nationally identified EMS levels:

- First Responder
- EMT-Basic
- EMT-Intermediate (85 and 99)
- Paramedic

Emergency medical crews often consist of a team of personnel with various levels of certification. While this team make-up is a local decision, the NREMT is committed to offering certification that helps communities assure competency.

Moving Towards the Future

The NREMT endorses and follows the recommendations of the National EMS Education Agenda for the Future, as well as the National EMS Scope of Practice Model, and Institute of Medicine Report "Emergency Medical Services at the Crossroads." As a result, the NREMT is moving towards requiring paramedic applicants to graduate from a nationally accredited paramedic educational program, and will adopt the new EMS provider levels recommended by the National EMS Scope of Practice Model.

Reduced fragmentation and increased uniformity mean a more consistent level of patient care across the country and a more professional field. The NREMT desires to support the maturation and growth of EMS for the ultimate goal of protecting the public.

EMS is provided to the public in a variety of ways: EMS personnel can be volunteers, paid, private, public or working within a military capacity. By providing certification of competency, the NREMT works in cooperation with state officials, who are then responsible for granting licensure to EMS personnel. This partnership ensures safe and effective treatment to the public regardless of the sector providing the care.

In addition, the NREMT serves the EMS community by:

- Setting standards for entry level competency for safe and effective practice
- Serving as an official registry for nationally certified EMS personnel
- Establishing EMS recertification requirements to keep EMS certification current
- Maintaining information from testing and registration databases

A Uniform Standard of Competency

Prior to the 1970's, a national standard of EMS care was non-existent. With the founding of the NREMT in 1970, the establishment of national standards was made possible. Consistent competency standards set by the EMS community mean patients can expect the same quality of care from competent EMS providers. Regardless of whether EMS providers are volunteers or career-based, or located in urban or rural settings, NREMT certification provides *a national definition of the level of EMS competency—a standard for comparison, improvement and benchmarking.*



The National Registry was founded in 1970 as a result of the recommendations made by the Committee on Highway Traffic Safety. This committee proposed a national certification agency to establish uniform standards for training and examination of personnel active in the delivery of emergency ambulance services.

As a non-profit agency, the NREMT is committed to supporting the EMS profession.

NCCA Accreditation



With a commitment to excellence, the NREMT holds accreditation from The National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA), which is the accreditation arm of the Institute for Credentialing Excellence. The NCCA is recognized as the authority on accreditation standards for professional certification organizations and programs. NCCA accreditation means that the standards set by the NREMT have been reviewed by the NCCA and deemed credible for ensuring the health, welfare and safety of the public.

Certification vs Licensure

Certification by the National Registry is a process that differs from licensure. Confusion often arises between the terms "certification" and "licensure" because many states call their licensure processes "certification." The National Registry, however, is a private certifying organization and serves the important independent purpose of identifying for the public, state licensure agencies and employers,

those individuals who have successfully completed the Registry's educational requirements and demonstrated their skills and abilities in the mandated examinations. The various state offices of EMS or like agencies serve as the state licensing agencies. Therefore, certification by the National Registry, by itself, does not give an individual the right to practice.

Regardless of what descriptive title is used by a state agency, if an occupation has a statutorily or regulatorily defined scope of practice, then only individuals authorized by the state can perform those functions and activities. Thus, the authorized individuals are licensed rather than certified.

Governed by a Board of Directors

Comprised of some of the nation's most prominent experts in the medical field, the Board of Directors is the governing body of the NREMT. The Board is comprised of 21 representatives from all segments of the EMS community as well as the public. They are committed to public protection, quality patient care, and increasing the level of professionalism of EMS.

The Board determines the NREMT policies that are then carried out by the staff. Members of the Board include physicians, state regulators, organizational representatives, at-large EMS providers, and public representation. Their primary role is to develop the NREMT strategic direction, maintain fiduciary oversight, and establish NREMT policies and standards.

Members of the Board are elected in November of each year and begin their four-year terms on January 1. The Chairman, Vice Chairman, Treasurer, Past President and Immediate Past President serve as the Executive Committee.

The Board Members hold prestigious titles and are recognized in their respective areas of practice for exemplary contributions they have made to EMS. Their expertise and insight is key to the success of the NREMT's own contributions to EMS. Board Member biographies can be found on the NREMT website at www.nremt.org.

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