

EMS Fellowship & Board-Certified EMS Physician Certification Pathway

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Intent

This policy outlines the initial certification pathway for Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fellowship trained or current Board-Certified EMS Physicians to obtain national certification without completing a State EMS Office approved or CAAHEP accredited EMS training program.

Scope

This policy applies to physicians who provide verification of current enrollment in or completion of an approved EMS Fellowship or are currently Board Certified as an EMS Physician.

Definitions

EMS Fellowship - an ACGME-accredited program and medical subspecialty that involves prehospital emergency patient care including initial patient stabilization, treatment, and transport to hospitals in specially equipped ambulances or helicopters (ABEM, 2020).

Board Certified EMS Physician – Certified physicians who attained subspecialty certification in EMS by meeting the eligibility criteria, fulfilling specific credential requirements, and passing the EMS Certification Examination as recognized by AOBEM/ABEM (ABEM, 2020).

Policy

The National Registry recognizes that the training required for Board Certified EMS Physicians covers the depth and breadth of an initial EMS training program at the Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT), and Paramedic levels, and is recognized as equivalent to the recent completion of an accredited and/or state approved EMS training program, that meets or exceeds the National Emergency Medical Services Education Standards. Eligible physicians may obtain national certification at the EMR, EMT, AEMT, or NRP level upon completion of the following requirements:

- An eligible physician must provide verification of current enrollment in or completion of an approved EMS Fellowship or current Board Certification as an EMS Physician as the equivalence of EMS program course completion.
- Successful completion of the computer-based examination, level specific.
 - Passed portions of the National Registry certification examination remain valid for 2 years, provided all other entry requirements are met.
 - If seeking certification at the EMR or EMT level, all other eligibility requirements must be met including the state approved BLS skills competency requirement.

Once attained, the National Registry considers the individual certificant to be solely responsible for their national certification. National certification may be maintained through completion of the established National Registry recertification process.

Rationale

The National Registry Board of Directors passed 19-Resolution-09 EMS Fellow Eligibility for Certification, which recognizes the initial and on-going competency of EMS Fellowship trained and Board-Certified EMS Physicians. The resolution directed the Executive Director to establish eligibility requirements for these physicians to obtain national certification.

Related Policy and Procedures

19-Resolution-09 – EMS Fellow Eligibility for Certification

Terms of Certification

Time Period for Valid Examination Results

Certification Scheme – NREMR

Certification Scheme – NREMT

Certification Scheme – NRAEMT

Certification Scheme – NPR

References

American Board of Emergency Medicine (ABEM). (2020). Emergency Medical Services. Retrieved from <https://www.abem.org/public/become-certified/subspecialties/emergency-medical-services>

Institute for Credentialing Excellence (I.C.E). (2021). *NCCA accreditation standards*.

International Organization for Standardization. (2012). *ISO/IEC 17024:2012: Conformity assessment - General requirements for bodies operating certification of persons*.

Document History

2020-09-03	Created
2020-10-01	Approved by National Registry Executive Director - 19-Resolution-09 (V1)
2023-12-26	Revised for ALS Redesign to remove psychomotor reference and CPR requirement due to 24-motion-04 (V2)
2024-06-11	Approved by Board of Directors (v2)