

RN to Paramedic Policy and Procedures (Non-MCCN)

PURPOSE: To establish requirements necessary for those applicants who presently hold a valid license as a Registered Nurse to be authorized and credentialed to practice as a paramedic in West Virginia.

POLICY: To ensure consistent standards and procedures for Registered Nurses certifying as a paramedic in West Virginia. **This policy is not applicable to those individuals pursuing critical care transport/MCCN certification**.

PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Apply for certification by completing an online application at www.wvoems.org
- B. Submit the appropriate fees as required in WV 64 CSR 48-6.9.
- C. Be 18 years of age or greater.
- D. Disclose any limitation or exclusion by any EMS Agency, EMS Medical Director, or any other healthcare professions certification or licensing authority in any state, territory or the U.S. Military Services.
- E. Apply for and be cleared by State and National background checks for WVOEMS as required in WV 16-4C-8.1.1: (RN Board Background Check may substitute for this requirement).
- F. Create a valid Continuum account.
- G. Possess a current, unrestricted RN License in West Virginia or possess a current, unrestricted RN License in any state that participates in the Enhanced Nursing Licensure Compact (eNLC) for greater than 3 years in an ER or ICU setting.
- H. Possess a current ACLS certification.
- I. Possess a current ITLS or PHTLS (TNCC will be accepted in place of these courses for initial certification as a paramedic), and PEPP or PALS certification.
- J. Possess current or documented former certification as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) in WV or any other US state or territory, or successfully complete the following:
 - 1. EMT Basic Modules: Scene Safety, Scene Size-Up, Operations, or complete the NAEMT Safety course
 - 2. EMT-B practical skills examinations

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- K.** Successfully complete NREMT ALS evaluation. The process is as follows:
 - 1. Create a NREMT account or log in to your existing account
 - 2. Go to the “CBT Candidate” link Click on “Create Certification Application”
 - 3. Select your level as “Assessment-(ALS?)” then click “Next”
 - 4. On the next page, there are two boxes: “State Office” and “Reason for Test”
 - 5. Select “WV” as the state and then select “Other” as the “Reason to Test”
- L.** Successful initial and annual completion of Hazmat Awareness Training meeting OSHA standard 1910.120 or higher.
- M.** Successfully complete a WVOEMS approved MCI Awareness and Operations program.
- N.** Successfully complete an approved CPR refresher course meeting WV 64 CSR 48-6.8.a.4. Applicant must show proof of current valid CPR certification.
- O.** Successfully complete WVOEMS ALS Protocol In-Service training.
- P.** Complete a 22 Hour Paramedic bridge program as outlined below:
 - 1. Complete 8 hours of Airway Management Skills based on the national paramedic curriculum. This will ensure understanding of the following topics:
 - i. Orotracheal Intubation
 - ii. Nasotracheal Intubation
 - iii. Complicated Airways
 - iv. ETCO₂
 - v. Chest Decompression
 - vi. Cricothyrotomy
 - 2. Complete 8 hours of scenario-based lab which ensures full competency in the following:
 - i. ALS patient Assessment
 - ii. Candidate is required to perform ten (10) successful intubations utilizing high fidelity simulation.
 - 3. Complete 6 hours of WVOEMS approved 12 Lead ECG Training

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4. Complete all skills outlined in the RN to Paramedic skill sheet and document on the appropriate forms.
 5. Complete 5 BLS and 5 ALS patient encounters with a licensed WV EMS agency and document on the WVOEMS Clinical Form.
- Q.** Complete and submit the RN to Paramedic Initial Certification Education Record and RN to Paramedic Skills Sheet.
- R.** To remain certified as a paramedic in West Virginia, RNs must maintain a current, unrestricted RN License in West Virginia or any state which participates in the Enhanced Nursing Licensure Compact (eNLC).
- S.** Meet the other requirements as may be established by the Commissioner.

This policy replaces all previous policies for RN to Paramedic (Non-MCCN) initial certification

APPLICABLE CODE/RULE: WV Code §16-4C-6 and §16-4C-8 and §64 CS 48-6.