

PURPOSE: To establish requirements necessary for all applicants seeking certification and authorization to be credentialed and practice at the Paramedic level in West Virginia.

POLICY: To ensure consistent standards and procedures for certifying as a Paramedic in West Virginia.

PROCEDURE/REQUIREMENTS:

- A. Create a valid WVOEMS account utilizing Image Trend.
- B. Create a valid National Registry account.
- C. Possess a current National Registry or WVOEMS SLO Paramedic certification.
- D. Educational Requirements:
 - 1. Complete a Paramedic Education Program through an institution accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) in a manner prescribed under the Accreditation of EMS Programs (CoAEMSP).
 - 2. Successfully complete and pass all practical skills evaluations for the Paramedic level of certification as outlined by WVOEMS utilizing approved skills evaluators.
 - 3. Successfully complete and pass all cognitive examinations with a certifying score for the Paramedic level determined by the National Registry cognitive examination.
 - 4. Successful completion of ACLS (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course). *Certification card required.*
 - 5. Successful completion of PHTLS or ITLS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course). *Certification card required.*
 - 6. Successful completion of PEPP or PALS Refresher (or equivalent WVOEMS approved course). *Certification card required.*
 - 7. Successfully complete Hazmat Awareness training meeting OSHA 1910.120 or higher standards.
 - 8. *Successfully complete WVOEMS approved MCI Awareness and Operations Training (6 hours).*
 - 9. Successfully complete an approved CPR Training course meeting WV §64 CSR 48-6.7.a.4 at the professional/healthcare provider level.

10. Successfully complete the current WVOEMS Protocol course for the appropriate level of certification being sought.

- E. Apply for certification by completing an application in your Image Trend account.
- F. Submit the appropriate fees as required in WV §64 CSR 48-6.8 and 48-6.9.
- G. Be 18 years of age or greater.
- H. 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.
- I. Apply for and be cleared by the State and National background checks for WVOEMS as required in WV §16- 4C-8.1.1.
- J. Proof of education shall be verified through your Image Trend account and shall be subject to audit at any time during the certification/recertification process or during an active investigation.

Important Notice: An EMR/EMT/AEMT/Paramedic certification by WVOEMS must be continually certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) during the duration of your WVOEMS certification. Failure to retain uninterrupted National Registry Certification will result in the immediate suspension of your WVOEMS certification and your right to practice in West Virginia.

- K. Meet other requirements established by the Commissioner.

This policy replaces all policies for Paramedic initial certification prior to April 1, 2025.

APPLICABLE CODE/RULE: WV Code §16-4C-6, §16-4C-8.1, and §64 CSR 48-6.