



Arkansas Department of Health

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Governor Mike Beebe

Paul K. Halverson, DrPH, FACHE, Director and State Health Officer

Memorandum

To: All Arkansas Emergency Medical Service Providers
All Arkansas Emergency Medical Services
All Arkansas EMSP Training sites

From: Norajean Miles Harrell NREMT-P
EMSP Licensure Administrator

Date: June 26, 2009

Re: Licensure of Emergency Medical Services Personnel

On March 27, 2009, Governor Beebe signed Senate Bill 143, now Act 689. This Act provides for title changes for Emergency Medical Services Personnel (EMSP) in Arkansas, as well as decreeing that all EMSP are licensed in the State of Arkansas. These changes were undertaken to ensure that Arkansas EMSP follow the national trend toward the standard terminology reflected in the National Scope of Practice Model and Department of Transportation (DOT) new National EMS Educational Standards.

The titles for EMSP in Arkansas will now include: Emergency Medical Technician, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, Paramedic, Emergency Medical Services Instructor and Emergency Medical Services Instructor-Trainer. Nothing need be done on your part to implement this change. As of August 1, 2009, all titles will change for active EMSP in Arkansas.

EMT-Ambulance and EMT- Basic will be Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

EMT-Intermediate will be Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT).

EMT-Paramedic will be "Paramedic" only.

What does this mean for you right now?

- Your current approved skills will remain the same as defined in the current 2008 Arkansas Rules and Regulations for Emergency Medical Services.
- Current re-licensure dates will be the same as previous recertification dates.
- Re-licensure requirements will remain the same as the old recertification requirements. In the near future, adoption of the new DOT Education Standards and National Scope of Practice Model may necessitate changes. The Section will advise you of any needed changes at that time.

Beginning with August 2009 and through March 2010, all currently active Emergency Medical Services Personnel will receive a new card reflecting their title change and licensure, instead of certification. A transition plan has been developed to provide licensure cards reflecting the new titles. Please see page two (2) for the transition plan. If you do not receive your new card either through renewal or mail-out by April 15, 2010, contact the Section of EMS and Trauma Systems at 501-661-2262.

Certification to Licensure

Implementation Plan to provide new “licensure” cards to all Arkansas EMSP

Currently certified EMSP – due to recertify the following dates will receive new licensure cards depending on when they renew:

September 30, 2009:

Licensure card dated 9/30/2011 when their renewal is processed.
No cards will be run/mailed until August 1, 2009 so licensure and new titles are reflected.

September 30, 2010:

New licensure card will be mailed during October to mid November 2009.

March 31, 2011:

New licensure card will be mailed during mid November to December 2009.

March 31, 2010:

Licensure card dated 3/31/2012 when their renewal is processed during renewal cycle February to March 2010.

All active EMSP should be updated with new title and licensure card by April 15, 2010.

This will **not** include EMSPs who fail to renew or renew late.

Initial and reciprocity candidates processed after April 1, 2009:

New EMSP and reciprocity candidates certified from April 09 –Aug 1, 09.

New licensure card will be mailed during January 2010.

After August 1, 2009, all initial and reciprocity candidates will receive licensure cards with new titles. Expiration date is dependant on processing date.

Footnote: New licensure cards will be provided to current EMSPs at no expense. Those currently active EMSPs wanting a license “certificate” must order and pay regular fee for a replacement. Order form will be available on the Section’s website at: www.healthyarkansas.com/ems after August 1, 2009.