

Important Message

PaPrepared changes to come

Effective September 30, 2016, the PaPrepared on-line learning management system will be transitioning to a new system.

It was first reported there may be an interruption in service after July 1st until the new system is fully operational. We are pleased to inform you that you should continue to have access to the old system until September 30, 2016.

Although we believe the current system will remain available during this projected transition, **DO NOT WAIT to complete your requirements, even if your registration does not expire until *January 1, 2017*. If you plan to utilize the online system, complete your requirements now to ensure there are no interruptions in your registration.**

Not having access to an online system is not a qualifying reason to extend your registration. As our Emergency Medical Services System Act and regulations require, failure to renew your registration by its expiration date will result in the following:

- You will immediately lose privileges to function as an EMS provider.
- You must complete any remaining continuing education and other requirements.
- You will be required to schedule and successfully complete the National Registry for EMT (NREMT) written exam. If two years has passed since your registration expiration, you will also have to complete the state-approved practical exam.

Suggestions for EMS Providers:

- If your Pennsylvania EMS provider certification registration expires between now and *January 1, 2017* and you plan to use the current online learning management system to complete your required continuing education, **do not wait!** Logon and complete your continuing education now. *This is critical – Do not let your registration expire.
- Maintain copies of all your completed continuing education.
- You are encouraged to find other continuing education opportunities. This can be any Continuing Education Coordinating Board for EMS (CECBEMS) accredited course taken from any source or other Pa Department of Health approved courses from a continuing education sponsor in your area. Your regional EMS council may be able to assist you to find scheduled classes.

Required Continuing Education:

- **Emergency Medical Services Vehicle Operator (EMSVO)**
 - One (1) hour for each year of your base EMS certification, i.e. 2 hours for a Paramedic and 3 hours for an EMT.

- **Emergency Medical Responder (EMR):**
 - Sixteen (16) credits every three year registration period
 - At least eight (8) credits of the sixteen (16) must be clinical patient care and core education.

- **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT):**
 - Twenty-four (24) credits every three year registration period
 - At least eighteen (18) credits of the twenty-four (24) must be clinical patient care and core education

- **Advanced EMT, Paramedic, PHRN, PHPE, PHP:**
 - Thirty-six (36) credits every two year registration period
 - At least twenty-seven (27) credits of the thirty-six (36) must be clinical patient care and core education

Suggestions for EMS Agencies:

- EMS agencies are encouraged to assist their EMS Providers by finding other means to provide continuing education.

- EMS agencies are encouraged to consider hosting additional continuing education sessions using an approved continuing education sponsor to meet the needs of their providers.

The Department is working diligently to meet the needs of our providers and distribute up to date information in regards to this change. We will continue to disseminate information as it becomes available. Please contact your regional EMS council with questions.