



THE STATE
of **ALASKA**
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY


Department of
Health and Social Services

DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH
Section of Rural and Community Health
Systems

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September 17, 2020

TO: EMS Regional Grantees and all EMS Instructors

FROM: Todd McDowell, NRP, and Office of EMS Manager 

SUBJECT: Revised Interim Policy on Courses, Exams, and Provisional Certifications

This document serves as an update and supersedes the June 5, 2020 policy titled *"Updated Interim Policy on Courses, Exams, and Provisional Certifications"*.

All EMS courses will be subject to the following policy effective **September 17, 2020**. This policy is to provide guidance for instructors on facilitating EMT courses with regards to didactic, skills practice, exams, provisional certification and continued certifications. This will be in effect until guidelines and or State Health Mandates regarding phases of reopening are updated. This policy does not apply to the ongoing EMERGE EMT-1 program(s).

Required for both Didactic and Skills Labs

- All persons must wear cloth face masks and must maintain at least 6 feet between each individual at all times.
- Hand sanitizer and handwashing facilities must be available for student use.
- All students must be pre-screened each day of class prior to entering classroom or building space for fever or history of either a fever or any other minor symptoms per [CDC guidelines](#) within the previous 72 hours.
- Any symptomatic or ill student will not be permitted to attend classes.

Didactic Portion of Courses:

- Distance learning is preferred.

Skills Labs

- All Skills Labs must be conducted using the proper PPE required to protect individuals from COVID-19 this includes masks or

cloth face coverings, gloves and eye protection.

- Unless necessary to demonstrate a skill such as vital signs and certain splinting devices simulation will be conducted using a mannequin rather than a live patient.
- Mannequins must be disinfected according to manufacturer guidelines between each student use.
- Partner assistance will be verbalized when feasible.

State Practical Exams

- EMT-I/II/III state practical examinations will remain suspended until further notice.
- EMT Instructors shall submit to the Office of EMS a testation letter validating that students have successfully demonstrated all skills associated with the EMT course being taught.

EMT-I

Vital Signs	Spinal immobilization – Seated
Oropharyngeal airway insertion (Adult)	Rapid Extrication
Oropharyngeal airway insertion (Pediatric)	Joint immobilization
Nasopharyngeal airway insertion (Adult)	Traction splinting
Nasopharyngeal airway insertion (Pediatric)	Long bone immobilization
Mouth to Mask	BVM ventilation of apneic patient
Cardiac Arrest Management/AED	Oral Suctioning
Emergency Child Birth	Oxygen administration by non-rebreather
Bleeding control and Shock management	Patient assessment – Trauma
Cervical immobilization	Patient assessment-Medical
Spinal immobilization – Supine	

EMT-II

Intraosseous initiation – (Adult)	Patient assessment – medical
Intraosseous initiation – (Pediatric)	Patient assessment – Trauma
Intravenous initiation – peripheral	Cardiac arrest management/AED
Intravenous maintenance – IV Fluid	Supraglottic airway device placement/management
Intravenous medication administration (EMT-II SoP)	
Venous blood sampling	

EMT-III

Cardiac Monitoring	Supraglottic Airway placement/management
Recognition of lethal arrhythmias (VF, pVT, PEA, Asystole)	Patent assessment – (Medical)
Manual Defibrillation	Patient Assessment – (Trauma)
Cardiac Arrest Management (Adult)	Intravenous medication administration (EMT-III SoP)
Cardiac Arrest Management (Pediatric)	

State Written Exams

- Instructors are to schedule students to take the State written examination through the EMS Regions as normal.

State Provisional Certifications

- Provisional certifications are no longer being issued as EMT students now have access to the State written exam.

We appreciate your dedication to the Alaska EMS system and the services you provide across the State of Alaska.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions at todd.mcdowell@alaska.gov or (907) 465-8634.