

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Renewal Options and Requirements for EMTs with Certification Expiring on March 31, 2017

There are four (4) renewal options for EMTs with certification expiring on March 31, 2017. Depending on your situation, you may be able to use any of the four renewal options.

By way of background, earlier this year, the EMSRB's Board approved the National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) as a renewal model for all EMTs (as well as Advanced EMTs and Paramedics).

Even so, Minnesota statute¹ still allows for the following EMT renewal options:

1. Take the United States Department of Transportation EMT refresher course **and** pass the practical skills test portion of the course, or
2. Successfully complete 48 hours of continuing education in EMT programs that are consistent with the United States Department of Transportation National EMS Education Standards **and** pass a practical skills test approved by the board and administered by an education program approved by the board, or
3. Successfully complete the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by the board **and** pass a practical skills test approved by the board and administered by an education program approved by the board, or
4. Successfully complete the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by a licensed ambulance medical service's medical director **and** pass a practical skills test that is approved by the board and administered by an education program approved by the board.

Please note that Minnesota statute² still requires the renewing EMT to successfully complete a course in cardiopulmonary resuscitation approved by the Board or, if the EMT is on a licensed ambulance service, that ambulance service's medical director.

¹ See Minn. Stat. § 144E.28, subd. 7(2)

² See Minn. Stat. §144E.28, subd. 7(1)

So what does this mean?

To answer that question, the following breaks down the options and requirements:
(of course, please do not to hesitate to call the EMSRB with your questions)

1. **Take the United States Department of Transportation EMT refresher course and pass the practical skills test portion of the course, or**

The EMT refresher course is commonly known as the 24-hour refresher. It also has been referred to as the “traditional style” refresher. It is a competency-based program with a minimum of 24 classroom hours. On May 29, 2013, the Board adopted the NREMT Psychomotor Exam as the practical skills test for the refresher course through March 31, 2016.

*The Board has not defined a practical skills test that is separate from the practical skills test portion of the refresher course. **So if an EMT wishes to renew using the EMT refresher course, that EMT must pass the practical skills test portion of that course. The components of the required practical skills test are determined by the education program and must be consistent with the course content.***

Please note the following:

For EMTs with certification expiring in 2017 and who are Nationally Registered, this “traditional style” refresher will meet the NCCR component requirement for the NCCP Model. When renewing on the NREMT web site, please note in the *Class Detail*, that the NCCR component is a Minnesota-Approved Refresher for 20 hours. Additional classroom hours may be applied to the requirements of the LCCR or ICCR components.

2. **Successfully complete 48 hours of continuing education** in EMT programs that are consistent with the United States Department of Transportation National EMS Education Standards **and pass a practical skills test approved by the board** and administered by an education program approved by the board, or

On May 29, 2013, the Board approved and adopted the NREMT Psychomotor Exam as the practical skills test for renewal through March 31, 2016.

*The Board did not approve a practical skills test for EMTs renewing after March 31, 2016 and who do so using 48 hours of continuing education. **So if an EMT wishes to renew using 48 hours of continuing education, that EMT may do so without the need to pass a practical skills test approved by Board; no such test has been approved.***

Please note the following:

For EMTs with certification expiring in 2017 and who are Nationally Registered, renewal using 48 hours of continuing education will meet the NCCR component requirement of the NCCP Model. When renewing on the NREMT web site, please indicate in the *Class Detail* that the NCCR component is a Minnesota-Approved Refresher at 20 hours. The remaining 28 hours may be used to meet the requirements of the LCCR and ICCR components.

3. **Successfully complete the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by the board and pass a practical skills test approved by the board** and administered by an education program approved by the board, or

On February 18, 2016, the Board approved the 40-hour NREMT National Continued Competency Program (NCCP) as the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education.

*The Board did not approve a practical skills test for EMTs renewing after March 31, 2016 and who do so using the NCCP Model (i.e., the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education). **So if an EMT wishes to renew using the NCCP Model, that EMT may do so without the need to pass a practical skills test approved by the Board; no such test has been approved.***

Please note the following:

- **If you are a Nationally-Registered EMT, you must renew using the NCCP Model. The NCCR component may be satisfied by completing:**
 - **20 hours of the NREMT NCCR component (2012 or 2016 versions);**
 - **The “traditional style” refresher as discussed in Option No. 1 (found on page two);**
 - **48 hours of continuing education as discussed in Option No. 2 (found on page three); or**
 - **Option No. 4, if applicable (found on the next page)**

- **If you plan to renew your National Registry through the Mark King Initiative (MKI), you must renew using the NCCP Model.**

- **If you are not a Nationally-Registered EMT and do not intend on renewing through the Mark King Initiative, you are able to renew your Minnesota EMT certification using the NCCP Model, if you wish.**

- **If you are not Nationally-Registered, it still is possible to maintain Minnesota-only EMT certification through the EMSRB. That option, however, ends in 2036 (that’s right, in about twenty years) at which time all EMS personnel must be Nationally-Registered with the NREMT.**

4. **Successfully complete the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by a licensed ambulance medical service's medical director and pass a practical skills test approved by the board** and administered by an education program approved by the board.

This option gives the ambulance service's medical director the ability to approve an EMT renewal program. Please note that this option is solely at the discretion of that ambulance service's medical director.

This option is available only to the EMT who:

- a) is on the roster of a licensed ambulance service;**
- b) has the ambulance service's medical director approving this option.**

On May 29, 2013, the Board adopted the NREMT Psychomotor Exam as the practical skills exam for renewal through March 31, 2016.

*The Board did not approve a practical skills exam for EMTs renewing after March 31, 2016 and who do so using the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by a licensed ambulance medical service's medical director. **So if an EMT wishes to renew using the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by the ambulance medical director, that EMT may do so without the need to pass a practical skills exam approved by Board; no such exam has been approved.***

Please note the following:

For EMTs with certification expiring in 2017 and who are Nationally Registered, renewal using the equivalent of 48 hours of continuing education as approved by the ambulance medical director will meet the NCCR component requirement for the NCCP Model. When renewing on the NREMT web site, please indicate in the *Class Detail*, that the NCCR component is a Minnesota-Approved Refresher. These EMTs still must meet the requirements of the LCCR and ICCR components.

We hope this document has been helpful in explaining EMT renewal options and requirements for those who expire on March 31, 2017. Again, please do not hesitate to contact the EMSRB office at (651) 201-2800 or your EMS Specialist with any questions.