

Training, Testing and Certification Requirements

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) (State Certification)

Persons certified as EMRs typically render care to the sick or injured while an ambulance is enroute. They are usually members of an organization (i.e. Quick Response Unit, Fire Department or Law Enforcement Agency) that are dispatched simultaneously with an ambulance service.

- Training Time: Approximately 50 - 60 hours.
- Curriculum: EMS Education Standards.
- Testing: Practical examination consisting of at least one medical, one trauma and one cardiopulmonary resuscitation station. Written examination (70% score or higher).
- Initial Certification: Two years adjusted to a June 30th expiration date.
- Recertification: Two years from previous expiration date.
- Recertification Requirements: 16 hours total; comprised of 8 hours of NCCR, 4 hours of LCCR and 4 hours of ICCR.

Advanced First Aid Ambulance (AFAA)

The AFAA Certification was created as a mechanism to grandfather persons as ambulance attendants who were previously certified under the discontinued American Red Cross Program. Persons who were certified by the American Red Cross as Advanced First Aid Providers, possess current CPR certification and have at least two years of ambulance experience are eligible to be certified by the North Dakota Health Department as Advanced First Aid Ambulance. This process only exists for persons trained by the American Red Cross prior to their discontinuance of their training and is not available for training new ambulance attendants. New ambulance attendants must complete an EMT training program.

- Certification Period: Three years.
- Recertification Requirements: 40 hours total; comprised of 20 hours of NCCR, 10 hours of LCCR, 10 hours of ICCR along with completion of NREMT assessment (same requirements as EMT level providers).

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

The EMT licensure is considered the minimum training level for Basic Life Support (BLS) ambulance attendants. Many other occupations utilize the training to augment their services such as athletic trainers, security personnel, law enforcement officers and firefighters. North Dakota utilizes the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) certification standards, however an EMT must also hold a ND license in order to legally work within the state. The State Emergency Medical Technician (State EMT) is the North Dakota equivalent of an NREMT. North Dakota may issue State EMT licensure to persons under the age of 18 who do not meet the minimum age requirement for National Registration but have completed all the same requirements necessary to become an NREMT. All of the training, testing, certification, re-certification and licensure requirements are identical to an NREMT.

- Training Time: Approximately 150 hours.
- Curriculum: EMS Education Standards.
- Testing: National Registry Practical and Written Exams.
- Licensure Period: NREMT expiration date adjusted to June 30.

- Recertification Requirements: 40 hours total; comprised of 20 hours of NCCR, 10 hours of LCCR and 10 hours of ICCR, along with completion of NREMT assessment.

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)

The AEMT certification level is typically utilized by ambulance services providing limited levels of advanced life support care. The course expands upon the EMT through inclusion of advanced patient assessment, airway management and intravenous therapy skills. All ALS level providers are required to submit an ALS license application signed by their current medical director for each EMS entity they are working/volunteering for.

- Training Time: Approximately 150 hours (in addition to EMT training).
- Curriculum: EMS Education Standards.
- Testing: National Registry Practical and Written Exams.
- Licensure Period: NREMT expiration date adjusted to June 30.
- Recertification Requirements: 50 hours total; comprised of 25 hours of NCCR, 12.5 hours of LCCR and 12.5 hours of ICCR along with completion of NREMT assessment.

Paramedic

The Paramedic certification level is typically utilized by ambulance services providing full levels of advanced life support care. The course includes invasive procedures such as endotracheal airway management, defibrillation, pharmacology and other advanced skills. All ALS level providers are required to submit an ALS license application signed by their current medical director for each EMS entity they are working/volunteering for.

- Training Time: Approximately 1200 hours (in addition to the EMT training).
- Curriculum: EMS Education Standards.
- Testing: National Registry Practical and Written Exams.
- Licensure Period: NREMT expiration date adjusted to June 30.
- Recertification Requirements: 60 hours total; comprised of 30 hours of NCCR, 15 hours of LCCR and 15 hours of ICCR.