

February 23, 2017

To ND EMS providers and training officers,

I would like to address a few issues that are coming up recently due to some changes at the National Registry. In October of 2016 the NREMT released the new National Continued Competency Requirements; this new content is updated topics and objectives for each provider level. It was never the intention to make an EMS provider change course mid-recertification and therefore the new content is the required NCCR material beginning with the 2017-2019 recertification cycle. Persons whose recertification is due prior to March 31, 2019 have the choice between using the 2012 model that North Dakota started with when we piloted this project or using the 2016 model. Please note, the hour requirements are the same for both models but the content and categories are not the same. It is up to you and your local training officer to decide which model will work best for you.

Please visit the ND DEMS <https://www.health.nd.gov/epr/emergency-medical-systems/emergency-medical-services-system/ems-education/north-dakota-ccp/> website or the NREMT website <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/nccp> to ensure you are completing the proper categories **and objectives within each category** for the NCCP model you choose to utilize.

As far as managing your education on the NREMT website, there is now a statement that asks you if you used the 2012 NCCP or 2016 NCCP, **Do not check one of these boxes until you have actually completed the NCCR portion of the recertification.** If you are using the 2012 NCCP you should then be able to enter your hours the same way we have since 2013 when we started this program. If you are using the 2016 NCCP you will need to keep track of what hours you have completed and what hours you still need manually as the 2016 categories are not available to manage electronically in your NREMT account. Your LCCR and ICCR will be entered as they have been in the past. Once you have completed all your hours, you can then select the appropriate checkbox of 2012 or 2016 NCCP you used. The National component will then autofill as complete and by you checking the box have just attested to completion of the appropriate hours. When you submit your recertification the next page will ask you to verify “the above” hours are true and correct, however, if you used the 2016 NCCP model “the above” National category will show the wrong categories and will show that you completed 0 hours; this is a glitch in the NREMT system right now and they are aware of the issue. Go ahead and proceed with verification and complete your recertification and payment. NREMT is working on fixing this issue.

Please make sure your email and contact information is up to date with the NREMT. Many providers are not receiving communication coming from the NREMT, this results in an overabundance of questions coming into the state office about the NREMT changes that were communicated through email. We are happy to answer the questions, however, we realize during recertification season people would like quick responses and we can better manage the number of those responses if communication coming from the NREMT is received by the providers. Also ensure your email is updated with the Division of EMS as we also communicate with providers via email and our website and often have difficulty reaching everybody.

As always, remember that NREMT recertification is not a North Dakota license to operate as an EMS provider. Don't forget to apply for your EMS provider license as it expires June 30 of your NREMT expiration year.

Non-Nationally registered providers (EMR, AFAA, and State EMT) also have the option of choosing between 2012 and 2016 NCCP models. Please use the **current** continuing education report form and **current** EMS registration form to submit your recertification to the Division of Emergency Medical Systems. Current forms can be found at: <https://www.health.nd.gov/epr/emergency-medical-systems/emergency-medical-services-system/ems-licensure/ems-personnel-licensure/> .

One of the frequent questions I receive is about CPR, ACLS, PALS, PHTLS, etc. (alphabet courses) counting towards the National component (NCCR) for recertification. Please note that 2012 and 2016 have different approval of hours for these courses. The breakdown of these hours can be found at:

2012- <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/nccp-2012>

2016- <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/nccp>

Some good news for everyone, one other change made this year, EMS providers can now start obtaining continuing education towards their next recertification immediately following approval of current recertification. This means you no longer have to wait until April 1 (or July 1 for Non-NREMT providers) to start obtaining your education! This is great incentive to get your recertification done early! Recertification can be submitted 6 months prior to expiration, October 1 for NREMT and January 1 for Non-NREMT personnel.

I hope this letter helps answer or clear up any questions some of you may have had. Please contact our office if you have further questions.

If you are looking for NCCR courses, please visit our website or contact a licensed EMS training institution for information about course offerings. Remember courses become very limited after March, so plan ahead! If you will be holding a NCCR weekend or education, please send information to [dems@nd.gov](mailto:dems@nd.gov) so we may post it to our website.

Thank you all for the dedicated work you provide to North Dakota as EMS providers.

Kelli Sears, B.S., NRP  
EMS System Coordinator  
Division of Emergency Medical Systems  
ND Department of Health