



Bureau of Emergency Medical Services

POLICY STATEMENT

Supersedes/Updates: 93-07, 87-38 and 99-04

No. 17 - 01

Date: February 8, 2017

**Re: Advanced Standing
in EMS Certification
Programs**

Page 1 of 3

I. Purpose

The purpose of this Policy Statement is to delineate procedures for granting Advanced Standing in Emergency Medical Services certification courses (Basic EMT, Advanced EMT, EMT-Critical Care and EMT-Paramedic), excluding Certified First Responder.

EMS course sponsors may need to recognize the experience and expertise that medical professionals bring to their courses. This will require tailoring programs to avoid redundancy and repetition and recognize an individual's education and experience. When appropriate, course sponsors, in consultation with their Medical Director and Certified Instructor Coordinator (CIC), are encouraged to review and evaluate the experience and education of a student and grant "advanced standing." This should be based on competency based evaluations and take the form of waived attendance of specific class sessions for the individual or a modified course schedule for the class.

The sponsor, Medical Director and CIC must evaluate a candidate's prior experience and education with the understanding of the specific course objectives for each certification level. While some candidates may be competent in a particular objective, others may need review or may not have covered the objective at all in their original course. Even a professional license does not guarantee a candidate's competency in all of the specific objectives of an EMS certification course. As an example, a Registered Nurse (RN) who is a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN), and has ACLS and ATLS or equivalent training with work experience in an emergency department, may not need to complete a small portion of a paramedic program and a field internship in order to complete all of the objectives. While an RN with long term care experience may need to attend the majority of the paramedic course in order to complete all of the objectives.

In order to determine an individual's educational needs it will require a review the student's prior education and experience, as well as an assessment of current knowledge and skills.

II. Who Can Offer Advanced Standing?

In order to award advanced standing to medical professionals, the course sponsor must first have completed two (2) or more full-original certification courses at the certification level for which advanced standing is being sought. Any candidate seeking advanced standing must be registered in an EMS original certification course.

III. Candidate Eligibility Requirements

Each candidate must meet the eligibility requirements as set forth in Title 10 NYCRR Part 800.6 as well as for the course in which they are enrolled. Candidates seeking advanced EMS certification (AEMT, EMT-CC or EMT-P), must have a NYS EMT certification that remains valid throughout the entire training program. Further, to be eligible for advanced standing in an EMS certification course, the candidate must have current certification or license in New York State, in one of the professions listed below:

- Certified First Responder
- Emergency Medical Technician
- Advanced EMT
- EMT-Critical Care
- Registered Nurse
- Nurse Midwife
- Nurse Anesthetist
- Nurse Practitioner
- Physician Assistant
- Physician

Specific class sessions may be waived for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), Respiratory Therapist and other medical and allied health professionals when appropriate and with approval of the Bureau of EMS (BEMS) Central Office.

IV. Procedures

1. The candidate must be enrolled in an original EMS certification course.
2. The Medical Director and CIC must review and verify the candidate's credentials. This includes, but may not be limited to obtaining copies of the following:
 - a) Professional license(s);
 - b) Certification(s);
 - c) College transcripts;
 - d) Course completion records from relevant continuing education programs (e.g., CPR, ACLS, PALS or equivalent, clinical training and experience).
3. The candidate's cognitive knowledge, psychomotor skills and clinical proficiency must be assessed. The level of proficiency required to "waive" session attendance or to modify the class schedule must be equal to or greater than the entry-level proficiency of a graduate from the course.
 - a. Cognitive objectives must be evaluated through a formal written examination, which adequately reflects each section of the current Educational Standards and curriculum. In many instances, the exam make-up may be similar to the make-up of a "challenge" written exam that is administered at the start of a refresher course. A blueprint of this exam must be developed, approved by the course sponsor Medical Director and CIC, and kept on-file with all other course related paperwork.
 - b. Psychomotor objectives must be evaluated through a formal practical skills examination, which adequately reflects the objectives in the current Educational Standards and curriculum. The course sponsor is encouraged to develop scenario type evaluations that encompass multiple objectives in lieu of evaluating each objective separately. A blueprint of this exam must be developed, approved by the course sponsor Medical Director and CIC, and kept on-file with all other course related paperwork.

- c. Individuals currently holding a NYS EMS certification (at the start of the first class session), may be granted advanced standing, up to their current level of certification, without additional cognitive or psychomotor testing. For example, a currently certified EMT- Critical Care who enrolls in a Paramedic original course, may be given advanced standing for those components of the Paramedic curriculum that are contained in the NYS EMT - Critical Care curriculum. Prior to approval, the Paramedic course sponsor's Medical Director may decide to conduct a portion, or all of the required cognitive and psychomotor testing. Advanced standing must be approved by the Paramedic course sponsor Medical Director.
4. The course Medical Director may grant advanced standing for some or all of the objectives of the hospital clinical and Field Internship for a candidate who can document prior hospital or prehospital care experience relevant to specific objectives. The candidate must also demonstrate the ability to serve as a team leader in a variety of prehospital emergency situations. These requirements should not be more, or less than those required of all other students, as approved by BEMS in the course sponsor's policies and procedures.
5. Once the decision is made by the course Medical Director to grant approval for advanced standing, the candidate and CIC must sign a written agreement outlining the candidate's course requirements.
6. Once a candidate has successfully completed all course requirements to the satisfaction of the course Medical Director, he/she is eligible to take the state certifying practical skills and written examinations.
7. If the course is conducted exclusively for students seeking advanced standing (i.e., a paramedic course exclusively for EMT-CC's or a course exclusively for experienced emergency nurses), after the assessment and evaluation of all of the candidates has been completed, the sponsor needs to file a modified course schedule with the Department.
8. The course sponsor must maintain, individual candidate files (student record) which includes a copy of the student-sponsor agreement, all of the candidate's credentials, records of performance on assessment exams (written and practical), field internship evaluation and documentation of completion of all course requirements. If a Course Sponsor plans to offer advanced standing they must develop written advanced standing policies and procedures as part of their sponsorship agreement with BEMS.

V. Resources

For additional information refer to the following:

National EMS Education Guidelines

http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/national_education_standards_transition/

Educational Standards for each level of EMS certification

http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/national_education_standards_transition/docs/national_education_standards.pdf

EMS Certification Practical Skills Matrix

http://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/national_education_standards_transition/docs/2017_pse_chart.pdf