

EMSRB Approves EMS Education Transition Recommendations

On February 18, 2016, the Minnesota Emergency Medical Services Regulatory Board (Board), approved the following EMS Education Transition recommendations received from the Board's EMS Education Transition Ad-Hoc Work Group led by its Chair and EMSRB Board Member Lisa Consie:

1. Minnesota will continue to use of the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) cognitive and psychomotor examination process for **initial** EMT, AEMT and Paramedic certification in Minnesota.
2. Minnesota will require the same **recertification** requirements as the NREMT for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic, or proof of valid NREMT Certification.
3. The EMSRB shall request that the NREMT designate the State of Minnesota as a *National Continued Competency Program* (NCCP) state as of April 1, 2016 for EMT, AEMT and Paramedic.
4. The EMSRB shall use the NCCP model for recertification regardless of whether the NREMT designates Minnesota as a NCCP state (effective April 1, 2016).
5. The EMSRB adopts the Mark King Initiative and adopts implementation to national certification by April 1, 2036, at which time all EMS personnel (EMT, AEMT and Paramedic) in Minnesota must have and maintain national certification.
6. The EMSRB shall require, beginning April 1, 2016 and thereafter, that all nationally-certified EMS personnel in Minnesota (EMT, AEMT and Paramedic) maintain national certification on a go-forward basis.

The approval and adoption of these recommendations by the Board was the culmination of months of meetings by the Work Group which is comprised of EMS educators, ambulance service managers, regional system program representatives, and other EMS stakeholders from all parts of the state. Leading up to Board approval of these recommendations, the EMSRB kept the statewide EMS community up-to-date on the progress of the Work Group by sending email updates, posting an instructive video and other information on the agency web site, conducting numerous face-to-face meetings, and attending EMS conferences where agency staff and Work Group members presented information and answered questions.

One specific recommendation from the Work Group to the Board related to "*National Continued Competency Requirements (NCCR) components being taught by Minnesota Approved Education Programs or educators' approved by the Board.*" This recommendation was tabled and returned to the Work Group for further clarification. In addition, the Work Group has been tasked with evaluating the initial and refresher education requirements for the Emergency Medical Responder. The next meeting for the EMS Education Transition Work Group is scheduled for March 3, 2016, at 10:00 a.m. For further information about the Education Standards, please visit the EMSRB web-site at mn.gov/boards/emsrb/.