NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM
Thomas A. Stith III
President

Public Safety Memo PS21-08

July 16, 2021

To: Chief Academic Officers
Senior Continuing Education Administrators
North Carolina Community College System

From: Tracy McPherson, Director, Public Safety Programs

RE: **Updated Information from the NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NCOEMS)**

Please see the attached "**NCOEMS Education Rules Summary**," effective July 1, 2021 (unless otherwise noted), recently issued by the NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NCOEMS) to approved EMS educational institutions, including community colleges with EMS programs offered through Curriculum or Workforce Continuing Education.

This information was previously sent directly to colleges by NCOEMS through the Continuum electronic portal to the following job types registered in Continuum: Program Coordinators, Primary Contacts, Medical Advisors, Chief Academic Officers, and Instructors. The document was also provided to the NC Community College System Office via email from Todd Messer, Education Manager, NCOEMS.

We are providing this additional copy to colleges so that you may share it, as appropriate. As always, college EMS Program Coordinator(s) on file with NCOEMS are responsible to NCOEMS for program compliance and should continue to work with their regional NCOEMS Education Specialist if there are questions about this or any other NCOEMS education and credentialing topic.

If you have questions related to NC Community College System EMS Curriculum or Workforce Continuing Education courses, programs or policies, please feel free to contact Tonya Clark, BS, NRP, RN, NCCCS EMS Specialist, at clarkt@nccommunitycolleges.edu or (828) 545-5061 (cell).

Thank you for your support of EMS education in North Carolina. You are making a difference every day.

Attachment

C: EMS Program Coordinators
NCCCS EMS Listserv
Todd Messer, NCOEMS
Dr. Lisa Eads, NCCCS
Nate Humphrey, NCCCS
Dr. Deana Guido, NCCCS

ATTACHMENT - NCCCS Memo PS21-08 (dated 07/16/2021)

NCOEMS Education Rules-Summary - Effective 7-1-21 (unless otherwise noted)

This content was provided to the NC Community College System Office on July 1, 2021. via email from Todd Messer, Education Manager, NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NCOEMS). This same information was sent by NCOEMS through the Continuum electronic portal to the following job types registered in Continuum: Program Coordinators, Primary Contacts, Medical Advisors, Chief Academic Officers, and Instructors. **College EMS Program Coordinator(s) on file with NCOEMS should continue to direct all questions to the college's NCOEMS regional education specialist as found at https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/EMS/staff.htm**

If you have questions related to NC Community College System EMS Curriculum or Workforce Continuing Education courses, programs or policies, please contact Tonya Clark, BS, NRP, RN, NCCCS EMS Specialist, at clarkt@nccommunitycolleges.edu. ---

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10A NCAC 13P .0501 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

- Accreditation:
  - Shall not approve initial AEMT or Paramedic courses for educational programs that fail to meet accreditation requirements by January 1, 2023
    - *Initial AEMT and Paramedic courses scheduled to end after 12/31/2022 must possess a LOR or full accreditation for the course to be approved*

10A NCAC 13P .0502 INITIAL CREDENTIALING REQUIREMENTS FOR EMR, EMT, AEMT, PARAMEDIC, AND EMD

- 90 days to test from graded date
- Maximum of 3 attempts in 6mos from graded date
  - After 3 attempts or 6mos, they will have to complete a new course
  - No more refresher then attempts that is gone
- *If individual had actively enrolled (Per Continuum) or completed a Refresher course and TSOP for additional attempts prior to 7/1/21, we will allow the individual to proceed with their attempts*

10A NCAC 13P .0510 RENEWAL OF CREDENTIALS FOR LEVEL I AND LEVEL II EMS INSTRUCTORS

- Allowing for Program Coordinator/Director to count their QA/QI for 75% of Instruction hrs. in a Credential Cycle

10A NCAC 13P .0512 REINSTATEMENT OF LAPSED EMS CREDENTIAL

- Provider Credential expired up to 3yrs:
  - Present evidence that renewal education requirements were met prior to expiration or complete a refresher course at the level of application taken following expiration of the credential
  - Complete an OEMS administered written examination for the individual's level of credential application;
  - If possess NREMT or other state Credential may obtain legal recognition
- Provider Credential expired more than 3yrs:
  - Start over
  - If possess NREMT or other state Credential may Legal Rec in
- Instructor Applicants for reinstatement:
  - Lapsed up to 12 months:
    - Present evidence that renewal requirements were met prior to expiration or within six months following the expiration of the Instructor credential
    - May Legal Rec if applicable
  - Lapsed more than 12 months:
    - Meet the requirements for initial Instructor credentialing set forth in Rules .0507 and .0508
    - Degree requirements that were not applicable to EMS Instructors initially credentialed prior to July 1, 2021 shall be required for reinstatement of a lapsed credential

(continued)

ATTACHMENT - NCCCS Memo PS21-08 (dated 07/16/2021)

10A NCAC 13P .0507 INITIAL CREDENTIALING REQUIREMENTS FOR LEVEL I EMS INSTRUCTORS (Effective 1/1/22)

- Post-secondary level education equal to or exceeding a minimum of an Associate Degree from an institution accredited by an approved agency listed on the U.S. Department of Education website, www.ed.gov:
  - The Department shall accept degrees from programs accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.
  - Additional degrees may be accepted based on the professional judgment of OEMS staff following a comparison of standards;

10A NCAC 13P .0507 INITIAL CREDENTIALING REQUIREMENTS FOR LEVEL II EMS INSTRUCTORS (Effective 1/1/22)

- Post-secondary level education equal to or exceeding a minimum of a Baccalaureate Degree from an institution accredited by an approved agency listed on the U.S. Department of Education website, www.ed.gov:
  - The Department shall accept degrees from programs accredited by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN) and the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs.
  - Additional degrees may be accepted based on the professional judgment of OEMS staff following a comparison of standards;

10A NCAC 13P .0601 CONTINUING EDUCATION EMS EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

- Change Institution to Program
- An Agency not affiliated with the System or Specialty Care, the continuing education program shall be reviewed and approved by the Agency Program Medical Director
- Require program coordinators attend an OEMS Program Coordinator workshop annually

10A NCAC 13P .0602 BASIC AND ADVANCED EMS EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION REQUIREMENT

- Meet CE Program requirements plus those listed below
- Institutions:
  - Complete minimum of two initial courses at the highest-level educational program approved for
  - Do not complete two initial courses, subject to action as set forth in in Rule .1505
- Basic Initial Courses:
  - Lead Instructor, Level I at or above Level of the course offered
  - Meet Standard III of the CAAHEP Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in the Emergency Medical Services Professions
- Lead EMS educational program coordinator:
  - Single person
  - Added Expectations and Responsibilities
  - Adopted CAAHEP Standards and Guidelines
- Educational Medical Advisor:
  - Adopted Select CAAHEP and NCCEP Standards and Guidelines
- Advanced Initial Courses:
  - Lead Instructor, Level I at or above Level of the course offered
  - Standard III of the CAAHEP Standards and Guidelines for the Accreditation of Educational Programs in the Emergency Medical Services Professions shall apply
  - The faculty must be knowledgeable in course content and effective in teaching their assigned subjects, and capable through academic preparation, training, and experience to teach the courses or topics to which they are assigned.
    - A faculty member to assist in teaching and clinical coordination in addition to the program coordinator.

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