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The National Accreditation of Ohio Paramedic Training Programs

Beginning January 1, 2013, the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians Board (NREMT) will require all initial Paramedic applicants seeking NREMT's National EMS Certification to have graduated from an accredited program or one that is seeking accreditation. "Seeking accreditation" means a paramedic program that has submitted a self-study to the Committee on Accreditation for the EMS Professions (CoAEMSP) which recommends accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).

In February 2010, the state EMS Board voted to require all Ohio Paramedic training programs to be nationally accredited by January 1, 2018. During the five-year interim – from January 1, 2013, to January 1, 2018 – graduates from paramedic programs that are not nationally accredited or seeking accreditation will be eligible to take the NREMT Paramedic exam through the NREMT for state certification, allowing graduates to practice in Ohio. But those graduates will not qualify for NREMT National certification. Without national certification, those graduates may be unable to practice as paramedics in other states. The NREMT has proposed the following implementation policies for Paramedic program accreditation by CAAHEP.

- ❑ State licensed Paramedics and those who graduated from non-CAAHEP accredited programs prior to January 1, 2013 will remain eligible for NREMT's National EMS Certification at the Paramedic level throughout their careers, provided all other requirements for NREMT certification are met.
- ❑ Paramedic applicants who are enrolled in non-CAAHEP accredited programs that began prior to January 1, 2013 are eligible for NREMT's National EMS Certification at the Paramedic level, provided all other requirements for NREMT certification are met.
- ❑ Paramedic applicants from any state who are graduates of a CAAHEP-accredited program are eligible for NREMT National EMS Certification at the Paramedic level, provided all other requirements for NREMT certification are met.
- ❑ Paramedic applicants who graduate from a non-CAAHEP accredited program in states that commit to CAAHEP accreditation by January 1, 2018 may take a NREMT Paramedic examination but those applicants will not be awarded National EMS Certification as a Paramedic.
- ❑ After December 31, 2012, Paramedic applicants from programs in states that do not commit to requiring CAAHEP accreditation prior to January 1, 2018 and who successfully completed a non-CAAHEP accredited program will not be eligible for any NREMT Paramedic examination.

More information and resources on CAAHEP accreditation may be found on the Ohio EMS web site using the following link http://www.ems.ohio.gov/natlaccred_info.stm . Please contact Linda Mirarchi for further assistance lmirarchi@dps.state.oh.us

Mission Statement

"to save lives, reduce injuries and economic loss, to administer Ohio's motor vehicle laws and to preserve the safety and well being of all citizens with the most cost-effective and service-oriented methods available."