



One Card, One Certification for All EMTs and Firefighters

The Ohio EMS Board is moving forward with plans for all Ohio certified First Responders, Firefighters, EMT's and Instructors to be on one certification card and with a common expiration date, your birthday.

The Ohio EMS Board and the Ohio Division of EMS are working hard to establish rules, authorized under H.B. 1, that will enable Ohio to merge all Ohio EMS & Fire certification expiration dates to a responder's birthday and multiple certification expiration dates to a single expiration date and single certification card.

Please visit www.ems.ohio.gov regularly for announcements and regional presentations to introduce these changes and new proposed rules. The EMS Board hopes to have rules approved and processes in place to begin the merging January 1, 2011.

EMS Performance Measures Project Provides Final Report

The EMS Performance Measures Project, which began in 2002 and concluded in 2007, gives the EMS community an additional tool to gauge and report various aspects of an EMS system including the environment in which EMS responds, the performance of emergency medical service (EMS) agencies, and the overall performance of local systems.

The EMS Performance Measures Project was coordinated by the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) in partnership with the National Association of EMS Physicians (NAEMSP), and supported by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA).

The EMS Performance Measures Project seeks to create a set of 20 to 30 EMS system performance indicators and attributes that can begin to be used to better explain our discipline to the outside world, including those who use and/or fund EMS services.

This is the beginning of an effort to establish national standards for such measures so that those using them will be able to compare their system's performance with other systems. It is expected that more indicators will be added to this set in the future.

To download, visit www.nasemso.org/Projects/PerformanceMeasures.

Ohio Celebrates EMS Week 2010

National Emergency Medical Services Week will be held May 16-22. This week is set aside to honor the commitment and dedication of those who provide lifesaving services, 24-7 on medicine's "front line."



On May 19th, the State Board of EMS will be holding a special meeting to present the 1st Annual EMS Provider, EMS Medical Director and EMS Agency awards. The State Board of EMS and the Division of EMS will take this opportunity to celebrate and honor those who are committed to providing quality care to those in need, often without pay and under daunting circumstances. This year's theme underscores their commitment: Anytime. Anywhere. We'll be there.

The staff of the Division of EMS would like to take this opportunity to express our respect and appreciation for the commitment and dedication shown by our EMS and Fire service members throughout the year.

Division Welcomes Newest Board Member

The Division of EMS welcomes Chief James Parrish as the newest member of the EMS Board, filling the position previously held by Chief Mark Burgess. James Parrish has been in the fire service since 1982, where he began his career at the Gnadenhutten Volunteer Fire Department.



Chief James Parrish

Since 1992, he has been with the New Philadelphia Fire Department where he was promoted to Fire Chief in 2008. He has been a paramedic since 1986 and has served with Med Flight of Ohio since 1996. Chief Parrish is affiliated with the Ohio Fire Chief's Association, the International Association of Fire Chief's, and the Ohio Association of Professional Firefighters.

The Division looks forward to working with Chief Parrish in the coming years.

First Responder Curriculum Updated

An updated copy of the Ohio approved First Responder Curriculum has been posted on the Division of EMS web site. The document reflects changes to OAC 4765-12-02 approved by the EMS Board and effective 2/1/2001.

The curriculum objectives established by the EMS Board remain the same. The course hours have increased from 40 to a minimum of 48 hours and no longer requires a minimum number of hours be dedicated to each course topic.

In addition, the rule permits the accredited institution to grant a maximum of four (4) hours of course credit towards the 48-hour training program if the student can document successful completion of a health care provider course or professional rescuer course provided through the American Red Cross, the American Heart Association or the American Safety and Health Institution.

The First Responder Curriculum may be found at the following link: www.publicsafety.ohio.gov/links/ems_first_responder_curriculum.pdf.

The full text of changes to each rule is available on the EMS website at www.ems.ohio.gov.

EMS Safety Foundation Webinar Recording and Handout Links Now Available

An archive of the EMS Safety Foundation November 2009 Webinar - "Key Lessons from the Workshop and the Summit, and EMS Safety Foundation Developments for 2009-2010" is now available.

There is a public access to this recording and handout at www.ObjectiveSafety.net (TRB 2009 link) or www.EMSafetyFoundation.org.