

Transition to National Registry Testing



Why are we changing now?

- Virginia no longer has access to certification exams that are validated, psychometrically sound and legally defensible
- Transitioning to National Registry allows Virginia to:
 - Standardize the entire initial certification process
 - Be fully compliant with the National EMS Education document

National Registry Exam Types

- The National Registry offers ten exam types:
 - Five (5) certification exams
 - First Responder / EMR
 - EMT-Basic / EMT
 - Advanced EMT
 - EMT Intermediate/99
 - EMT Paramedic / Paramedic
 - Five (5) assessment exams
 - Assessment - EMR
 - Assessment - EMT
 - Assessment - AEMT
 - Assessment - Intermediate
 - Assessment - Paramedic

National Registry Exam Types

- For certification in Virginia, most candidates will take one of the five (5) certification exams.
- Exceptions to this policy include but are not limited to:
 - Candidates under the age of 18
 - Virginia Intermediate candidates testing after December 31, 2013
 - Virginia EMS providers seeking recertification after December 31, 2013
 - Virginia EMS providers in reentry, Legal Recognition or seeking to challenge after December 31, 2013

National Registry & Virginia Reciprocity

- As of July 1, 2012, Virginia began allowing reciprocity for all National Registry certifications.
 - Reciprocity will transition from a paper-based process to an automated process for all students/candidates enrolled in Virginia approved certification programs.
 - For individuals coming into Virginia from outside the state, reciprocity will continue to be paper-based. We require this to verify:
 - existing certifications and training
 - CPR credentials, and
 - to conduct background checks
- Individuals with out of state certification, but no NREMT certification will be granted Legal Recognition.

BLS Examination Cost

- The Virginia Office of EMS will cover the cost of the first attempt at the National Registry EMR and EMT cognitive exam for Virginia trained providers:
 - EMR Exam costs \$65.00
 - EMT Exam costs \$70.00
- If a candidate is a 'no show' to a National Registry exam, this will count as their paid attempt.
- If the candidate fails their first attempt, they will bear the cost of all subsequent attempts at the National Registry examination.

Which BLS exam will I take?

- For initial BLS certification courses that ended **BEFORE** July 1, 2012, candidates will take the Virginia written and practical certification exam.
 - Candidates testing under this method will continue in the Virginia testing series until all allowable test attempts are exhausted.

BLS Initial Certification Testing

- For courses ending on or after July 1, 2012, there are three components to the BLS testing process:
 - Virginia psychomotor exam (must be taken first)
 - NREMT cognitive exam
 - Reciprocity

Which BLS exam will I take?

- For BLS certification courses ending *on or after* July 1, 2012, students will take:
 - Virginia psychomotor examination (must be taken first)
 - Candidates testing under this method will take the psychomotor examination in Virginia until all allowable testing attempts have been exhausted. Should they not be successful in the four (4) attempts allowed, they would be required to repeat an entire EMT course.
 - National Registry cognitive examination
 - Upon successful completion of the Virginia psychomotor examination, students will take National Registry cognitive exam until all test attempts are exhausted. Students will fall under NREMT testing policies.
 - Reciprocity
 - Upon successful completion of the NREMT cognitive examination, the provider will receive certification in Virginia.

Students/Candidates Under 18

- The National Registry does not certify individuals who are under 18 years of age.
- Virginia EMR and EMT students/candidates who are under 18 years of age at the time of certification testing will be required to:
 - Register for an account on the National Registry website.
 - Register to take either the EMR or EMT assessment examination.
 - Obtain a government issued photo identification.
- Assessment exam results will be electronically passed to Virginia for use in Virginia certification.
- The Office of EMS will be required to mark these students as being eligible for NREMT testing.

BLS Test Site Admission Criteria

- Virginia Psychomotor Examination (CTS)
 - State issued Eligibility to Test Letter from the EMS Portal
 - Variance and/or Accommodation Letter, if applicable
 - Government Issued photo identification or high school issued photo identification
- National Registry Cognitive Examination (Pearson VUE)
 - NREMT Authorization to Test (ATT) Letter
 - NREMT Accommodation Letter, if applicable
 - Government Issued photo identification
 - Candidates who do not have a government issued driver's license will be required to have a U.S. Passport or government issued photo identification card. There are no exceptions to this policy.
 - DMV link: <http://www.dmvnow.com/webdoc/citizen/id/index.asp>

Process & Timeline



Emergency Medical Responder Process

Last Class

- Instructor completes 'last class' paperwork
- Instructor completes the CSDR



National Registry Application

- Candidate creates NREMT account
- Candidate registers with NREMT to take the EMR exam.
- Instructor marks student as passed on NREMT site



Psychomotor Retesting, if applicable

- Candidate can retest at the CTS if allowed per the TPAM
- Candidate follows Virginia Psychomotor exam retest policy



Virginia Psychomotor Testing

- Candidate registers for a CTS site
- Candidate takes the Virginia psychomotor exam



Candidate Schedules NREMT Exam

- Candidate gets Authorization to Test letter (ATT) from NREMT
- Schedules exam through Pearson VUE



National Registry Exam

- Student takes the NREMT cognitive exam at Pearson VUE
- Upon successful completion, candidate will receive Virginia certification

Emergency Medical Responder

Recertification

- Provider is current (not expired)
- They will take the Virginia First Responder written exam until December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing by their OMD
- They will take NREMT EMR cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing by their OMD

Reentry

- Provider has expired Virginia First Responder certification
- They will take the Virginia First Responder written and practical exam until December 31, 2013
- They will take Virginia psychomotor and NREMT EMR cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013

Process & Timeline



Emergency Medical Technician Process

Last Class

- Instructor completes 'last class' paperwork
- Instructor completes the CSDR



National Registry Application

- Candidate creates NREMT account
- Candidate registers with NREMT to take the EMT exam.
- Instructor marks student as passed on NREMT site



Psychomotor Retesting, if applicable

- Candidate can retest at the CTS if allowed per the TPAM
- Candidate follows Virginia Psychomotor exam retest policy



Virginia Psychomotor Testing

- Candidate registers for a CTS site
- Candidate takes the Virginia psychomotor exam



Candidate Schedules NREMT Exam

- Candidate get Authorization to Test letter (ATT) from NREMT
- Schedules exam through Pearson VUE



National Registry Exam

- Student takes the NREMT cognitive exam at Pearson VUE
- Upon successful completion, candidate will receive Virginia certification

Emergency Medical Technician

Recertification

- Provider is current (not expired)
- They will take the Virginia EMT written exam until December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing
- They will take NREMT cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing

Reentry

- Provider has expired Virginia EMT certification
- They will take the Virginia EMT written and practical exam until December 31, 2013
- They will take Virginia psychomotor and NREMT cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013

Legal Recognition

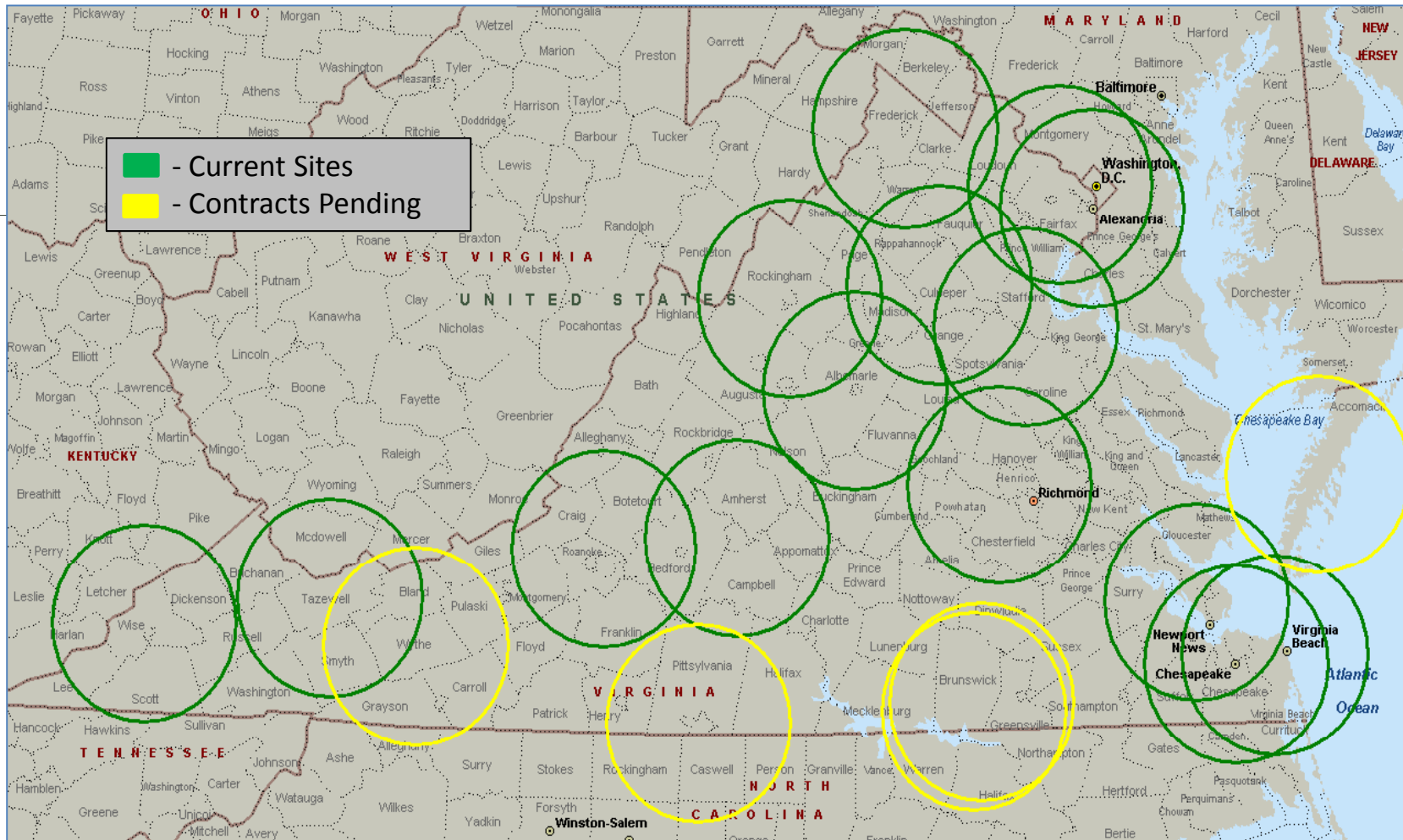
- Provider is current (not expired)
- They will take the Virginia EMT written and practical exam until December 31, 2013
- They will take Virginia psychomotor exam and the NREMT cognitive exam after December 31, 2013

Challenges

- Candidates will:
 - Take the Virginia written and practical exam until December 31, 2013
 - Take Virginia psychomotor and NREMT cognitive exam after December 31, 2013

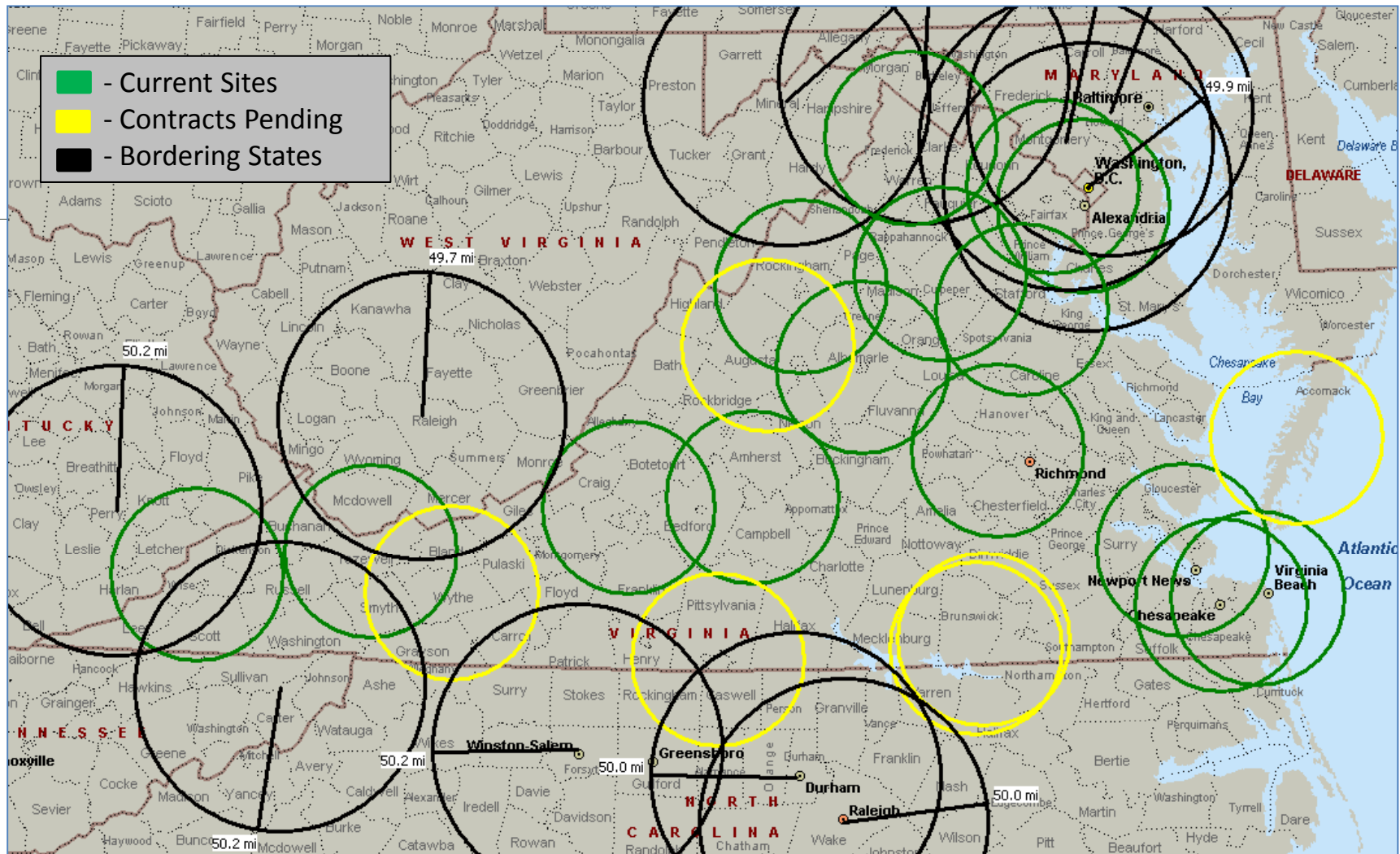
Pearson VUE Testing Center Map

[Virginia Sites]



Pearson VUE Testing Center Map

[Virginia and Bordering State Sites]



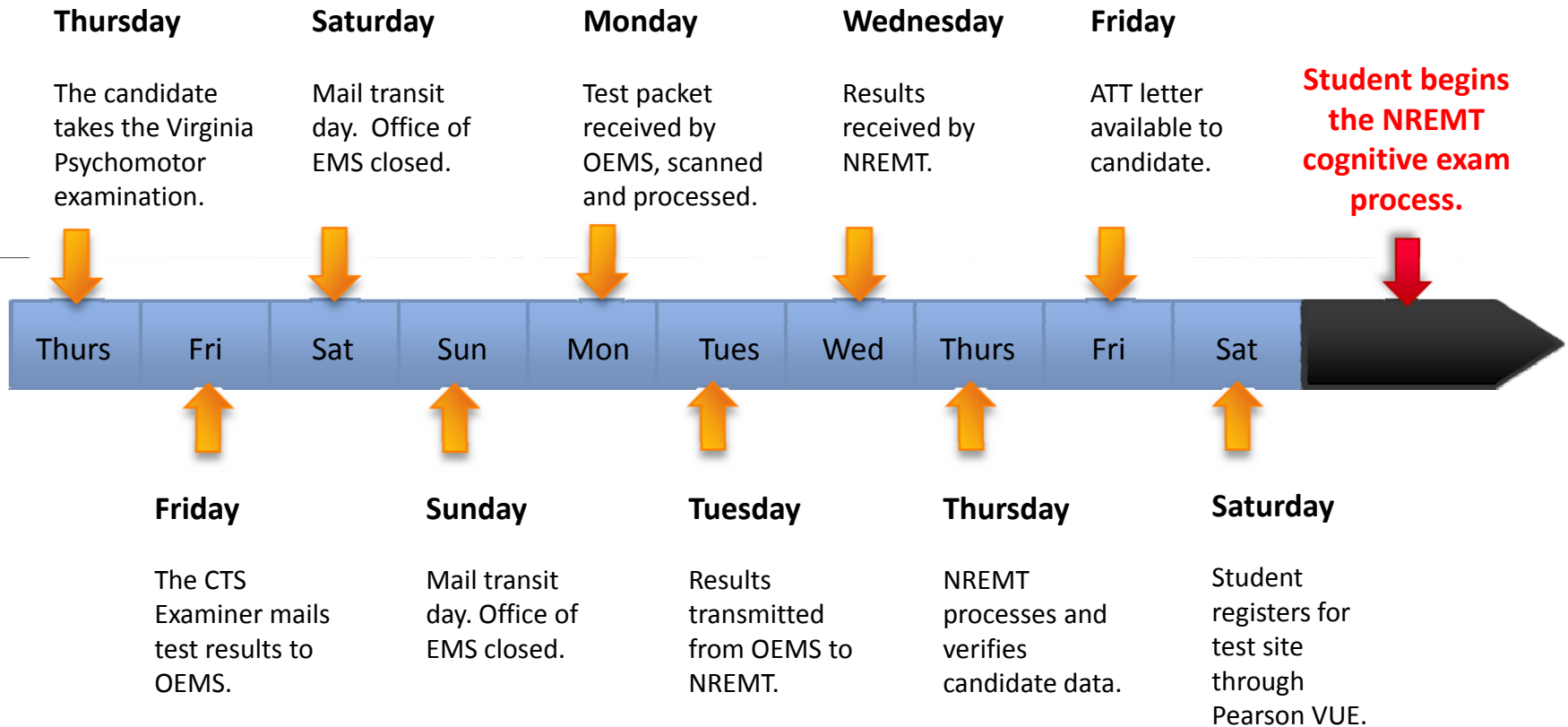
Pending Pearson VUE Testing Center Addresses

- Lord Fairfax EMS Council – Winchester, Virginia
 - Application has been approved by Pearson VUE. Testing to begin in the near future.
- Eastern Shore Community College - Melfa, Virginia
 - Contact continues
- Lake Country Advanced Knowledge Center - South Hill, Virginia
 - Contact continues; Contract addendums
- Mountain Empire Community College - Big Stone Gap, Virginia
 - Application has been approved by Pearson VUE. Testing to begin in the near future.
- National College - Danville, Virginia
 - Contact continues
- Southside Virginia Community College - Alberta, Virginia
 - Moving forward with application
- Wytheville Community College – Wytheville, Virginia
 - Contact continues - site awaiting space approval

Recertification in Virginia

Virginia providers will
not be required to
keep National Registry!

Sample OEMS/NREMT Timeline



This timeline is an example ONLY! There are a number of variables at play which make it nearly impossible to develop a timeline which will apply in all cases.

National Registry Pass/Fail Stats - EMT

National Registry - Overall

Pass/Fail Report – Q1 2007 to Q2 2012 – Data Run 6/21/2012

Attempted The Exam	First Attempt Pass	Cumulative Pass Within 3 Attempts	Cumulative Pass Within 6 Attempts	Failed All 6 Attempts	Eligible For Retest	Did Not Complete Within 2 Years
366,931	67%	79%	80%	0%	7%	13%

National Registry – Virginia Providers

Pass/Fail Report – Q1 2007 to Q2 2012 – Data Run 6/21/2012

Attempted The Exam	First Attempt Pass	Cumulative Pass Within 3 Attempts	Cumulative Pass Within 6 Attempts	Failed All 6 Attempts	Eligible For Retest	Did Not Complete Within 2 Years
364	73%	80%	80%	0%	5%	14%

Virginia Test Results

Pass/Fail Report – Q1 2007 to Q2 2012 – Data Run 6/21/2012

Attempted The Exam	Pass
25,418	72%

WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE?



ALS Initial Certification Testing

- The testing method/process for ALS programs will vary depending on the certification level in question and the current date.
- The following slides detail the following ALS programs:
 - EMT-Enhanced
 - Advanced EMT
 - Intermediate
 - Paramedic

Process & Timeline



EMT-Enhanced Process

EMT-Enhanced students/candidates will see no change the current processes used for certification testing until October 31, 2014.



Upon successful completion of the Virginia EMT-Enhanced written and practical certification exams, students will be issued Virginia EMT-Enhanced certification.

EMT-Enhanced Process

Virginia will continue to allow EMT-Enhanced certification courses to be announced. All EMT Enhanced courses **MUST END** by October 31, 2014.

Enhanced certification testing will continue until April 30, 2016.

Enhanced to Advanced EMT Transition Timeline

Zero Month

October 10, 2012

Month 24

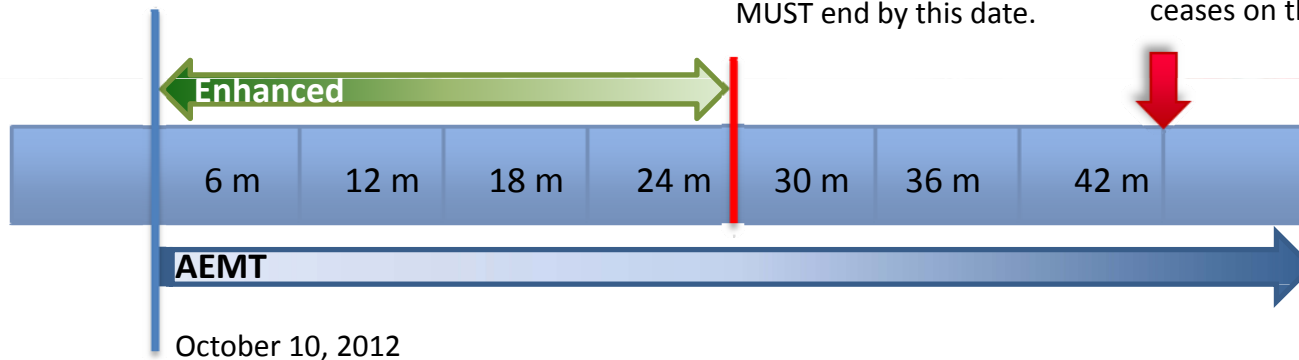
October 31, 2014

Month 42

April 30, 2016

All Enhanced Courses
MUST end by this date.

All Enhanced testing
ceases on this date.



October 10, 2012

OEMS is now accepting
AEMT accreditation
applications.

OEMS is now accepting
AEMT certification course
announcements from
accredited programs.



EMT-Enhanced

Recertification

- Provider is current (not expired)
- They will take the Virginia Enhanced written exam until December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing.
- They will take NREMT Advanced EMT cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing.

Reentry

- Provider has expired Virginia Enhanced certification
- They will take the Virginia Enhanced written exam until December 31, 2013.
- They will take NREMT Advanced EMT cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013.

Process & Timeline



Advanced EMT Process

In order to conduct Advanced EMT certification courses, a program must be accredited.

Virginia is now accepting Advanced EMT accreditation applications.



Virginia is now accepting Advanced EMT course announcements from accredited training programs.

Advanced EMT

Recertification

- Provider is current (not expired)
- They will take the National Registry cognitive assessment exam unless they are waived from testing.

Reentry

- Provider has expired Virginia AEMT certification
- They will take the National Registry cognitive assessment exam.

Process & Timeline



Intermediate Process

Intermediate students/candidates will see no change in the current processes used for certification testing until January 1, 2014.

Intermediate Process

Testing on or
before December
31, 2013

- Students/candidates will:
 - Take the National Registry cognitive and psychomotor examination and complete the NREMT certification process.
 - Virginia reciprocity will be automated and Virginia certification will be issued upon successful NREMT certification.

Testing after
December 31,
2013

- Students/candidates will:
 - Take the Virginia psychomotor examination and the National Registry cognitive assessment examination.
 - Virginia certification will be issued upon successful completion of the exams outlined above.

Intermediate Process

Recertification

- Provider is current (not expired)
- Will take the Virginia Intermediate written exam until December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing
- Will take NREMT Intermediate cognitive assessment examination after December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing

Reentry

- Provider has expired Virginia Intermediate certification
- Will take the Virginia Intermediate written exam until December 31, 2013
- Will take NREMT Intermediate cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013

Process & Timeline



Paramedic Process

Paramedic students/candidates will see no change the current processes used for certification testing.



Upon successful certification as a National Registry Paramedic, students in Virginia courses will automatically receive reciprocity and Virginia certification.

Paramedic Process

Recertification

- Provider is current (not expired)
- They will take the Virginia Paramedic written exam until December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing
- They will take NREMT Paramedic cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013 unless they are waived from testing

Reentry

- Provider has expired Virginia certification
- They will take the Virginia Paramedic written exam until December 31, 2013
- They will take NREMT Paramedic cognitive assessment exam after December 31, 2013

Challenges

- Candidates will:
 - Take the National Registry cognitive and psychomotor examination becoming a National Registered Paramedic.

WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE?



EMT Instructor Requirements

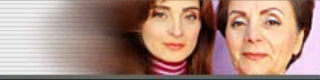
- EMT-Instructors are required to register on the NREMT website as ***Program Directors***
 - This only applies to VEMSES qualified EMT Instructors
 - The Office will not approve non-VEMSES qualified instructors in the NREMT database
 - If the EMT Instructor currently has an NREMT certification, they can simply add a role to their existing NREMT account
- If you have not applied for your Program Director role with NREMT, please do so immediately.

NREMT Account Quick Guides

- The NREMT account functions similarly to the Virginia CSDR.
 - allows instructors to mark and track their students/candidates through the testing process
 - allows the Office to track outcome statistics per instructor.
- The Office has developed *Quick Guides* to assist EMT Instructors with:
 - Setting up their National Registry accounts
 - Authorizing/marking students as eligible to test with National Registry
 - Directions for use by students/candidates to create an NREMT account and register for their cognitive exam.

Transition Website

Virginia.gov Online Services | Commonwealth Sites | Help | Governor

VDH VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Protecting You and Your Environment 

Home | VDH Programs | Find It! A-Z Index | Newsroom | Administration | Jobs

Home > Office of Emergency Medical Services > Education & Certification > National Registry Testing Transition

National Registry Testing Transition

The Virginia Office of EMS no longer has access to certification exams that are validated, psychometrically sound and legally defensible.

On July 1, 2012, the Virginia Office of EMS transitioned its BLS testing processes from state testing to the National Registry of EMT's. Transitioning to National Registry allows Virginia to:

- Standardize the entire initial certification process
- Be fully compliant with the National EMS Education documents.

Virginia now recognizes reciprocity for all National Registry certifications.

- For Virginia trained EMS Providers, reciprocity will transition from a paper-based process to an automated process.
- For individuals coming into Virginia from outside the state, reciprocity will continue to be paper-based.

This page is one-stop shopping for information and documentation pertaining to the new National Registry testing process.

National Registry Transition Presentation

- [NREMT Presentation Handouts – Full slides](#)
- [NREMT Presentation Handouts – 3 to a page with notes](#)

National Registry/Pearson VUE Test Sites

- [Pearson VUE Test Centers](#)

Student/Candidate Quick Guides

BLS Course/Testing Cycle

Course Announcement

- Announce your certification course to the Office as you normally would.
- Submit EMSTF contract, if applicable
- Approval will be e-mailed to you and placed in your EMS Portal.

Conduct Course

- Submit Virginia Enrollment forms as you normally would
- Review Course Roster and check for 'ineligible students'
- Encourage students to create their NREMT accounts and register for testing...early registration is highly encouraged.

Last Class Meeting

- Complete "Last Class" paperwork with your students. Retain a copy for your records.
- Review CTS process with candidates
- Review National Registry process with candidates.

Virginia and NR Testing Process

- At the end of your course:
 - complete the CSDR as you normally would
 - mark student as eligible in the NREMT website
- Track students progress through the EMS Portal and NREMT website

WHAT QUESTIONS DO YOU HAVE?

