



Pat Quinn, Governor
Damon T. Arnold, M.D., M.P.H., Director

525-535 West Jefferson Street • Springfield, Illinois 62761-0001 • www.idph.state.il.us

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 8, 2011

TO: All EMS Medical Directors
All EMS System Coordinators
Lead Instructors

FROM: Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH)
Division of EMS & Highway Safety

SUBJECT: Transition to the New Education Standards and National Scope of Practice
by January 1, 2013

The Illinois Department of Public Health, Division of EMS & Highway Safety would like to take this opportunity to inform your EMS System and/or teaching institution of the intent to transition all facets of EMS education for initial certification, licensure and continuing education to the New Education Standards effective January 1st, 2013.

All EMS Systems and Lead Instructors will need to adopt the New Educations Standards and prepare their teaching curriculum to adhere to the new standards. IDPH will be coordinating with the State Education Subcommittee in the development of some curriculum guidance. Any courses being conducted under the old Department of Transportation (DOT) National Standard Curriculum (NSC) must be approved and started prior to the January 1, 2013 date. **Any DOT course that ends after the January 1, 2013 date will be tested to the New Education Standards.**

Information on the New Education Standards can be obtained at www.ems.gov. This website contains all of the National documents available.

In addition to transitioning to the New Education Standards, IDPH will also be adopting the National EMS Scopes of Practice Model, thus the following changes can be expected:

- All existing First Responder Defibrillator certifications will also be recognized as Emergency Medical Responders;
- All Emergency Medical Technicians-Basic will be recognized as an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT);
- A new license will be recognized as an Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT);

- Currently licensed Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediates will be recognized through December 31, 2017; and
- Emergency Medical Technicians-Paramedics will be recognized as "Paramedic."

For programs that choose to upgrade existing EMT-Intermediates to Paramedics using the old National Standard Curriculum, they will need to apply for and start the program before January 1, 2013 with the understanding these students will be tested on New Education Standards exams if the course ends after January 1, 2013.

IDPH will continue to offer licensure exams through a State-contracted testing vendor. The National Registry exam will also continue to be a testing option for obtaining Illinois licensure.

If further clarification is needed, please contact your State Regional EMS Coordinator or IDPH, Division of EMS & Highway Safety at 217-785-2080.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jack Fleeharty". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J".

Jack Fleeharty, RN, EMT-P
Division Chief
EMS and Highway Safety

JF:sg