



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

OLGA DAZZO
DIRECTOR

June 14, 2012

Dear Michigan EMT-Specialist,

As you may be aware, Michigan will begin transitioning our current level of EMT-Specialist (Specialist) licensure to the new Advanced EMT (AEMT) level skills. The reason for this move is, at the national level, the curriculum was revised and based upon these revisions the National Registry of EMTs will eliminate the current Specialist Exam and implement the Advanced EMT (new Specialist) exam.

Although the level of licensure in Michigan will still be identified as a Specialist, a Specialist of the future will no longer be licensed to perform endotracheal intubations; instead, Specialist will be perform supraglottic airway intubations. In addition, the new Specialist will be trained in the administration of the following medications as determined by the National EMS Education Standards, most of which are not presently administered by an EMT-S in Michigan:

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| A. Albuterol | H. Naloxone |
| B. Aspirin | I. Nitroglycerin |
| C. Dextrose (50%) | 1. Paste |
| D. Epinephrine (Intramuscular or Subcutaneous) | 2. Spray |
| E. Glucagon | 3. Tablets |
| F. Glucose | J. Oxygen |
| G. Intravenous Fluids | K. Nitrous Oxide |
| 1. Dextrose 5% in water | |
| 2. Normal Saline | |
| 3. Lactated Ringer's | |

In order to implement the new Specialist in Michigan, the Department has established the following:

- April 1, 2013 has been established as the end date for our current Specialist and the beginning date for the new Specialist.
 - Effective March 31, 2013, the NREMT will no longer offer the current Specialist (I-85) exam. However, effective February 28, 2013, the Department will no longer offer this exam.
- Developed a 52 hour bridge course.
 - Approved to begin April 15, 2012 – approved courses on website
 - Begin offering the new Specialist (AEMT) exam September 2012
 - Bridge Course Outline is on the website
 - CEs offered with bridge course are also identified on website
 - Bridge Courses will not extend beyond December 31, 2012
- New Initial Specialist Courses will begin being offered August 15, 2012

As a licensed Specialist, you have a choice. You will need to determine if you will take a bridge course and the NREMT AEMT exam **OR** drop to an EMT. As the last date of a bridge course is December 31, 2012, you will need to make this decision within the next few months.

If you wish to remain licensed as a Michigan Specialist beyond April 1, 2013, you will be required to complete the following steps:

1. Successfully complete a 52 hour EMT-S bridge course. This course will focus on the administration of the medications listed above and will be offered at various locations throughout Michigan. Please check with an EMS education program in your area that is presently approved to offer initial paramedic or EMT-S courses, or you are welcome to check our website (www.michigan.gov/ems) for updated course locations as they become available. All courses must end no later than December 31, 2012.
2. Successfully pass the NREMT AEMT cognitive (written) and psychomotor (practical) exams upon completion of the bridge course.
 - a. Specialist will have three attempts to successfully pass the exam.
 - b. Every effort should be made to complete the exam process by March 31, 2013.
 - c. Those Specialists that have not completed the process by March 31, 2013, will have to drop to the EMT level. However, they will have the ability to continue the testing process (up to 3 attempts) until June 30, 2013.
3. Apply for state licensure – NO FEE.

New Specialist licenses will be issued beginning April 1, 2013.

Any Specialist who chooses to not complete a bridge course will be required to downgrade their license to the EMT level. This downgrade request must be accomplished by sending in a licensure application identifying that you are choosing to downgrade from the Specialist to the EMT.

If a bridge course has not been completed by December 31, 2012 or a downgrade request has not been received by December 31, 2012, the Specialist license will automatically be downgraded to the level of EMT as of April 1, 2013. No fee will be charged for this licensure change.

Also, for your information, the Department will be making revisions to the required equipment for Limited Advanced Life Support Services and updating the protocols to reflect the new Specialist level procedures.

Thank you for your past and continued service as an EMS provider. Our office looks forward to working with you into the future. Should you have any questions, please review our website (www.michigan.gov/ems) or send an email to either Marvin Helmker at Helmkerm@michigan.gov or shivleyr@michigan.gov

Sincerely,

Robin Shivley, Director
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Michigan Department of Community Health