

# PARAMEDIC

## CANDIDATE HANDBOOK

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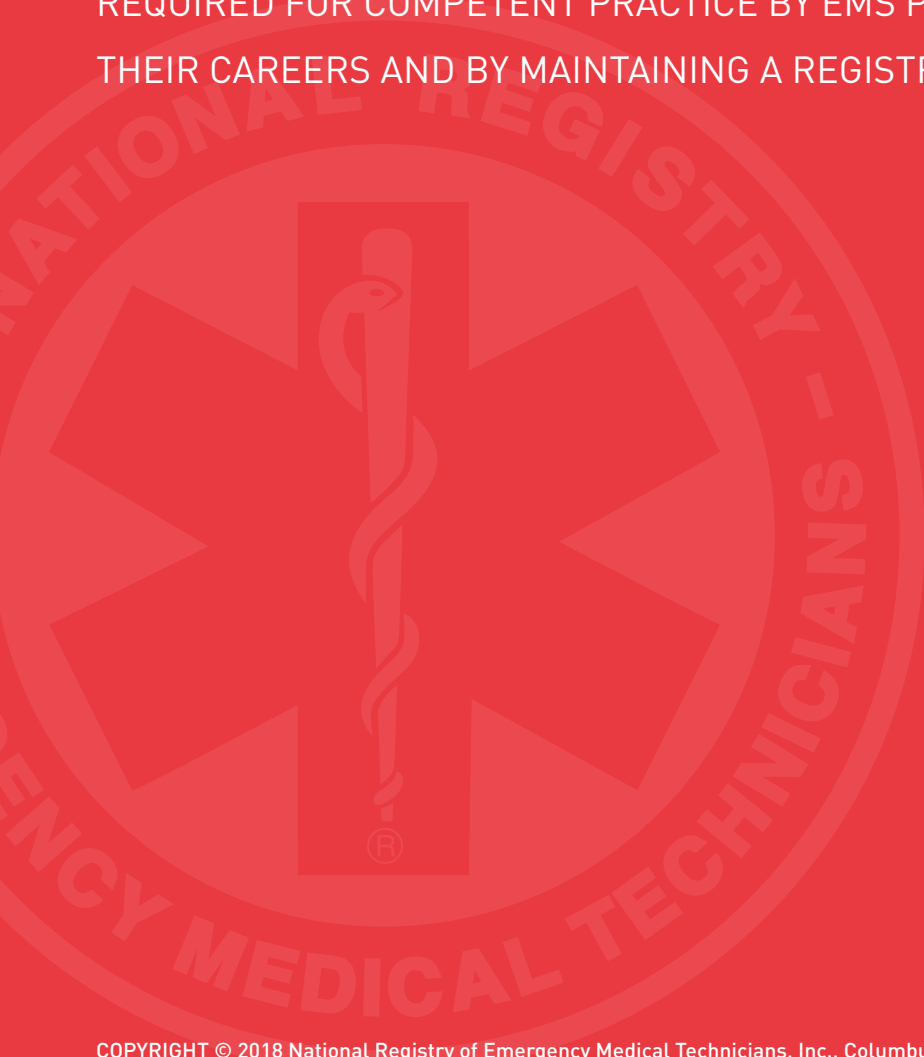
2018

National Registry of  
Emergency Medical Technicians®  
THE NATION'S EMS CERTIFICATION™



# OUR MISSION

TO SERVE AS THE NATIONAL EMS CERTIFICATION ORGANIZATION BY PROVIDING A VALID, UNIFORM PROCESS TO ASSESS THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS REQUIRED FOR COMPETENT PRACTICE BY EMS PROFESSIONALS THROUGHOUT THEIR CAREERS AND BY MAINTAINING A REGISTRY OF CERTIFICATION STATUS.



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Handbook Issue 1

Verify issue and revision status of document before using. The web address for the latest version of the handbook is:  
[https://content.nremt.org/static/documents/NREMT\\_ParamedicHandbook.pdf](https://content.nremt.org/static/documents/NREMT_ParamedicHandbook.pdf)

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# PART 1: OVERVIEW

## HANDBOOK PURPOSE

We are excited you are working on NREMT certification.

We want to prepare you so that you know what to do to get certified. The handbook contains information on NREMT certification. It explains your responsibilities and the steps to earn certification. It also explains how exams work and what the certification policies are. Please read the entire handbook.

This handbook is for candidates who are completing or have recently completed an educational program.

You may have concerns that are not addressed in this handbook. For those questions, we are pleased to serve you through our website, call center and email.

## NREMT CERTIFICATION

We use exams to make sure candidates have the knowledge and skills needed to be a Paramedic. The exams are the same across the country to make sure that everyone meets the same standards. As a result, the Paramedic certification lets the public, healthcare providers, employers, and others know that you have the knowledge and skills to work safely and effectively.

Successfully obtaining NREMT certification does not grant you the right to practice. You must obtain a state-issued license in order to legally practice as a paramedic. In many states, NREMT certification is one of the requirements to earn a state license to practice.

## ABOUT THE NREMT

In its role as the nation's EMS certification organization, the NREMT:

- Establishes eligibility requirements for applicants for NREMT certification
- Develops exam (cognitive and psychomotor)
- Establishes recertification requirements
- Reviews applicants' self-disclosed criminal convictions and actions taken against their healthcare related professional licenses
- Monitors certification status of registrants and takes appropriate action against the certification when apprised of adverse licensure actions and criminal convictions
- Provides to licensing or authorizing agencies obtained adverse licensure action and criminal conviction information regarding registered EMS professionals

The NREMT does not:

- Establish, accredit, or approve education programs for certification or recertification
- Assess job performance
- Assess fitness for all aspects of job performance (physical, mental, criminal background clearance)
- Investigate complaints regarding EMS practice
- Establish scopes of practice or standards of care
- Establish job-related standards of professional behavior



### FAQ: What is the difference between NREMT certification and state licensure?

Having NREMT certification means you have met a set of standards and that you have the knowledge and skills required for a Paramedic position. A license is the legal right to practice as an EMS professional within a set scope of practice and is granted by a state or other legally recognized authority.

## CERTIFICATION PROCESS OVERVIEW

The first four steps in this process are the following:

### STEP 1

#### BEGIN AN EDUCATION PROGRAM

Before you can apply for a Paramedic certification, you must have at least an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) license or certification. If you have a higher-level license or certification, you also can start a Paramedic education program. You need to be in a Paramedic program that is CAAHEP accredited. We only accept candidates from **CAAHEP accredited programs**. Contact your state EMS office to find programs in your area.

### STEP 2

#### CREATE ACCOUNT

Once you are enrolled in an EMT educational program, create your NREMT account.

### STEP 3

#### SUBMIT APPLICATION AND PAYMENT

Submit your application about four weeks before you complete your program. Your Program Director needs to approve your application. The Director will approve your application when you complete the course requirements. When you submit your application, you also pay for your cognitive exam.

### STEP 4

#### REGISTER FOR EXAMS

You need three things for your application to be complete: submitted application, submitted payment, and your program director's approval. Once your application is complete, we will update your NREMT account with your Authorization to Test (ATT), usually within one to two business days.

You have 90 days from the day we issue your ATT to complete your cognitive exam. You will lose your ATT and the money you paid if you do not use your ATT in 90 days.

Go to the Pearson VUE website to schedule your cognitive exam. After your exam, your results will post to your NREMT account within 1-2 business days.

We will also update your NREMT account with your Psychomotor Authorization to Test (PATT) number after your application is complete. Use your PATT to sign up for a psychomotor exam.

You can search the list of available psychomotor exams on the NREMT website. Call the locations for availability. Let them know you want to test at the Paramedic level. They will ask you for your PATT number. After your psychomotor exam, your official results will post in four weeks to your NREMT account.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

**Contact the NREMT** with questions about your certification application, the cognitive or psychomotor exam, or certification policies:

Type of Questions	NREMT Contact Information		
General	Website: <a href="http://www.nremt.org">www.nremt.org</a> Telephone: 1-614-888-4484 Fax: 1-614-396-2428	Address for applications and check or money orders: NREMT PO Box 29233 Columbus, OH 43229	Address for packages and general mail: 6610 Busch Blvd Columbus, OH 43229
NREMT Accounts, Applications, Name Changes, and General Questions	<a href="mailto:certification@nremt.org">certification@nremt.org</a>		
Scheduling Exams, Cognitive and Psychomotor Exam Results	<a href="mailto:exams@nremt.org">exams@nremt.org</a>		
Recertification	<a href="mailto:recertification@nremt.org">recertification@nremt.org</a>		
Accommodations	<a href="mailto:accommodations@nremt.org">accommodations@nremt.org</a>		
Criminal Convictions	<a href="mailto:evaluation@nremt.org">evaluation@nremt.org</a>		

**Contact Pearson VUE** with questions about Pearson VUE log-in assistance and scheduling or rescheduling cognitive exams:

Website	<a href="http://www.pearsonvue.com/nremt/">www.pearsonvue.com/nremt/</a>
Telephone	1-866-673-6896
Email Form	<a href="https://home.pearsonvue.com/test-taker/customer-service/Email-form-americas-professional.aspx">https://home.pearsonvue.com/test-taker/customer-service/Email-form-americas-professional.aspx</a>
Address	Pearson Professional Testing, 5601 Green Valley Drive, Bloomington, MN 55437

**Contact your State EMS Office.** The NREMT has a State EMS Office contact list for your convenience. Follow the link below and select your state to find their contact information: [www.nremt.org/rwd/public/states/state-ems-agencies](http://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/states/state-ems-agencies)

# PART 2: CANDIDATE RESPONSIBILITIES

## CANDIDATE AGREEMENT

You must agree to follow all NREMT policies, processes and procedures. The act of submitting your application means that you agree to follow them. When you submit the application, you are saying that you have read, understand, and agree to follow them.

These policies contain important information about how certification works and your rights and responsibilities as a candidate. It is your responsibility to read them. We want to be sure you understand them.

Please read the next three sections (Requirements, Code of Conduct, and Terms of Certification) and call us if you have any questions.

## REQUIREMENTS

Individuals applying for Paramedic certification must meet the following requirements:

1. Be 18 years of age or older
2. Hold a current NREMT certification or state license at the EMT level or higher
3. Successfully complete a CAAHEP-accredited Paramedic program (or a program that has a CAAHEP "Letter of Review") within the past two years. The course Program Director must verify the candidate's successful completion of the course through the NREMT website
4. All Paramedic candidates who started their Paramedic education programs after August 1, 2016 are required to complete a psychomotor competency portfolio.  
**Note:** Program Directors must verify that candidates have met the requirements of the portfolio through the NREMT website
5. Have a current CPR-BLS for "Healthcare Provider" or equivalent credential

6. Successfully complete NREMT cognitive (knowledge) and psychomotor (skills) exams
7. Passed portions of the cognitive and psychomotor exam remain valid for 12 months, provided all other eligibility requirements are met

## CODE OF CONDUCT

For you to gain NREMT certification or recertification, the NREMT Code of Conduct requires that you:

- Comply with all policies and rules of the NREMT
- Provide full, truthful, and updated information to the NREMT on any application for certification or recertification or in any other communication to the NREMT
- Provide accurate documentation of the training requirements for certification
- Accurately represent to the public your NREMT certification status
- Adhere to the highest standards of professionalism and ethics
- At all times, be eligible for or hold a full and unrestricted license to practice as an EMS professional under the laws of the licensing or authorizing agency of the jurisdiction(s) in which you practice
- Protect the security and integrity of the NREMT certification and exam process. You will not copy, reproduce, disclose, disseminate, or remove any exam-related materials from the test site or attempt to do so

## TERMS OF CERTIFICATION

The following are the official requirements for certification. Read them carefully. You are legally bound by these terms when you apply for certification, recertification, or by holding certification:

You will notify the NREMT within 30 days of any of the following:

- A change in address, email address, telephone number, state of employment, and licensure (through your online NREMT profile)
- Any change that might impact eligibility for certification or recertification including but not limited to:
  1. Any disciplinary action by any authorizing or licensing body that has resulted in the suspension, revocation, or any restriction placed on the individual's license or right to practice
  2. Any voluntary surrender of any healthcare certification or license while under investigation or instead of disciplinary action
  3. Any felony conviction

You will surrender and refrain from using any NREMT certificate, card, logo, emblem, and the NREMT's name and related abbreviations if your certification becomes expired, suspended, limited, revoked, or voluntarily surrendered, or as requested by the NREMT.

You authorize the NREMT and its agents to communicate all information relating to NREMT application, certification, and review thereof, including the misrepresentation of material information on an application or of NREMT certification status and/or the outcome of disciplinary proceedings, to state and federal authorities.

The following are all exclusive property of the NREMT and are protected by trademarks and copyrights. You may not use these for any purpose, other than accurately identifying as a NREMT certificant or referencing the NREMT and its exams, without express written consent:

- NREMT's exams, certificates, cards, logos, emblems, the name "National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians," the copyrighted phrase "The NREMT is the National EMS Certification," and all related abbreviations

If you take any NREMT property or refuse immediately to relinquish, refrain from using and correct at their expense any misuse or misleading use of any of the above NREMT intellectual property when requested, the NREMT shall be entitled to obtain injunctive relief, damages, costs, and any attorney's fees incurred in obtaining any such or other relief.



# PART 3: CERTIFICATION PROCESS

If you already have an account, go to [The Application](#) section.

## ACCOUNT CREATION

To create an account, follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org)
2. Select the red “Login/Register” button on the NREMT home page
3. Select the blue “Create an Account” button
4. Enter your social security number and then select “Submit”
5. If you receive an alert message stating your social security number is already in use with another account, you can recover information via the website or by calling 614-888-4484
6. Select the “Submit” button

Next, you will be taken through the Registration Process.

## REGISTRATION

After creating your account, you will need to follow these steps to complete your profile registration:

1. Enter the following account information:
  - a. Username
  - b. Password
2. Enter your personal information:
  - a. First Name
  - b. Middle Initial
  - c. Last Name
  - Important to note: Enter your name as it appears on the forms of identification you will take with you to your exam site. How you enter your name



**FAQ: The NREMT asks for middle initial only, but my middle name is on my ID/ driver’s license. Is that okay?**

The NREMT profile/account only allows candidates to enter one middle initial. If the initial on your account matches the first initial of your middle name on your ID/driver’s license, you should not have any problems testing.

in your profile is how it will appear on all cards, certificates, or official documentation sent to you from the NREMT.

3. Enter your contact information:
  - a. Email
  - b. Phone
4. Select the following user role statuses:
  - a. Nationally Certified EMS Professional
  - b. Applying to Become Nationally Certified
5. Create three security questions and answers
6. Read and check the attestation at the bottom of the page
7. Select the “Submit” button

Next, you will be logged out of the account, and will need to log back in with your username and password. After logging back in, you will then complete your Profile Information.

## PROFILE INFORMATION

After creating your account, you will need to follow these steps to complete your Profile registration:

After the registration process, you will have to log back in to your Profile page. You will need to fill out the required fields below to complete your Profile Information:

1. Personal Information:
  - a. First Name
  - b. Middle Initial
  - c. Last Name
  - d. Date of Birth
  - e. Social Security Number
2. Mailing Address:
  - a. Address
  - b. City
  - c. Country
  - d. State
  - e. Zip Code
3. Contact Information:
  - a. Select Phone Type
  - b. Personal Email
  - c. Work Email
  - d. You may choose to uncheck the boxes for the following selections if you do not wish to receive notifications
    - Subscribe to NREMT newsletters, alerts, and emails
    - Sign up for SMS/text alerts: Message and data rates may apply

The following sections are optional and do not have to be completed to save your profile. The NREMT uses the following fields for research and administrative tasks. Please enter any information you wish to share before saving your profile.

4. Professional Information:
  - a. Primary Employer Type
  - b. EMS Employment Status
  - c. Primary EMS Responsibilities
  - d. EMS Service Type
  - e. Volunteer Status
  - f. States Licensed in as EMS Provider
  - g. Initial Year of State EMS Licensure
5. Demographic Information:
  - a. Highest Level of Education Completed
  - b. Sex
  - c. Ethnicity
  - d. Race



**FAQ: My name, suffix, social security number, or birthday is wrong. How do I update this?**

If your name, social security number or birthday are wrong on your account, you will need to email [certification@nremt.org](mailto:certification@nremt.org) with legal documentation of the correct information. Legal documents that can be used to update the account are Social Security card, valid driver's license or government ID, or legal name change documents. If the name on your account does not match your ID for testing you will need to update it – this includes adding additional middle or last names, suffixes (Sr., Jr. or IV) or changes due to marital status.

**FAQ: My address is incorrect. How do I change it?**

If you need to update your address, you can do this by logging into your NREMT account. Click on the “gear” shaped icon in the upper right-hand corner of the webpage. Then click on “Edit NREMT Profile Information.” From there you can make the needed changes to your account.

If your address does not match your ID when you go to test, that is okay. You need the information on your account to be accurate so that any communication sent from the NREMT can reach your current mailing address.

**FAQ: How long does it take to process my name change request?**

Name change requests are processed within 3-5 business days, provided we have all the needed documents. We process all requests by date received. During higher volume times, this timeframe could be longer.

**FAQ: How long will it take for Pearson VUE to receive my name change?**

Once we have updated your name in the NREMT system it can take up to one business day to update to Pearson VUE.

Once everything is completed, scroll to the bottom of the page and select “Save.” You can then go the CBT Candidate Dashboard to start your application.

## THE APPLICATION

After you complete your profile, begin the Paramedic application.

1. From the CBT Candidate Dashboard, click on the blue button “Create Certification Application”
2. Verify your Personal Information:
  - a. Name
  - b. Address
  - c. Home Phone
  - d. Email
  - e. Select “Next”
3. Choose one of the following Credentials Delivery Methods to let us know how you want to receive your NREMT card and certificate:
  - a. I will print my own card/certificate
    - This option means you will only receive a patch and letter in the mail. You will need to print a copy of the card/certificate from your NREMT account
  - b. I would like a printed card/certificate mailed to me
    - This option means you will have a card/certificate mailed to you and you still have the option of printing a card/certificate from your NREMT account
  - c. Verify your selection
  - d. Select “Next”
4. Choose Application Registry Level:
  - a. Select “Paramedic” from the drop-down menu
  - b. Verify your selection
  - c. Select “Next”
5. Criminal Convictions and License Discipline Disclosures:
  - a. Answer Criminal Convictions and License Discipline Disclosures
  - b. Follow the prompts
  - c. Answer the questions honestly
  - d. Select “Agree & Submit”
    - If you have any concerns about the questions, review the **Criminal Convictions Policy**. If you have questions, please email [evaluation@nremt.org](mailto:evaluation@nremt.org)
6. Initial Course:
  - a. Answer the question, “Are you currently enrolled in or have completed a full initial Paramedic course in the past two years?”
  - b. Select “Next”
7. Course Dates:
  - a. Enter Initial Course Start Date
  - b. Enter Initial Course Completion Date
  - c. Select “Next”
8. Program State: Location of Initial EMS Education Program
  - a. Select state/location from drop down menu
  - b. Select “Next”
9. EMS Education Program:
  - a. Select EMS program
  - b. Select “Next”
10. Program Section (you may see this if your program has designated Program Sections):
  - a. Select Program Section - If you have not been given one you can select “None”
  - b. Select “Next”
11. Current State/NREMT Certification:
  - a. Enter NREMT or State License Number
  - b. Enter NREMT or State License Expiration Date
  - c. Select State of Licensure or NREMT
12. CPR Expiration Date:
  - a. Enter CPR card expiration date
  - b. Select “Next”
13. Review Application:
  - a. Read the statement then verify the information is accurate
  - b. Select “Next”



### FAQ: Where do I make my payment?

To make your payment use the following steps:

1. Log into your NREMT account
2. Select role “CBT Candidate”
3. Click on “View All Certification Applications”
4. Click on “Application Payment” link
5. Select payment type
6. Complete the needed payment information

#### 14. Attestation:

- Read the attestation carefully before verifying “I agree to abide by these terms”
- Select “Next”

Once the application is submitted you can monitor its status through the CBT Candidate Dashboard.

## APPLICATION REVIEW

Both the NREMT and your education program review your application. Our system checks your application to make sure it is complete. We make sure the education listed is correct. If our system finds an error or missing information, a person reviews it. We will contact you about missing information or errors through your Candidate Dashboard.

## DEADLINES

Here are the important deadlines you should be aware of:

### Initial Course

Initial courses are valid for two years from the month and year of course completion.

- A course completed in 01/2018 would be valid until 01/31/2020

*Note: Taking remedial education for a 4th cognitive exam attempt does not extend your course completion date*



#### FAQ: Will my ATT be emailed to me?

You will not receive the ATT in an email. See the sections in this handbook for **Authorization to Test (ATT)** and **How to Check on your Application and Exam Results**.

### ATT

Authorizations to Test (ATT) are valid for 90 days.

- An ATT is only issued once an application is marked complete, which includes NREMT reviews, program reviews, and payment completion
- An ATT purchased within 90 days of the course expiration date will expire on the date of course expiration

### PATT

Psychomotor Authorizations to Test (PATT) are valid for two years from the month and year of course completion.

- A PATT is only issued once an application has been marked completed for Early Eligibility or with course completion verification
- A course completed in 01/2018 would be valid until 01/31/2020

### Cognitive Exam Results

Cognitive exam results are valid for one year from the month, day, and year of successful completion.

- Exam completed on 01/25/2018 is valid until 01/25/2019

### Psychomotor Exam Results

Paramedic psychomotor exam results are valid for one year from the month, day, and year of successful completion.

- Exam completed on 01/25/2018 is valid until 01/25/2019

## APPLICATION FEES

The Paramedic application fee is \$125.

- The fee is charged for each attempt of the cognitive exam
- The application fee can be refunded within the NREMT Refund Policy criteria

We offer refunds within 90 days of payment, minus an administrative fee, for the following reasons:

- Completion of incorrect application
- Candidate no longer wishes to seek NREMT certification
- Certified EMS Provider decided not to recertify by exam

You can read the policies and procedures related to payment and refund policy at:

[www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-payment](http://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-payment)



#### FAQ: Can I print a receipt for my application fee?

Yes, you can print a receipt for the application fee. You can use the steps below to do so.

- Log in to your NREMT account at [www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org). Select role, “CBT Candidate”
- Click on “My Applications”
- Click on “Application Status/ATT’s”
- Click on the smaller box that says “Print Payment Receipt”

**FAQ: What are the application statuses and what do they indicate?**

Below are various application statuses you will see on your online NREMT account.

**NREMT Application Review**

Pending	Application has been submitted to NREMT but not reviewed
Incomplete Application	Application has been submitted and reviewed and is missing information
Application Submitted	Application has been submitted and reviewed
Application Being Processed	Application has been submitted and is on hold after review
Unsubmitted	Application has been saved but not completed and submitted
Early Psychomotor Eligibility Verified	Cleared to test for ALS psychomotor exam but not cognitive exam

**Course Completion**

Verification Request Submitted	The application has been submitted to have course completion verified by your EMS program
Practical Skills Verified	Your program director has verified your course completion date

**Application Payment**

Not Submitted	No payment has been submitted to application
Paid in Full	Application has been paid in full

**Application Complete**

Ready to Test	Means your Authorization to Test (ATT) has been issued and you need to schedule your exam. You will still need to view your application status and print/view the ATT. The Ready to Test status will appear on an application with an expired ATT, and you will need to check the ATT deadline to see if you need to submit another application and fee to test.
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## HOW TO CHECK ON YOUR APPLICATION AND EXAM RESULTS

To get information about your application and its status, check your account. All updates to your account appear on the CBT Candidate Dashboard. We do not tell you or email you about your application or exam results. Instead, we post the information to your account, which you can access at any time. Check your account for updates related to:

- Application payments
- Application status
- Authorization to Test (ATT)
- Psychomotor Authorization to Test (PATT)
- Eligibility status (if applicable)
- Cognitive exam results
- Psychomotor exam results

## GAINING CERTIFICATION

Once you have earned your certification, you can get your card and wall certificate. If you chose the mail option when you created your application, we will mail you a packet when your account updates with full certification. We use first class mail with the United States Postal Service, and packets can take up to 30 days for delivery. The packet will have a letter with a copy of your NREMT card attached, a wall certificate, and a Paramedic patch. If you chose the

print option when you created your application, you can print the card and certificate, and we will mail a patch to you.

If you do not receive your packet after 30 days, email our Exams Department at [exams@nremt.org](mailto:exams@nremt.org). You will need to verify your current address, registry number, and first and last name.

You also have the option of printing your card and certificate from your account in the My Certification page. Here is how to print your card/certificate:

1. Login to your account
2. Select "My Certification" from the drop-down menu
3. On the left-hand side, select "View Transaction History"
4. Click the blue "Print Card" button or the blue "Print Certificate" button

## RECERTIFICATION

You need to recertify every two years. To recertify, you can submit continuing education hours or take a recertification exam. To learn about the policies and procedures for recertification, go to this website:

<https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/paramedic-recert>

# PART 4: COGNITIVE EXAM

## EXAM FORMAT

You will take the cognitive exam on a computer at an authorized Pearson VUE testing center. The cognitive exam consists only of multiple-choice items. The exam items are written by members of the EMS community, including educators, providers and medical directors. Each exam has questions that count toward your score and questions that do not. Your exam will have between 60–130 questions that count toward your final score. It will have 20 questions that do not affect your score.

The unscored questions are for testing new concepts to make sure that future questions are fair and appropriate. This is a standard part of making exams. You will not be able to tell which questions count toward your final score and which do not, so answer each one as if it counts.

The exam is a computerized adaptive test (CAT). This means the number and difficulty of test items will vary for each exam session, but the passing standard remains the same for all candidates. The decision regarding passing or failing

the exam is based on the following question: “Has the candidate reached the level of entry-level competency (passed) or has the candidate not yet reached entry-level competency (failed)?”

A CAT exam is different from a traditional exam. The more questions you get right, the harder the CAT gets. The goal is to find out if you have enough knowledge compared to the passing standard. If the exam asks the nine hardest questions about, for example, adult airways, and you get them right, then it will not need to ask the easier questions. Instead, it can move on to other categories. All you need to do is demonstrate entry-level competency, which may take nine questions or may take 24. As long as you demonstrate competency, you will pass. CAT testing is faster and more accurate than a traditional exam.

The Paramedic cognitive exam covers the following areas:

Content Area	Percent of Exam	Adult / Pediatric Mix
Airway, Respiration & Ventilation	18%-22%	85% Adult; 15% Pediatric
Cardiology & Resuscitation	22%-26%	85% Adult; 15% Pediatric
Trauma	13%-17%	85% Adult; 15% Pediatric
Medical; Obstetrics & Gynecology	25%-29%	85% Adult; 15% Pediatric
EMS Operations	10%-14%	N/A

You can find more information on the format of the exam at:  
[www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/cognitive-exam](http://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/cognitive-exam)

### Sample Items

Each item consists of a prompt or question and presents four responses. Only one response is the correct answer. Below are several sample items to help you prepare for the types of items that are on the exam. The correct response is bolded.

1. A 13-year-old male presents with left arm pain after a fall. You observe swelling and a deformity to left lower arm. You are unable to palpate a pulse distal to the injury. You should first
  - A. place him arm in a sling and swathe.
  - B. splint his arm in the anatomical position.**
  - C. splint his arm in the position found.
  - D. place him on a long backboard.
2. A 48-year-old male presents with a laceration to his abdomen. You observe bowel protruding from the wound. You should first
  - A. apply a moist, sterile dressing.**
  - B. place the bowel back into his abdomen.
  - C. apply a dry, sterile dressing.
  - D. place the exposed bowel on ice.
3. A 59-year-old female is unresponsive, pulseless, and apneic. You should first
  - A. begin chest compressions.**
  - B. ventilate her with a BVM.
  - C. retrieve the AED.
  - D. perform abdominal thrusts.

### Preparation

The following suggestions may help you prepare for the cognitive exam:

- Study your textbook and education materials
- Review the current American Heart Association's Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care
- Review the **National EMS Education Standards and Instructional Guidelines**

More information that will help you prepare for the exam can be found on:

<https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/cognitive-exam>

The NREMT does not recommend any particular exam preparation materials. If you have any additional questions after reviewing the previous information, ask someone in your education program for more information.



#### FAQ: Do I have to take my cognitive exam prior to my psychomotor exam?

The NREMT does not have a set order for the exams. However, you need to check with your program director or state office for local requirements.

### AUTHORIZATION TO TEST [ATT]

To get an Authorization to Test (ATT), you need to have completed an application and paid the application fees. Your program director must verify your eligibility. When those steps are complete, our system will give you an ATT, usually within 1-2 business days, but the process may take longer during high volume times. The ATT will post to your account. We do not send emails about or tell you that you have an ATT.



#### FAQ: What do I do with my ATT and what information do I need from it?

You will need to print/view your ATT since it contains key information to creating your Pearson VUE account and scheduling your exam. You need to view the NREMT Candidate ID; it starts with the letters NR. You will also need to know your Deadline to Test; this tells you how long your ATT is valid. The ATT contains information on how to contact Pearson VUE to schedule your exam and what forms of ID are acceptable.

You can find and print your ATT from the "Application Status" page using these steps:

1. Log into your NREMT account
2. Select "CBT Candidate"
3. Select "My Applications" on the left-hand side
4. Select "Application Status/ATTs"
5. Select the box "Current Applications"
6. Select the box labeled "Print/View Authorization to Test Letter" on the application
7. Follow the prompts to print or view the ATT



The ATT tells you how to schedule your exam and gives you important information about testing requirements at Pearson VUE centers.

***The ATT is only valid for 90 days from the day it posted to your account. We do not offer extensions for expired ATTs.***

If your ATT expires, you must apply again and pay the fee again in order to get a new ATT.

You can find the ATT expiration date and refund policy at:

<https://content.nremt.org/static/documents/policy-ATT-refund.pdf>

## SCHEDULING

Print the ATT. Follow the instructions on the ATT to schedule your exam at:

[www.pearsonvue.com/nremt](http://www.pearsonvue.com/nremt)

We post all information about your application to your NREMT account. Pearson VUE is an independent testing vendor and has its own way of contacting you. They will send you an email about your exam. The email will confirm the day and time of your exam, the testing location, and the testing rules.

**If you do not receive an email confirming your exam appointment, your exam has not been successfully scheduled.**

**If the email has an error and you do not contact Pearson VUE to correct it, you will not be allowed to take the exam.**

### Rescheduling/Cancellation

If you need to reschedule or cancel your exam, contact Pearson VUE one business day (24 hours) prior to your exam appointment. Call 866-673-6896 (M-F 7:00 am to 7:00 pm CST) or log into your Pearson VUE account to make changes to your appointment.

The fee to reschedule or cancel your exam is \$25. If you reschedule or cancel by telephone, Pearson VUE will charge an additional \$10 call center fee.

**Important Note:** If you fail to appear for your scheduled exam appointment, fail to cancel or reschedule within the required time, or are refused admission, you will forfeit your exam fee. You will have to complete a new application and submit the associated application fee to receive a

new ATT. The NREMT does not issue refunds for failure to appear for your scheduled exam appointment.

### No-Show Policy

If you fail to notify Pearson VUE at least one business day (24 hours) before your scheduled exam, your account will be marked with a “no show” and you will forfeit your exam fee.

You can appeal the “no show” status if extenuating circumstances are involved. You will need to provide documentation of the circumstances if you want to try to reschedule the missed exam at no additional cost.

If you are denied a “no show” appeal, you will need to reapply. Use an Express Application and pay the application fee to receive a new ATT.

To learn more about “no show” policies and procedures, go to:

<https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-cognitive-exam>

## CONTACTING NREMT VS PEARSON VUE

If you have questions about your eligibility for NREMT certification, the application, your ATT, the exam format, exam results, retesting, NREMT appeals and disciplinary processes, and maintenance of certification, please contact the NREMT at 614-888-4484.

If you have questions concerning Pearson VUE test site rules and regulations, acceptable forms of identification, your Pearson VUE username and password, scheduling a cognitive exam appointment at a Pearson VUE Test Center, directions to the Pearson VUE Test Center, and/or your exam appointment, please contact Pearson VUE at 866-673-6896. Please note: Pearson VUE charges a fee for scheduling or canceling an appointment over the phone.

## TAKING THE EXAM

### Pearson VUE Protocols and Rules

Arrive at the test center at least 30 minutes before your scheduled testing time. You must bring two forms of acceptable identification with you on the day of your exam. Your ATT contains vital information about what documents to bring to the Pearson VUE Test Center. Review the information contained in your ATT carefully before arriving for your confirmed exam appointment.



### FAQ: What do I do if I do not have a valid ID?

You will need to obtain a valid ID before scheduling your exam.

You are not allowed to bring personal items, including but not limited to, mobile electronic devices, watches, wallets, purses, firearms or other weapons, hats (and other non-religious head coverings), bags, jackets, notes, pens or pencils into the testing room. There are no exceptions to this policy.

The test center will provide a small locker space to secure personal belongings. All electronic devices must be turned off before storing them in a locker. You are encouraged to leave as many of these as possible at home. Pearson VUE and the NREMT are not responsible for lost, stolen, or misplaced personal items at any test center. If you refuse to store your personal items, you will not be permitted to test, and you will forfeit your testing fee.

Before you enter the testing area, the Pearson VUE Test Administrator is required to verify that you are not bringing any unauthorized materials or devices into the room. You may be asked to pull your hair back, pat yourself down, or roll up your sleeves during this process.

You will have 2 hours, 30 minutes to complete the Paramedic exam

### Starting the Exam

The test center administrator will bring you to the computer you will use to take your exam. You will have a tutorial on how to take a computer based test. This tutorial is untimed.

Next, you will have to read and acknowledge a non-disclosure agreement about the exam. The non-disclosure agreement has a **maximum time limit of five minutes**, and if you do not complete the non-disclosure agreement in this time window, you will not be allowed to begin the exam. After the tutorial and non-disclosure agreement, you will then begin your exam.

### Exam Security

We take exam security seriously. We put security policies and procedures in place to protect exam content and testing session data. These policies help make sure that the exam

is given in the same way in every testing center, without inappropriate aid. They also make sure that the person who was given the ATT is the same one taking the exam. As a result, you may be required to:

- Show identification as described in your ATT
- Have your identity verified by a digital security device (infrared palm reader)
- Provide a legal signature
- Have your picture taken
- Store all belongings prior to entry into the exam room
- Be recorded (by audio and/or video) during the exam

All NREMT cognitive exam materials are copyrighted. You may not copy or record any material from the exam in any way. You are prohibited from the following:

- Disclosing or discussing any information about the exam with anyone, including instructors
- Posting or discussing questions on any internet or social media websites
- Reconstructing exam content using your memory or the memory of others
- Seeking help from anyone in answering exam questions
- Removing exam materials or recorded information from the testing center

If you witness any of the above behavior, or any irregular behavior that may be in violation of the NREMT Candidate Policies, report it to the NREMT immediately by calling 614-888-4484. The NREMT reserves the right to terminate a certification, invalidate the results of an exam, and/or to take any other appropriate action against any candidate who violates copyright or performs any of the above behaviors.

## EXAM RESULTS

### Scoring and Accessing of Exam Results

Pearson VUE sends your cognitive exam to us. We score the exam electronically. The Pearson VUE staff does not have access to your results and cannot give you results.

Our system posts your exam results to your NREMT account, generally within two business days after you complete your exam, provided all other requirements are met. Your results are only available to you on your NREMT account. If your results have not posted after five business days, please contact the NREMT.

To find your exam results, please follow the steps below:

1. Log into your NREMT account
2. Click on “View All Certification Applications”
3. Click on “Results”
4. Click on “Print Exam Results”

### Report of Candidate’s Results

If you pass the cognitive exam, we do not send you specific details about your exam results.

If you do not pass the cognitive exam, we will post more information about your results to your account. You can use the information to think about your strengths and weaknesses. The information may also help you decide what to study before you take the exam again. We give you information about each content area. We will describe your results for a content area in one of three ways:

**Above Passing** – You can be relatively confident that you have sufficient knowledge in that content area. However, you should still review the material in that content area.

**Near Passing** – Your performance was slightly above or below the standard. Near passing does not indicate a pass or fail outcome; rather it can be interpreted as an area to study.

**Below Passing** – You need to study the content area.

Our system scores the exam as a whole. If you fail, however, the system splits the exam into content areas, so that you can see which were your strongest areas and which were your weakest. This should help you study. You cannot add up your “near passing” and “passing” content areas to get a “passing” score because that is not how we score the exam. We score based on the overall results, not by how many content areas you passed.

“Near Passing” does not mean that you passed in the content area. Also, you should still study any area with an “Above Passing” to maintain your knowledge.

### RETESTING

If you did not pass the exam, you may apply to retest 15 days after the last exam.

You have six chances to pass the NREMT cognitive exam. If you fail three times, we require you to complete remedial education. In order to take the remaining attempts, you will

have to send us documentation of your remedial education. Once we receive the documentation and your new application, we will clear you to take the exam again. The remedial education allows you to take the exam three more times. To receive a new attempt, you must submit a new application, pay a new fee, and get a new ATT each time.

State requirements for remedial training vary. You will need 30 hours for states using NCCP or 48 hours for states using traditional. Check with your state to make sure there are no other state specific requirements for remedial education.



### FAQ: What education can I use for remedial training?

The remedial training requirement can be satisfied through three different options:

1. NCCP 30 hours of continuing education: Completion of the Paramedic 30-hour National Competency Component from the NCCP model
2. Traditional Refresher Course: Completion of a State or CAPCE (F1, F2, F5) approved 48-hour Paramedic refresher course
3. Continuing education: The 30 or 48-hour requirements can be met with any state approved education program, including but not limited to community colleges, vocational schools, local EMS agencies, or online education providers. You can complete online education if it is CAPCE or state approved.

*Note: Some states require the traditional refresher course and will not accept continuing education hours. Contact your State EMS Office if you have questions about the required training.*

### EXAM REVIEW

We score exams electronically. If you think your exam results are not accurate, you can ask us to review your exam manually. You must make the request in writing and within 30 days of the results posting to your account. You must send the review fee with the request. You may pay by check or money order.

We offer two different manual reviews: a CBT Exam Scoring Confirmation Report and an Item-by-Item Review. The first costs \$75 and the second costs \$150. The **Exam Review Policy** describes each type of review.

In the unlikely event that an error is discovered during the manual review, we will refund the review fee.

If you want us to review your exam manually, submit the following:

1. Written statement requesting either the CBT Exam Scoring Confirmation Report or Item-by-Item Review. The statement must include your first name, last name, address, email, phone number, and national registry number or application ID number
2. Check or money order for the review fee, which covers the processing and handling of the review. Mail the statement and fee to: NREMT, P.O. Box 29233, Columbus, OH 43229

Once we have processed the payment, we will review your exam within 30 days.

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# PART 5: PSYCHOMOTOR EXAM

## EXAM FORMAT

The psychomotor exam tests your “hands-on” knowledge and skills. A trained NREMT representative gives the exam, and the exam is the same across the country. All candidates complete the same exam in the same format. We only accept results from official, scheduled exams given by NREMT representatives.

To pass the psychomotor exam, you must demonstrate proficiency in the following skill stations:

1. Patient Assessment – Trauma
2. Dynamic Cardiology
3. Static Cardiology
4. Oral Station – Case A
5. Oral Station – Case B
6. Integrated Out-of-Hospital Scenario

### Patient Assessment – Trauma

You perform a “hands-on” head-to-toe physical assessment and state how you would treat a patient in a given scenario. This station must be completed in a maximum of 10 minutes. The scenarios include:

- Scene Size-Up
- Primary Survey/Resuscitation
- History Taking
- Secondary Assessment

### Dynamic Cardiology

You need to show you can manage a cardiac arrest situation. You need to be able to deliver electrical therapy and state all interpretations and treatments in a given scenario. The presentation of this exam station will be similar to a “megacode.” This station must be completed in a maximum of 8 minutes.

### Static Cardiology

You review 4 prepared ECG tracings with associated patient information. You identify and state the name of each rhythm. You state all treatments associated with that rhythm. This station must be completed in a maximum of 6 minutes.

### Oral Station – Cases A & B

You need to state how you would manage all aspects of an out-of-hospital call in two separate cases: Oral A and Oral B. The person giving you the exam will provide the information verbally. There will not be a simulated patient and no physical assessment or skills will be demonstrated. This station must be completed in a maximum of 15 minutes. The person giving you the exam will evaluate you in the following categories:

- Scene Management
- Patient Assessment
- Patient Management
- Interpersonal Relations
- Integration (verbal report, field impression, and transport decision)

### Integrated Out-of-Hospital Scenario

The Integrated Out-of-Hospital Scenario may involve a pediatric, geriatric, or adult patient. You will have a simulated patient encounter. We will provide you with a Professional Paramedic Partner. You need to show you can manage a call, lead a team, effectively communicate, and maintain professionalism. You or the Professional Paramedic Partner must perform all interventions just as you would in the field. This station will last for exactly 20 minutes.

**FAQ: What actions are performed by the Professional Paramedic Partner?**

The partner will only act upon your instructions and perform actions a prudent paramedic would perform in the field. The partner will not act autonomously as you will need to delegate tasks to them. They will not offer advice or provide you with answers. They also will not perform any dangerous interventions you delegate to them.

**Skill Station Check Sheets**

We publish electronic copies of the skill station check sheets we use as evaluation instruments. They can be accessed, downloaded, and printed at:

 <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/paramedic>

**FAQ: Do I have to take my cognitive exam prior to my psychomotor exam?**

The NREMT does not have a set order for the exams. Check with your program director or state office for local requirements.

**PSYCHOMOTOR AUTHORIZATION TO TEST (PATT)**

To register for the psychomotor exam, you need a Psychomotor Authorization to Test (PATT) number. When you schedule your exam, you will need to give the PATT number to the reservation coordinator. We recommend bringing a copy of your PATT with you on the day of the exam.

We recommend that you do the following at least six to eight weeks before you take the psychomotor exam.

Submit your paramedic application if you have not yet. For the application to be complete, your program director must confirm that you have Early Eligibility or Course Completion. You can consult with your Program Director for questions related to Early Eligibility or Course Completion. Once your application is complete, you can get your PATT.

A PATT number will post to your NREMT account on the “Psychomotor ATTs” page. Find your PATT using these steps:

1. Log into NREMT Account
2. Select “CBT Candidate” role
3. Click on “My Applications” on the left-hand side
4. Click on “Psychomotor ATTs”
5. Click the blue button “Generate PATT” to create the needed number
6. Print your PATT

**Important PATT Reminders:**

- Check your account for your PATT number and psychomotor results
- You need to produce your PATT number on the day of the exam, so we recommend you bring a copy of your PATT
- You must bring a government-issued form of identification with you to the exam site
- If you cannot make the exam, you will be unable to reschedule for another exam until the original exam you signed up for has been processed and all official scores released. This can take four to six weeks. You can only register for one exam at a time
- You can cancel the exam. The deadline for cancellations is in the exam details on your account. After this deadline, you may no longer cancel your reservation

**FAQ: Why is my PATT on hold?**

Your PATT number is on hold because the results from your previous exam have not been processed.

**SCHEDULING**

To take your exam, you need to find a place that gives the exam and see if their dates work with your schedule. Ask your Program Director about where to take the exam or go to the regularly updated “Locate A Psychomotor Exam” page:

 <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/dashboard/locate-exam>

Some states offer the exam as part of their licensure

**FAQ: Can I be added to a reservation list once the exam coordinator has submitted the list?**

No, once the reservation list has been submitted, the NREMT sends the material to the representative. Candidates cannot be added due to the limited amount of material that is sent to the NREMT representative.

process. The state may allow only residents of that state to take the exam. Also, for initial licensure, some states only accept psychomotor exams given in their states. If an exam is given by the state, call the state EMS office and ask when and where you can take the next psychomotor exam.

Once you know where and when you would like to take your exam, make a reservation. Contact the Exam or Reservation Coordinator by the registration deadline. When you make your reservation, you may be asked to provide some basic demographic information (name, address, phone number, email contact) as well as your PATT number. Please note: An exam may fill up. Register early to make sure you get a spot in the exam you want.

Check with the Exam or Reservation Coordinator to see if the site charges any psychomotor exam fees. We do not charge or collect fees for the psychomotor exam, but the site may. The site will also inform you of any other local considerations (directions, maps, specific equipment issues, food and beverage availability, etc.).

### **Cancellation/No Show**

You can cancel your reservation as long as you do it before the cancellation deadline. The deadline is listed in the exam details. If you cannot make the exam, you will not be able to schedule another exam until the original exam has been processed.

Processing exams takes time. After candidates take the exam, the NREMT Representative sends the candidates' exams in to the NREMT office where they are reviewed and scored. The process can take 4-6 weeks.

You can only register for one exam at a time. If you do not attend an exam, it does not count as an attempt.

## **TAKING THE EXAM**

### **Before the Exam Begins**

When you check in at the psychomotor exam site, you must produce a current government-issued form of identification (e.g. driver's license). Photocopies of any ID will not be accepted. The ID must contain a permanently affixed photo and your signature (not required for military IDs). As part of checking in, you will need to provide your PATT number. We recommend bringing a copy of your PATT with you on the day of the exam.

Before the exam, the official NREMT Representative

will read a specific orientation script to you. After the orientation, you complete the NREMT Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Form. Then you will need to sign the attestation. If you do not sign the attestation, you cannot take the exam.

The NREMT Representative will collect your completed Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Form and confirm your identity. You will need to provide your official form of government-issued photo identification, such as your driver's license, and your PATT number.

If you do not provide an accepted form of ID or if you do not have a valid PATT number, you cannot take the exam. You may also forfeit any exam site fees.

### **During the Exam**

You cannot bring electronic devices in to the exam. Lock all cell phones, smart watches, pagers, and similar devices in your vehicle.

You cannot bring any calipers, calculators, or any other electronic or mechanical devices into the exam site. You may not use reference material for any skill station except the Integrated Out-of-Hospital Scenario.

You may use non-electronic reference materials in the Integrated Out-of-Hospital Scenario (e.g. field guides, medication cards, protocol, length/weight tape).

You may make calculations or notes, but only on the scratch paper provided. You must leave the scratch paper in the room when you complete the skill station.

The Exam Coordinator or Staging Officer will tell you which skill station to go to. Go quickly to the skill station as soon as your name is called. Return to the staging area as soon as you finish at your skill station. **Do not discuss any specific details of any skill station with anyone at any time.** If you discuss exam content, your certification can be denied or revoked (See **Denial or Revocation of Certification** policy).

Please be courteous to everyone by keeping noise to a minimum. If you leave the site before you complete the required portion(s) of your psychomotor exam, you will not be allowed back into the exam that day.

The skill stations have several types of equipment available.

You will have time at the beginning of each skill station to look at and choose the equipment you want to. You do not need to use all the equipment.

If you do not know how to use a device, ask the Skill Examiners about it. They can tell you about any specific features of the equipment. If you bring your own equipment, the NREMT Representative needs to inspect and approve your equipment before it can be used.

You must state what you are doing as you complete each skill station. If the skill station has an overall time limit, the Skill Examiner will let you know during the instructions. When you reach the time limit, the Skill Examiner will tell you to stop. You may be asked to remove equipment from the Simulated Patient before leaving a skill station.

#### **The following skill stations have a time limit:**

**Patient Assessment – Trauma:** 10 minutes maximum

**Dynamic Cardiology:** 4 rhythms within 8 minutes maximum

**Static Cardiology:** 4 rhythms within 6 minutes maximum

**Oral Case A & B:** 15 minutes maximum

**Integrated Out-of-Hospital:** 20 minutes required

The NREMT Representative is responsible for ensuring that fair, objective, and impartial evaluations occur in accordance with NREMT policy. If you have any complaints, notify the NREMT Representative immediately to discuss your complaint. The NREMT Representative will be visiting all skill stations throughout the exam to verify that Skills Examiners conduct evaluations according to NREMT guidelines.

#### **Testing Environment**

The testing site will have enough room to accommodate the candidates who are scheduled to attend. All facilities meet NREMT and acceptable educational standards. The facilities will have all required equipment for each skill station. The Exam Coordinator will make sure the equipment is clean and that it works.

If an unexpected event, such as a fire alarm or power outage, interrupts the exam, the NREMT Representative, Exam Coordinator, and Medical Director will decide whether to nullify skill stations in process. They will also decide when to restart the exam. Their final decision(s)

will be based on making sure that all candidates are able to complete the NREMT psychomotor exam in the same standardized format as all other candidates.

#### **Complaint Process**

If you have a complaint concerning the psychomotor exam, make your complaint before you leave the testing site on the day you take the exam. Complaints will not be valid after the day of the scheduled exam. We will not accept complaints if you make the complaint(s) after you get unofficial results or leave the exam site. You may file a complaint for only two reasons:

1. Discrimination
2. Equipment problem or malfunction during your performance in any skill station

If either of these two things occurred, contact the NREMT Representative immediately to initiate the complaint process. The NREMT Representative will give you the necessary complaint form, which you must complete in writing. The Quality Assurance Committee, made up of the NREMT Representative, Exam Coordinator, and Medical Director, will review your concerns and make a final decision about your complaint.

#### **Reasons for Dismissal**

You may be dismissed from an exam if any of the following happen:

- If your identification does not match the official exam roster or information that you enter on the NREMT Psychomotor Report Form
- If you cannot produce your PATT number
- If you attempt to impersonate a candidate identified on the official exam roster. All exam materials handed-in by the impersonator will be marked and withheld from processing. The incident will be communicated to the appropriate agencies. Additional actions may also result
- If you attempt to use any communication or recording device during the exam for any reason whatsoever, attempt to make any copies or recordings of any skill station at any time, or remove any notes you made in any skill station
- If you possess any injury or condition that may be aggravated by the exam conditions, or the exam conditions may cause further harm.
- If you become boisterous, unruly, and hostile upon learning of your results. The incident will be communicated to the appropriate agencies. Additional actions may also result



- If you are found to be discussing scenario information or attempting to illicit scenario information

## EXAM RESULTS

### How Candidates are Evaluated

The Skill Examiners are experts in their assigned skill station. The Skill Examiner watches you and records your actions. Each Skill Examiner documents your performance based on pre-created standards for each skill station that follow the U.S. National EMS Education Standards and the American Heart Association Guidelines for Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and Emergency Cardiovascular Care.

The Skill Examiner may ask you questions in order to better understand what you are doing. The questions are only for clarification and understanding. Answer the questions if you are asked. They do not indicate that you are doing well or poorly. Do not let a question or the fact that the examiner is documenting your work influence your actions.

The Skill Examiners do not decide what the pass/fail criteria are. We have told all Skill Examiners to avoid any casual conversation with candidates to help ensure fair and equal treatment of all candidates throughout the exam. We do not allow Skill Examiners to tell you anything about your performance in any skill station.

### Scoring Exam Results

The NREMT Representative will review and score all unofficial results. The Representative will record your unofficial results onto your completed NREMT Advanced Level Psychomotor Report Form.

The NREMT Representative will then ask you if you have any complaints concerning equipment or discrimination. If you have any complaints that have not been disclosed yet, the NREMT Representative must address your concerns before telling you your **unofficial** score. The NREMT Representative will privately tell you your unofficial psychomotor exam results only.

If you do not pass, neither the NREMT Representative, nor any other person, is allowed to tell you any specific reason(s) for failure. The purpose of certification by the NREMT is to verify the achievement of minimal competency for safe and effective practice. The exam is pass/fail and is not designed to analyze errors.

We give the NREMT Representative up to three weeks to return the exams to us. When your exam arrives at the NREMT, we begin a quality control process. We may discover errors that change the unofficial results given to you the day of testing. We will post your official results; you will see each skill station listed as passed or failed.

We will post the official results to your NREMT account within 3-8 business days after they arrive at NREMT, assuming they are in an acceptable condition.

### Appealing a Psychomotor Exam

If you believe that the psychomotor exam was administered in an inaccurate or unfair manner for any reason, including, but not limited to, an equipment malfunction or discrimination or bias of an examiner, you must immediately discuss your complaint with the NREMT Representative to start the complaint process.

The request must be made to the NREMT Representative on the complaint form provided. You can only make a complaint/appeal the exam result on the day you take the exam.

As soon as you make a complaint, a Quality Assurance Committee made up of the NREMT Representative, Exam Coordinator, and Medical Director will gather at the testing site. The Committee may discuss the matter with you and the involved skill station examiner(s), if necessary. They may also make other investigations they decide are needed.

There are two outcomes for the Complaint Process: one is to nullify the results and retest the skill station, and the other is to have the results stand. If you retest, the first exam will be voided and only your performance on the retest will count toward your score.

The determination of the Quality Assurance Committee is final and binding. There will be no further appeal from a failure on the psychomotor exam.

## RETESTING

If you fail the psychomotor exam, you may be able to retest that same day. We do not guarantee that there will be a same-day retest at any scheduled exam site. The NREMT Representative, Exam Coordinator, and Medical Director for that exam decide if there will be a same-day retest.

If a same-day retest is offered, you may complete only one retest attempt that day. The NREMT cannot score or report incomplete psychomotor exam attempts. As a result, if you retest, you must complete all the skill stations you did not pass. You are not permitted to complete only a portion of the skill stations that need to be retested.

If same-day retests are offered, you cannot be retested by the same Skill Examiner or over the same scenario for the same skill station.

You are allowed two full attempts to pass the psychomotor exam. If you fail up to three skill stations, you may be allowed to retest in those skill stations as part of your first full attempt. One “full attempt” is defined as completing all 10 skill stations and up to two retesting opportunities. If you fail four or more skill stations during the first attempt, that exam also counts as “full attempt.” You are allowed the two full attempts only if all other requirements for NREMT certification are fulfilled.

You must take remedial training if you fail a full attempt or any part of a second retest. The remedial training must cover all skill stations. Once you have completed remedial training, you will need to provide documentation of the training (a letter) before you make another full attempt. The letter must be signed by the Exam Coordinator, Training Officer, Program Director, or Medical Director who verifies remedial training. It has to say that you have completed remedial training over all skill stations since the last unsuccessful attempt. It also has to say that you have demonstrated competence in all skill stations.

Send the signed letter on letterhead to the NREMT Exams Department at [exams@nremt.org](mailto:exams@nremt.org). Once we have verified your remedial training, we will post a new PATT number to your account.

Your exam results are valid for 12 months from the date of the exam. If you are eligible to retest any skill stations, complete the retest within 12 months while the parts you passed are still valid. If you do not complete the retest within 12 months, you must move on to your second attempt.

You will not be able to schedule yourself for another exam until your official results are posted to your NREMT account. It may take 4-6 weeks for the results to post to your account.

Should you fail the second full and final attempt of the Paramedic psychomotor exam, you must start the process over. You will need to:

- Complete another approved Paramedic program
- Meet all other requirements for NREMT certification in effect at that time
- Begin the certification process again

### Rescheduling

If additional retesting is required, visit the NREMT website for a list of Advanced Level exam sites:

<https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/dashboard/locate-exam>

After you find a scheduled NREMT psychomotor exam that works for you, contact the designated Exam or Reservation Coordinator by the reservation deadline listed for that exam. You will not be able to schedule yourself for another exam until your official results are posted to your NREMT account. It may take 4-6 weeks for the results to post to your account.

If you need to retest on your first attempt, you will register with your existing PATT number.

# PART 6: CERTIFICATION POLICIES

The policies in this section are frequently asked about or represent critical information for some candidates. Not all of these policies may apply to you.

## ACCOMMODATIONS

The NREMT administers its certification exams in a manner that does not discriminate against an otherwise qualified applicant. The NREMT offers reasonable and appropriate accommodations for the cognitive and psychomotor exams for those persons with documented disabilities, as required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

The NREMT urges candidates requesting any accommodation to **submit such requests as early as possible** to provide adequate time to resolve any documentation issues that may arise. At a minimum, all requests for accommodations must be received by the NREMT no less than 30 days before the scheduled test date.

The NREMT urges candidates not to pay for an exam until the accommodations review process has been completed.

The NREMT will review each request on an individual basis and make decisions relative to appropriate accommodations based on the following general guidelines:

1. To be considered for an accommodation under the ADA, an individual must present adequate documentation demonstrating that his or her condition substantially limits one or more major life activities
2. Only individuals with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodations, meet the eligibility requirements for certification at the level of the requested exam are eligible for accommodations
3. Requested accommodations must be reasonable and appropriate for the documented disability and must not

fundamentally alter the exam's ability to assess the essential functions of out-of-hospital care, which the test is designed to measure

4. Professionals conducting assessments, rendering diagnoses of specific disabilities, and/or making recommendations for appropriate accommodations must be qualified to do so
5. The NREMT realizes that each candidate's circumstances are unique and uses a case-by-case approach to review the documentation submitted
6. All documentation submitted in support of a requested accommodation will be kept in confidence and will be disclosed to NREMT staff and consultants only to the extent necessary to evaluate the accommodation. No information concerning an accommodation request will be released to third parties without written permission from the candidate

The accommodations policy and procedures to submit an accommodations request can be accessed at:

[www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-accommodations](http://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-accommodations)

## APPEALS

When the NREMT makes an unfavorable ruling regarding an individual's application for certification or recertification, request for an accommodation in the administration of an exam, cancellation or revocation of exam results or any disciplinary action, including, but not limited to, the revocation or suspension of certification (collectively "Adverse Decision"), the Executive Director shall send to that individual, by certified mail, return receipt requested, a statement setting forth:

- The action taken
- The reason(s) for the action and, if applicable, a statement of facts constituting the alleged violation of

any of the NREMT's rules or standards or the reasons for ineligibility

- The time period in which the individual may appeal and provide any additional information

An applicant or registrant who is subject to an Adverse Decision of the Executive Director, excluding decisions with respect to the timeliness of applications or the scoring or reporting of the exams, may appeal such decision by mailing a notice of appeal to the office of the NREMT within 45 days of the date that such decision was mailed (based on postmark). The request for appeal must contain the individual's statement of the basis of his or her appeal, as well as any documents in support of the appeal. Materials not included in the request shall not be considered on appeal unless expressly requested in writing by the NREMT.

The entire appeals policy and procedures that are followed are located on this page:

[www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-eligibility](http://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-eligibility)

## CANDIDATE RETESTING AT REQUEST OF NREMT

The NREMT may require an applicant to retake a certification exam if presented with sufficient evidence that the security or integrity of the exam has been compromised, notwithstanding the absence of any evidence of an applicant's personal involvement in the security compromise.

## COMPLAINTS

The NREMT responds to all complaints, inquiries, and concerns brought to our attention in a constructive and timely manner. Complaints can be submitted by email to [complaints@nremt.org](mailto:complaints@nremt.org). The NREMT will confirm receipt by email and provide status updates. Most notifications and initial responses are sent within five business days.

A candidate who wishes to submit a complaint to the NREMT must submit notice of complaint to the office of the NREMT within 30 days of the action(s) resulting in complaint. The notice of complaint must contain the individual's personal statement and any supporting documentation. The NREMT will treat any person who invokes this complaint procedure courteously. The NREMT will handle all complaints swiftly and confidentially to the extent possible, considering the need to take appropriate corrective action. Most complaints are investigated and resolved within 30 days, and updates will be provided if

delays are encountered. Documentation and information submitted as part of a complaint will be subject to the NREMT Privacy Policy.

## CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS

The NREMT has adopted a Criminal Conviction Policy to safeguard the public from individuals who, in practice as an EMS professional, might pose a danger to the public.

EMS professionals, under the authority of their state licensure, have unsupervised, intimate, physical and emotional contact with patients at a time of maximum physical and emotional vulnerability, as well as unsupervised access to a patient's personal property. These patients may be unable to defend or protect themselves, voice objections to particular actions, or provide accurate accounts of events at a later time. EMS professionals, therefore, are placed in a position of the highest public trust.

The public in need of out-of-hospital medical services relies on state licensure and NREMT certification to assure that those EMS professionals who respond to their calls for aid qualify for this extraordinary trust. For these reasons, the NREMT has adopted a Criminal Conviction Policy to ensure that individuals, who have been convicted of certain crimes, are identified and appropriately evaluated as to whether they would pose a risk to public safety as an EMS provider.

The entire criminal convictions policy is located on this page:

[www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-criminal](http://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-criminal)

Any applicant or registrant subject to an adverse decision by the NREMT under this policy may appeal that decision as outlined in the NREMT Certification Eligibility, Discipline and Appeals Policy.

## DENIAL OR REVOCATION OF CERTIFICATION

The NREMT may, at its own discretion, deny an individual's eligibility for initial certification or recertification, deny, suspend or revoke an individual's certification or take any other appropriate disciplinary action against an individual's application, certification and/or recertification or deny authorization to use the NREMT's website for any purpose, including submitting applicant training information in the case of:

1. Ineligibility for NREMT certification
2. Failure to comply with any policy or rule of the NREMT, including, but not limited to, NREMT's website Terms of Use Policy
3. Irregular behavior regarding any NREMT exam
4. Misrepresenting, withholding, or the failure to update any information on any application for certification or recertification or in any other communication with the NREMT
5. The intentional misrepresentation by a trainer of any applicant's successful completion of education requirements for certification
6. Misrepresentation of the individual's status as a registrant of the NREMT
7. The conviction of, plea of guilty or plea of nolo contendere (no contest) to, a felony or any criminal offense which is related to public health or emergency medical service in accordance with the NREMT's Criminal Conviction Policy
8. Any disciplinary action is taken by a licensing or authorizing agency relating to practice, or the ability to practice safely and effectively, as an EMS professional or the voluntary surrender of a licensee as a punishment for or in place of any disciplinary action. The NREMT can suspend an individual's certification, prior to any right of appeal, should a licensing or authorizing agency find the individual poses an imminent threat to the public or cannot practice safely and effectively
9. Copying, reproducing, disclosing, disseminating or removing of exam related materials from the test site; attempting to copy, reproduce, disclose, disseminate or remove of exam related materials; or asking someone to copy, reproduce, disclose, disseminate or remove of exam related materials

## IMPARTIALITY

The NREMT ensures that personnel, vendors, and all involved in our certification activities understand the importance of impartiality and potential conflicts of interest. To reassure the NREMT continues to act impartial, we conduct ongoing assessments to identify and address any risk that may result in a conflict of interest or imply a potential threat to impartiality. Policies and procedures are implemented for individuals involved in our certification

activities to sustain a consistent and fair process. The NREMT prides itself on being fair and objective when dealing with candidates and applicants pursuing the NREMT certification.

## NONDISCRIMINATION AND FAIRNESS

The NREMT is committed to providing an equal opportunity for all applicants, certificants, staff, volunteers and vendors. The NREMT does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, national origin, disability, marital status, sexual orientation or military status in any of its certification activities or operations. These activities include, but are not limited to, initial applicants and recertification certificants, internal staffing practices, and selection of volunteers and vendors.

## PRIVACY

The NREMT's privacy policy is applicable to personal information that we may receive related to certification, licensure and research. We will handle and treat all personal information collected and received by us in connection with application, exam administration, and certification in the manner outlined in our privacy policy.

The privacy policy covers personal information collected, aggregation of non-person-specified data, mailings and contact, transfer of information to licensing agencies, transfer of information to educational institutions, other transfer of information, public information, independent testing centers, information access and corrections, research data, protections of personal information, resolution of concerns, information from children, information received from internet service providers through the NREMT website, cookies, transmission of information, links to other websites, and changes to the privacy policy.

The entire privacy policy can be accessed at:

 <https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/policy-privacy>

