



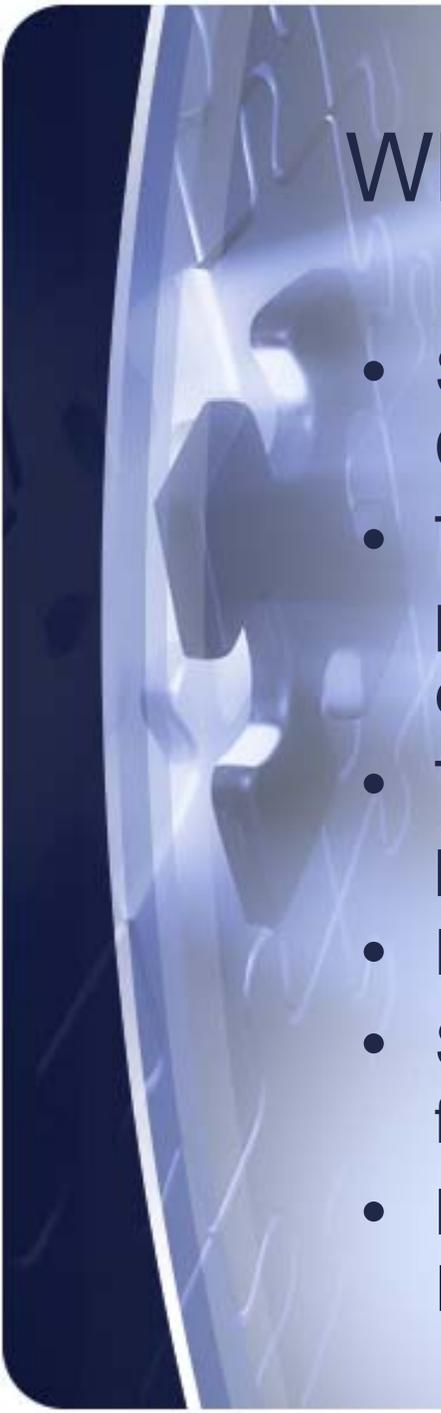
# Considerations for Testing and Recertification

Virginia's Completion of the National EMS Puzzle



## Where we are

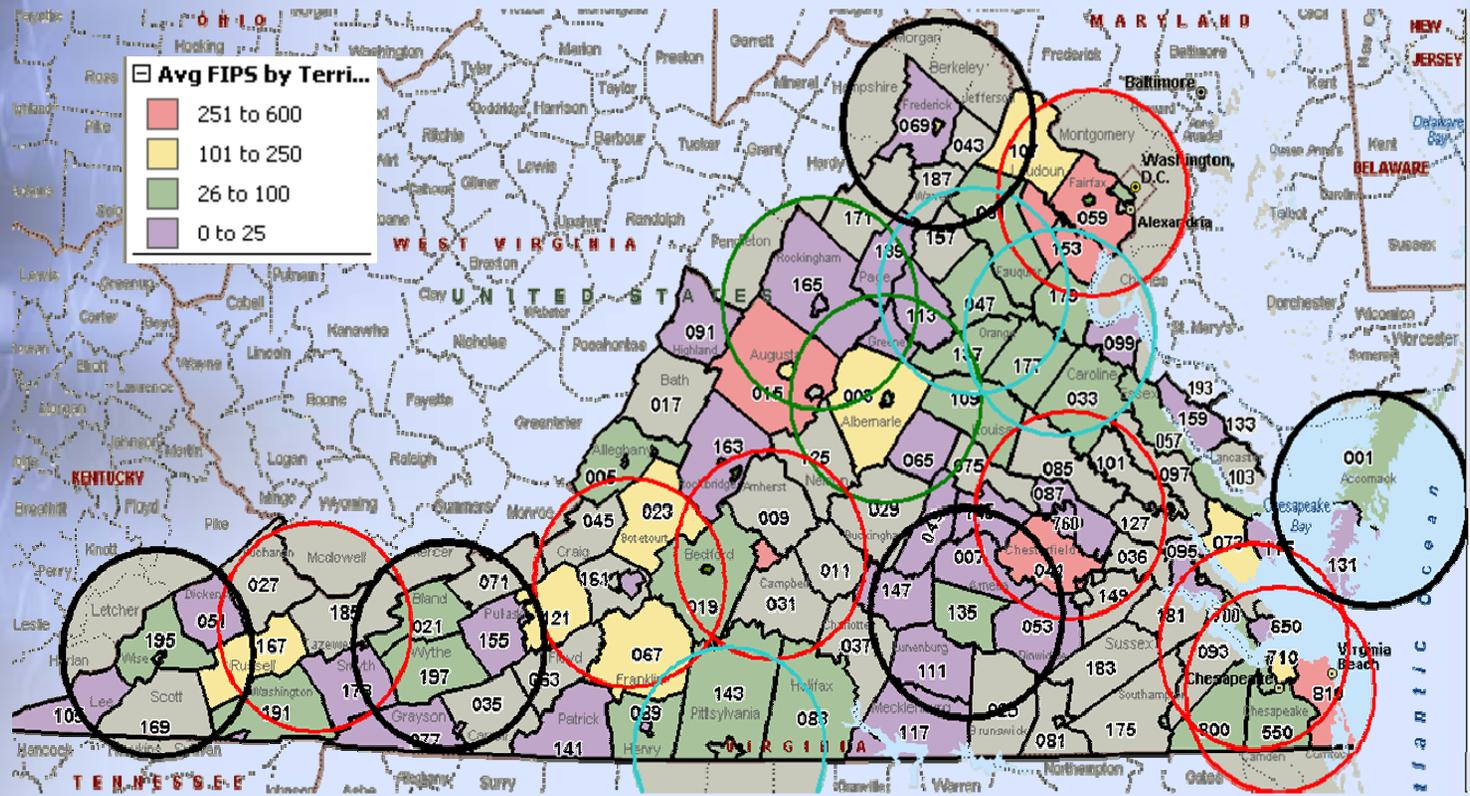
- Based upon the five integrated primary components listed in the “National EMS Education Agenda”
  - 1) National EMS Core Content – **Compliant**
  - 2) National EMS Scope of Practice – **Compliant**
  - 3) National EMS Education Standards – **Compliant-activation scheduled for 7-1-2012**
  - 4) National EMS Program Accreditation – **Compliant**
  - 5) National EMS Certification – **Partially Compliant**

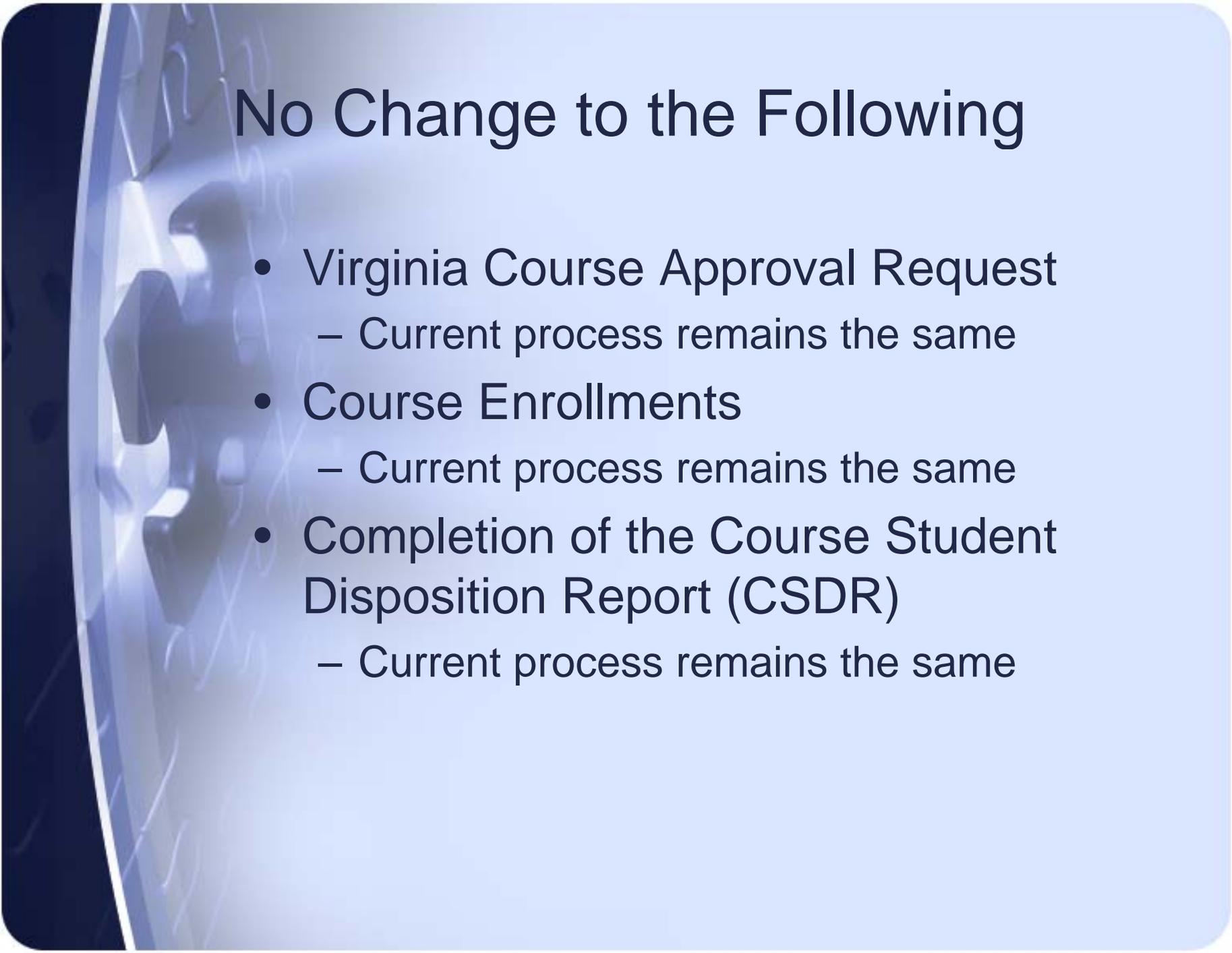


## Why Change Now?

- Significant decrease in the Atlantic EMS Council's ability to create examinations
- The need to continue providing valid, psychometrically sound and legally defensible examinations
- To better comply with the current validation process
- Lack of participation from SMEs
- Standardize the entire initial certification process for Virginia
- Be fully compliant with the National EMS Education document

# Proposed Written Examination Locations – Pearson Vue





## No Change to the Following

- Virginia Course Approval Request
  - Current process remains the same
- Course Enrollments
  - Current process remains the same
- Completion of the Course Student Disposition Report (CSDR)
  - Current process remains the same



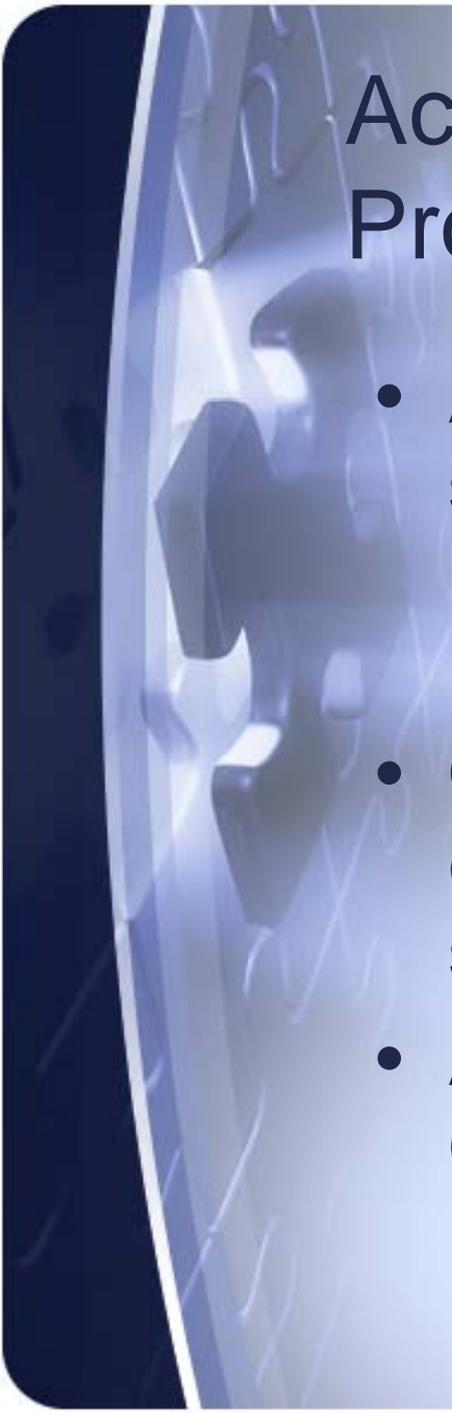
# Testing Process of EMR and EMT

- There are three components to the proposed EMR and EMT testing process:
  - Virginia Practical
  - NREMT Written
  - Reciprocity



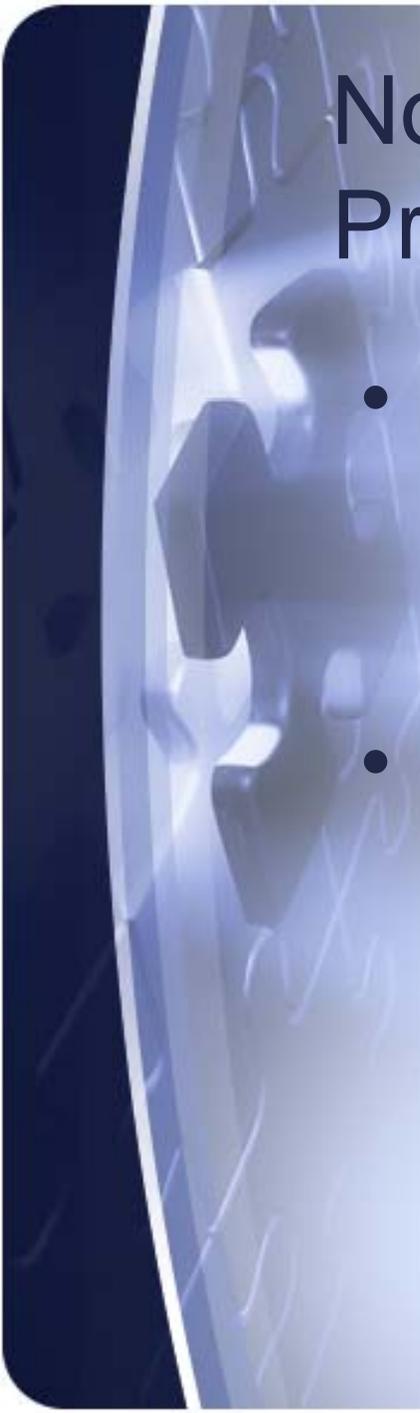
# Virginia Practical – Proposed Process

- Course Coordinator marks the CSDR
  - Students are automatically issued Eligibility Letters in their EMS Portal
  - Student takes letter to CTS site
- Current Virginia Practical Examination process will be followed
- Practical scores will be recorded and processed using current methods
- Two Paths
  - Accredited Programs
  - Non-accredited programs



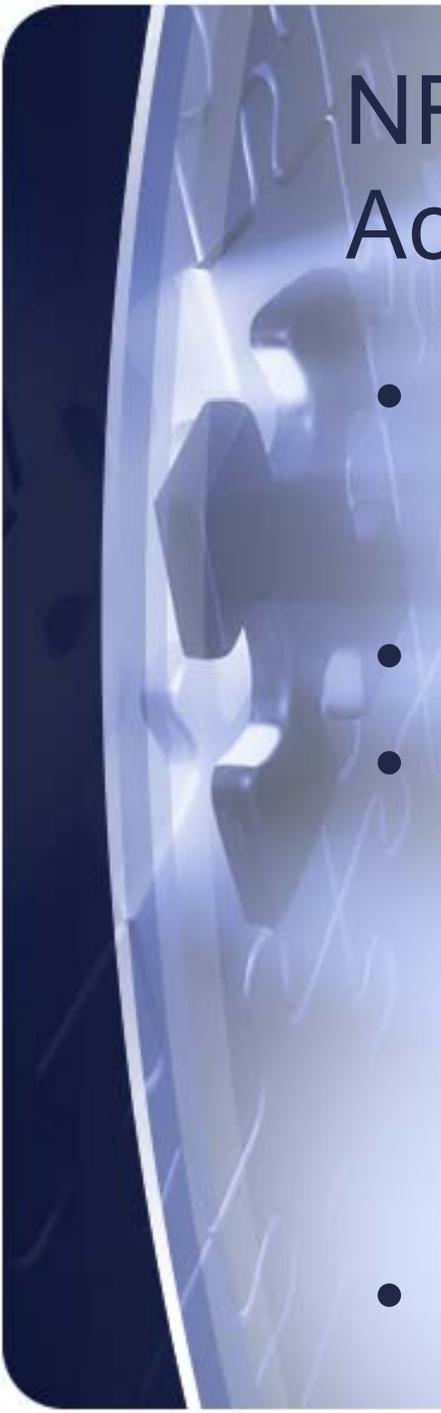
## Accredited Programs – Practical Process

- Accredited programs with 15 or more students can arrange with the Office to have testing done on-site.
  - Less than 15 students -----> CTS Site
- Office will schedule test site in conjunction with accredited program and send a Test Representative
- Accredited Site required to adhere to CTS Guidelines for Virginia Practical
  - Students may retest (only 1 time) onsite based upon available resources



## Non-accredited Programs – Practical Process

- Students are required to test the Virginia Practical at a CTS Site
  - Current Regional Council processes for CTS Sites will be followed
- Students may retest (only 1 time) onsite based upon available resources



## NREMT Written Examination – Access by Students

- Course Coordinator marks the CSDR
  - Students are issued Eligibility Letters
  - Student completes Virginia Practical at a CTS Site
- Student registers online with NREMT
- Upon successful completion of the Virginia Practical:
  - OEMS will authorize NREMT to issue an Authorization to Test (ATT) letter
  - The Office is aiming to automate this process with NREMT
- Examination follows NREMT policy



# Instructor Requirements

- Education Coordinators will be required to register on the NREMT website as “Program Directors”
  - If instructor/coordinator currently hold NREMT certification, they can simply add a role to their NREMT account
  - Office will approve instructors in NREMT database
- Registration allows instructors to track their students and allows the Office to track outcome statistics per instructor.
- The Office will only approve/recognize Va. certified/endorsed “instructors” eligible to conduct initial certification programs.



## Examination Cost

- Virginia is considering covering the cost of the initial National Registry EMR and EMT written attempt:
  - EMR Exam runs \$65.00
  - EMT Exam runs \$70.00
- Virginia averages ~ 6000 tests per year
  - Estimated costs of \$420,000 / year



What questions do you have on NR testing?



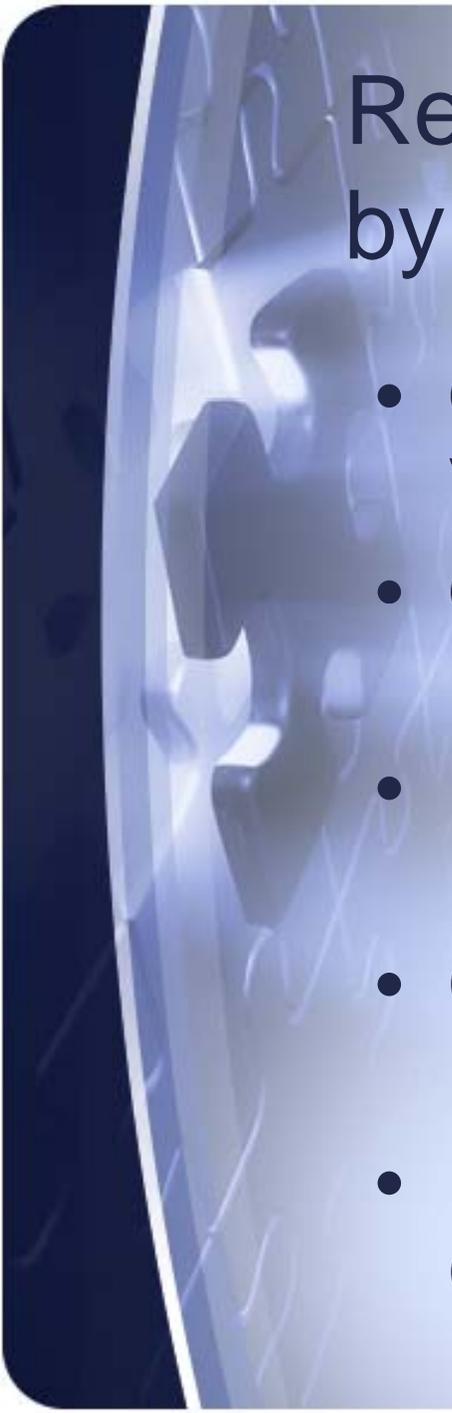
# Reciprocity

- All current Virginia approved levels will obtain Virginia Certification via reciprocity
  - This process will be similar to the current process for Intermediate and Paramedics
  - The Office plans to automate this for all levels for students who are enrolled in Virginia approved programs
- Certification levels include:
  - EMR
  - EMT
  - AEMT
  - Intermediate
  - Paramedic



# Recertification in Virginia

- Virginia providers will **not be** required to keep National Registry
- Recertification will solely be CE based
- Completion of CE requirements awards recertification eligibility to the provider
  - Recertification will be initiated by:
    - Upon request of the provider via the EMS Portal
    - OR
    - Automatic recertification during provider's anniversary month.



## Required Activities to Accomplish by 7-1-12

- OEMS must seek updates to the Code of Virginia
- OEMS must seek updates to certain regulations
- Develop electronic data exchanges with NREMT
- Conduct orientation for EMS Educators
  - Approve EMS Educators for NREMT
- Identify and publish Pearson Vue Testing Center locations



# Questions and Comments

## Completing the National EMS Puzzle