



EMS TRAINING PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION MANUAL

Policy Number: T-226	Page: 1	of: 1
Title: Privilege of Certification and Field Practice Authority		
Regulatory Authority: 12VAC5-31-1040 and 12VAC5-31-1160		
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- A. In order to function as an EMS provider in the Commonwealth of Virginia, providers must hold a valid certification as issued by the Commissioner.
- B. Certification is a privilege issued by the Office and only verifies an individual's successful fulfillment of the minimum state training standards for the level of certification being issued as established in the State EMS regulations and the *Code of Virginia*. Certification alone does not indicate the individual's ability or authority to perform any specific job tasks or functions. It is the responsibility of the organization that is using the certificate holder to determine the individual's ability to perform any specific job tasks or functions.
- C. Performance of any invasive medical procedure in the field; including but not limited to: intravenous cannulation, medication administration, automated or manual cardiac defibrillation, intubation and or surgical airway procedures; by any individual is only permitted while acting under authority of a state licensed EMS agency and as permitted by the licensed physician serving as the Operational Medical Director (OMD) for that agency.
 - 1. The practice of prehospital care requires the individual to have the approval of their EMS agency's Operational Medical Director (OMD) while actively participating as a provider with that EMS agency. Extensions of privileges to practice must be on the agency's official stationary or indicated in the agency records which are signed and dated by the OMD.
 - 2. An individual's EMS agency OMD authorization to practice is valid only when the individual has a current certificate issued by the Office or a license issued by the appropriate Board of the Department of Health Professions as required for the EMS Vehicle personnel position requirement being performed. Each individual is required to possess current EMS certification and/or licensure at or above the level they are to function. There is no grace period on certification or licensure expiration.