

## Chad Blosser

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**From:** Chad Blosser  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 21, 2021 4:18 PM  
**To:** 'chad.blosser@vdh.virginia.gov'  
**Cc:** Deborah Akers; Gary Brown; Adam Harrell  
**Subject:** Mid-Summer Education Coordinator Update

**This is a blanket e-mail message to all certified Education Coordinators and ALS Coordinators.**

Dear Educators,

Good afternoon from a very warm and smoggy Richmond, Virginia. We have a couple of updates for you as you begin preparations for your fall courses.

### COVID-19 GUIDANCE FOR EMS EDUCATORS

All current guidance for educators specific to changes implemented by OEMS and NREMT related to COVID-19 can be found on this page which is maintained and updated regularly

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/educator-resources/covid-19-guidance-for-ems-educators/>

### Education Coordinator and ALS-Coordinator Updates

We have added additional updates to the calendar this year—the full schedule for this calendar year is posted on the OEMS website at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/ems-educator-update-schedule/>

Registration is required to attend all EC/ALS-C updates. Should the COVID-19 Delta and/or Lambda variant cause new restrictions to be implemented in the Commonwealth, we will modify the update schedule accordingly.

If you have not yet been to an update post-COVID, then your EC certification or ALS-C endorsement most likely is set to expire on June 30, 2022.

### National Registry

On Wednesday, June 9, 2021, The National Registry's Board of Directors announced their decision to waive the Distributive Education (DE) limits in the NCCP Model for the 2022 recertification season to ensure EMS professionals could maintain their national certification while assuring continued competency.

- All EMTs, AEMTs and Paramedics who are due to recertify on March 31, 2022 will have no limits on Distributive Education. The same will apply to EMRs due to recertify on September 30, 2022. This allows all continuing education to be accomplished online through any state-accepted or CAPCE-accredited program or education site. Of course, in-person continuing education will also be accepted.
  - EMR - [Click Here for Requirements](#)
  - EMT - [Click Here for Requirements](#)
  - AEMT - [Click Here for Requirements](#)
  - NRP - [Click Here for Requirements](#)

### Applications for Reciprocity, Legal Recognition & Challenge

We will be transitioning reciprocity, legal recognition and challenge applications from a paper-based process to an electronic process through the Virginia EMS Portal beginning tonight, July 21, 2021 at 6:00PM. This new process will improve the application process which will result in faster processing of these applications. Faster processing times will be dependent on the successful receipt of FBI fingerprint background checks and/or required verifications of certification from other states/U.S. territories.

Any paper-based packets received by the Office will require the applicant to reapply through the Virginia EMS Portal. OEMS staff will reach out to affected applicants with guidance on resubmitting their applications.

### **16th Percentile Peer-to-Peer Benchmarking**

The 16th Percentile Peer-to-Peer Benchmarking statistics were updated and posted on the OEMS website on July 6, 2021. This tool is used to by the Office of EMS to determine which programs are eligible for funding through the Virginia EMS Scholarship Program and to determine which Education Coordinators in the Commonwealth can serve as mentors for the Education Coordinator certification program.

You can view the new documents at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/program-rankings-based-on-16th-percentile-peer-to-peer-benchmarking/>

### **Virtual Instructor-Led Training (VILT)**

VILT education was introduced in Virginia in May of 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Virginia Office of EMS considers VILT continuing education to be F5 education as defined by the Commission for Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education (CAPCE). At the one year mark, OEMS staff decided to review VILT education—specifically the policies and procedures for conducting this education—in order to ensure that industry recognized standards are in place. Over the past several months, OEMS staff has consulted with Virginia EMS Physicians, Virginia EMS educators, the National Registry, national recognized EMS educators, national F5 continuing education vendors and CAPCE as we reviewed our existing VILT policies and procedures.

The newest guidance for VILT education can be found on the OEMS website at the following URL: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/content/uploads/sites/23/2020/07/Delivering-High-Quality-Instruction-Online-VILT-SECURED.pdf>

### **Training Program Administration Manual (TPAM)**

The TPAM has been updated to include clearer delineation of continuing education modalities as well as to remove references to paper CE cards and enrollment forms which are no longer accepted by the Office. The effective date for most changes was July 1, 2021.

If you are curious about what policies were updated, please do a keyword search on “2021” to see those policies that were affected by these changes. The TPAM can be found on the OEMS website at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/documents-forms-downloads/ems-training-program-administration-manual/>

As always, should you have any questions, please let us know.

Best,

Chad

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**Due to the COVID-19 pandemic the Office of EMS is teleworking and not available in the office. We continue to monitor the ongoing situation regarding the spread of COVID-19. For more information and updates on COVID-19 please visit the link below: <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/coronavirus-2019-covid-19/>.**

Please let us know how we are doing by [clicking here](#) to complete a short customer experience survey.

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