

Chad Blosser

From: Chad Blosser
Sent: Friday, February 4, 2022 4:33 PM
To: Chad Blosser
Cc: Deborah Akers
Subject: Educator Update: Winter 2022 Update

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

Dear Educators,

National Registry Cognitive Exam Changes Coming April 15, 2022

Please make sure your students who will be testing this spring are made aware of these changes. Beginning April 15, 2022, the National Registry will be transitioning to a new software platform for administering its examinations. This software upgrade comes with a few modifications to examination scheduling and delivery that candidates may notice. Some of the updates to highlight that go into effect on April 15 are:

- Candidates logging in to schedule examinations will notice they cannot schedule any online proctored (OnVUE) examinations beyond April 11, 2022. This temporary inconvenience is necessary as part of our software upgrade.
- Testing center examination scheduling will not be impacted.
- On April 15, 2022, candidates will be able to resume scheduling their examinations via OnVUE.
 - Candidates will select their delivery method (testing center or online proctored) and schedule their examination on Pearson VUE's website.
 - The EMR level cognitive examination will be available as an online proctored examination starting April 15, 2022.
 - Both EMR and EMT providers will be able to use OnVUE testing for recertification by examination beginning April 15, 2022.
 - Our EMT OnVUE examination will be updated to use our computer adaptive format (CAT) and reflect the same experience as the testing centers. This will change the length of the OnVUE examination from a fixed set of 110 questions to a variable between 70-120 questions.
- The AEMT level cognitive examination will no longer be available as an online proctored examination. AEMT will be administered at Pearson VUE testing centers only.

BLS Certification Testing

- Cognitive Exams – Normal processes are in place for the National Registry cognitive exam. Beginning April 15, 2022, all Basic Life Support (BLS) examinations will have an online proctored (OnVUE) in addition to the testing center options. Pearson VUE OnVUE is available for candidates who are unable to access testing at a Pearson Test Center due to lack of available seats. Please direct your candidates to learn more about Pearson OnVUE Remote Proctored Exams by visiting: <https://home.pearsonvue.com/nremt/onvue>
- Psychomotor Exams – The Office of EMS Management Team has suspended indefinitely BLS psychomotor testing pending decisions by the Training & Certification and Medical Direction Committees. Use of the TR.999 will serve as the verification of competency until further notice.

ALS Certification Testing

- **Cognitive Exams** – Normal processes are in place for the National Registry cognitive exam. Beginning April 15, 2022, all Advanced Life Support (ALS) examinations will only be administered at Pearson VUE Test Centers—remote proctoring via Pearson OnVUE is not permitted for ALS candidates.
- **Psychomotor Exams** – The ALS Testing Calendar on the OEMS website can be found at: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/virginia-national-registry-psychomotor-examination-schedule/>

National EMS Educational Standards (NEMSES)

The 2021 National EMS Educator Standards (NEMSES) has been released. The document can be located on www.ems.gov. The ACE Division will be working with the Training & Certification and Medical Direction Committees over the next couple of months to develop a rollout plan for these new standards in Virginia. We will notify you of the rollout schedule as soon as we have it developed.

You should not anticipate any changes regarding the 2021 NEMSES until at least the fall of 2022.

Education Coordinator and ALS-Coordinator Updates

As we indicated last year, ACE Division staff will not be traveling as much in 2022 as we did in the second half of 2021. Education Coordinator Updates for 2022 will be scheduled once NHTSA releases the 2021 NEMSES document in order to coordinate EC Updates with rollouts of the 2021 NEMSES and certification testing changes.

Registration is required to attend all EC/ALS-C updates. <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/ems-educator-update-schedule/>

New Online Continuing Education Option

The Office is in the final stages of developing a rollout plan for a new, free continuing education opportunity for Virginia EMS providers. We have invested significant money and resources into developing this partnership which will allow Virginia EMS providers to choose from 100 different continuing education courses in Vector’s catalog in order to meet their requirements for recertification of their Virginia and National Registry certifications.

Blackboard Rollouts

ACE Division staff will begin the process of rolling out the Virginia specific processes and requirements for making use of Blackboard for initial certification and continuing education programs. This rollout will be approx. 2 hours in length and will only cover Virginia specific requirements. Dates and times of these sessions are posted below. You must register in advance to attend. Each session is limited to a maximum of 100 participants.

Date	Time	Registration Link
February 14, 2022	10 AM to noon	Click here to register
February 14, 2022	2 PM to 4 PM	Click here to register
February 15, 2022	7 PM to 9 PM	Click here to register
February 16, 2022	10 AM to noon	Click here to register
February 16, 2022	7 PM to 9 PM	Click here to register
February 17, 2022	7 PM to 9 PM	Click here to register
February 18, 2022	10 AM to noon	Click here to register
February 18, 2022	2 PM to 4 PM	Click here to register

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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