

Chad Blosser

From: Chad Blosser <chad.blosser@vdh.virginia.gov> on behalf of Chad Blosser
Sent: Friday, May 13, 2022 12:24 PM
To: Chad Blosser
Cc: Deborah Akers
Subject: Education Coordinator Update - Important News Regarding the 2021 NEMSES and Other Updates

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

Dear Educator,

Good afternoon. Here are a few updates that we would like to share with you as we quickly move into the summer months.

National Registry ALS Redesign

As you all know, the National Registry's ALS Redesign Project is a huge initiative that will be momentous for the EMS community. This project has many pieces and parts and has been hitting milestones for many months now. We have developed a web page to help keep educators up-to-date on these changes and Registry's progress toward meeting their Fall/Winter 2023 deadline.

Please keep this link in your favorites so you can revisit this regularly as this project moves forward.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/nremt-als-redesign-project/>

National Registry Extension of Test Window

On March 17, 2020, the National Registry Board of Directors authorized the Executive Director to extend all certification-related deadlines for programs that were impacted by the COVID pandemic. The Course Eligibility and Examination Validity deadlines for all candidates with a course completion date between March 1, 2018 and August 31, 2020 was set at 30 months. For example, a course completion date of July 2018 will be valid through January 2021 and a course completion date of August 31, 2020 will be valid through February 28, 2023.

2021 National EMS Education Standards Rollout

The Office of EMS has worked closely with Training & Certification (TCC) and Medical Direction Committees (MDC) to plan for the statewide rollout of the new 2021 National EMS Education Standards (NEMSES). These state Committees and a number of your fellow educators have worked tirelessly over the past 6 months to develop policies, procedures and guidance documents to help ensure this transition is a smooth one. **Registration is required to attend.**

The State EMS Advisory Board approved TCC's recommendations for how to move forward at its meeting on May 6, 2022. With this approval, ACE Division staff are working on the final policies and procedures and prepping for a Commonwealth wide rollout this fall.

All educators conducting initial certification courses in Virginia will continue to teach to the Virginia EMS Education Standards (VEMSES) until further notice. The VEMSES is the basis for EMS education at all levels in Virginia.

- [Virginia EMS Education Standards \(VEMSES\)](#) which was modified from the [2009 National EMS Education Standards \(NEMSES\) for the EMT](#).

More information on the rollout of the 2021 National EMS Education Standards can be found at the link below:

- <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/educator-resources/2021-national-ems-education-standards-rollout/>

* NEMSES Rollouts will not count as an Education Coordinator Update; CAT 2 CE will be awarded for attendance.

Training Program Administration Manual (TPAM) Update

Due to continued delays in the implementation of Chapter 32 of the EMS Regulations, ACE staff are in the final stages of updating the current TPAM to address changes that will come as a part of our adoption and implementation of the 2021 NEMSES.

A new, revised TPAM will be released no later than May 31, 2022 in order for educators to have time to read and prepare for these upcoming changes which will be effective July 1, 2022.

End of Course Requirements

For ALL Initial Programs

Last class paperwork must be covered with every student and not handed to them for independent review. A requirement of the last class paperwork is that every student establish their National Registry application. **NO STUDENT** should be marked as passed if you cannot simultaneously mark them in both the CSDR and with the National Registry. Likewise, you should not mark any student as passed with the National Registry if you have indicated their passing in the CSDR.

EVERY STUDENT must have a disposition in the CSDR as of the last class date of either PASS, FAIL, WITHDRAWN or INCOMPLETE. No student should be left with no status.

Anyone marked as INCOMPLETE will have 180 days from your announced course end date to complete any requirements that were not achieved during the course.

When approving your students with the National Registry, please make sure that **the course completion date is reflective of your announced course end date** and not the date they are completing any requirements that were not met during the course. By verifying a date that is greater than the course end date, you are providing them with an additional two years which will put them outside of their window for certification in Virginia.

EMR and EMT courses

Prior to marking any students as passed, the TR.999 must be forwarded to Debbie for review and approval. If there is an unexpected delay in being able to obtain your Medical Director signature, please send the form signed by yourself with an explanation and an expected date the Medical Director will be available. Upon receipt of the TR.999 it will be reviewed and then an email sent to approve you in marking your students as passed.

NHTSA Draft Report on Infection Prevention and Control for the EMS/911 Workforce Released: Public Comment Requested

The draft report for the technical brief on Infection Prevention and Control for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS)/911 workforce has been released by the Evidence-based Practice Center (EPC) Program at the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). The draft report is available for review and feedback through April 22, 2022 on Effective Healthcare's website.

The technical brief summarizes the latest evidence on infectious pathogen exposure among the EMS/911 workforce and offers recommendations for the prevention, recognition, and control of infectious diseases and other related exposures that may be acquired in occupational settings.

The AHRQ is requesting feedback from the community to improve the final technical brief. The agency values feedback and will consider all comments received.

<https://effectivehealthcare.ahrq.gov/products/form/ems-911-workforce-infection-control-technical-brief>

AHRQ is a government agency that produces evidence-based guidance to improve the quality of healthcare delivery. It coordinates these efforts with partners in the field to ensure the evidence is understood and put into practice. For more information on the EPC Program, visit here. This project is supported by NHTSA's Office of EMS, which strives to reduce death and disability by providing leadership and coordination to the EMS community in assessing, planning, developing, and promoting comprehensive, evidence-based emergency medical services and 911 systems.

Education Coordinator Institutes

All EC institutes for the next year have been scheduled and are published on the OEMS website.

<https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/educator-resources/ems-instructor-resources/ems-education-coordinator-requirements/>

Education Coordinator Updates

All EC Updates through September 2022 have been scheduled and are published on the OEMS website. As we indicated last year, ACE Division staff will not be traveling as much in 2022 as we did in 2021.

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

FREE Engaging Online Training from VectorSolutions!

OEMS announced in mid-March that currently certified Virginia EMS providers and students will have free exclusive access to VectorSolutions Training featuring robust courses delivered through an award-winning online learning management system. Please forward this message and attachment to your providers so they can begin using this new resource today!

OEMS has 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.

The VectorSolutions learning management system provides online training with proven results. These courses are available for free now to all Virginia certified EMS providers and EMS students.

The Office of EMS has worked with VectorSolutions to automatically create an account for each active, certified EMS provider in the Commonwealth. To access your account click this link: <http://app.targetolutions.com/vacee>

- Your **Username** is your e-mail address on file in the Virginia EMS Portal.
 - o If you already have a TargetSolutions/VectorSolutions account through your agency, then use your current login and password for that account.
- Your temporary password is: **freece** (case-sensitive)

Thank you again for all you continue to do for Virginia's EMS System. As always, should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to Debbie or myself.

Best,

Chad

Chad Blosser | Education Program Manager | Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services | Division of Accreditation, Certification & Education | 1041 Technology Park Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23059 | 804.888.9124 (p) | 804.371.3409 (f) | chad.blosser@vdh.virginia.gov | www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/

FREE continuing education for Virginia EMS Providers in partnership with VectorSolutions--Virginia EMS providers now have free exclusive access to VectorSolutions by clicking here: <https://bit.ly/3Jt2AsQ>

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

PRIVILEGED AND CONFIDENTIAL: This e-mail may contain confidential materials, including health information that is legally privileged. This information is intended only for the use of the individual(s) to whom it is addressed and specifically authorized to receive it. The authorized recipient of this information is prohibited from disclosing this information to any party unless required to do so by law or regulation. If the reader is not the intended recipient, you are hereby notified that any dissemination, distribution, reproductions, or use of the contents is strictly prohibited. If you have received this e-mail message in error, please notify the sender immediately and destroy the original and any copies of the included information.