

Blosser, Chad (VDH)

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Sent: Monday, March 13, 2023 11:59 AM
To: Blosser, Chad (VDH)
Subject: RETRANSMIT: March 2023 Educator Update

--- OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES ---

Division of Accreditation, Certification & Education



March 2023 Educator Update

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

Dear Educator,

Greetings from Glen Allen. ***This message from March 2, 2023 is being retransmitted via GovDelivery due to the fact that a number of end users did not receive the original message.***

Tracie Jones Retirement

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the retirement of Tracie Jones from the ACE Division effective March 1, 2023. Tracie has provided 30 years of devoted service to the Commonwealth and the Office of EMS. During her tenure, she worked with over 2,500 educators—to include many of you—assisting with the creation of more than 80,000 courses—70,000+ of which were manually keyed before the days of the EMS Portal.

Tracie's attention to detail, while keeping the broader picture in mind, has been invaluable to our Division. Her willingness to put in extra time and effort to help us meet deadlines has demonstrated a commitment to excellence that we have come to depend upon. In addition to her knowledge of the EMS system and training requirements, she has been a friend to all with her thoughtfulness and quiet encouragement.

Tracie's retirement is our loss, but a well-deserved respite for her. There are currently no plans to replace her position, so course requests and any questions you may have about course approvals will be handled by Debbie Akers for the time being as we move forward. Tracie has asked for privacy as she transitions to retirement, but we know each of you will all join us in wishing her well as she starts this new chapter.

Course Request Led Time

As we transitioned from paper to online course requests two years ago, many of you anticipated that this meant less led time was needed on the part of the Office. While in some cases this is true, the mean led time has rapidly moved from 30-days which was the standard for paper-based forms to less than 7 days at present.

In lieu of modifying the Training Program Administration Manual (TPAM) to create an enforceable led time date, we are asking that each of you strive to announce your courses to our office a minimum of 15 business days BEFORE the requested start date. Thirty (30) days notice is preferable. If we continue to experience issues with last minute course request submissions, we will have no other choice than to modify the TPAM to set an enforceable led date for these requests.

- **Course Requests for Large CE Events** – If you are announcing a large continuing education event (i.e. regional CE conference/expo, a CE weekend for more than 30 attendees, etc.) we are asking that these requests come into the Office at least 30-days in advance of the event and **BEFORE** you announce the event to the public. Office staff need time to review these requests and ensure that the CE that is being awarded meets the National Registry NCCR requirements.

CE Credit for College Transcripts (Implementation date modified to April 1, 2023)

On October 1, 2022, the National Registry changed their policy on the issuance of continuing education credit based on college courses. While we are still able to award CE for these courses (10 hours for every one hours of college credit in the science related courses), we are only able to award these in the LCCR/ICCR (Category 2) area. All NCCR (Category 1) CE hours must be completed through either traditional or online courses. There is no limit on the number of CE hours that can be completed in CAPCE accredited courses.

Due to the change of the implementation date, an official college transcript is required to be provided and should be forwarded to Debbie (Deborah.T.Akers@vdh.virginia.gov) for review and the awarding of the continuing education credit. As in the past, Education Coordinators should not be awarding CE from college transcripts.

Effective April 1, 2023, only Category 2 CE can be awarded for college courses that were not in EMS classes.

Virginia's Psychomotor Competency Verification

Candidates for Legal Recognition, Challenge and Reentry in Virginia will need to have their psychomotor competency verified by an Education Coordinator. Please direct these candidates to the following OEMS web page for more information on this process.

- <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/provider-resources/bls-psychomotor-skill-verification-process-for-legal-recognition-reentry-challenge-candidates/>

Please familiarize yourself with this new process and direct any questions or inquiries to our office.

Research Project for Virginia EMT Programs

Pima Community College located in Tucson, Arizona is conducting research that will look at how open access to a computer-based assessment program will affect EMT students success and preparation for work in the field.

The researchers believe this is a great opportunity for EMT programs and students alike to learn about the virtual EMS education world at no cost. Please see the attached flyer if you are interested in participating.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Debbie or myself.

Best,

Chad

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For additional information, contact:
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About the Virginia Office of EMS

The Office of Emergency Medical Services (OEMS) is responsible for planning and coordinating an effective and efficient statewide EMS system. Our programs and services are designed to assure quality prehospital patient care, from when the call is received by the 911 center to the delivery of the patient to the trauma center or hospital. For more information, visit <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/>.



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