

Washington State EMS Education Gap Analysis for State and National Registry Transition Based on National EMS Education Standards and Instructional Guidelines

This document identifies the gaps between what has historically been taught by Washington State EMS Educators and contents of the National EMS Education Standards and Instructional Guidelines. If there are items in the Standards and Guidelines that are not part of the WA State scope (e.g., administration of Nitrous Oxide), students should still be provided the information as it may be included in the certification exam. Instructors should use current textbooks and materials to “fill in the blanks” as they prepare lesson plans. The gaps will also be included in OTEP and CME programs so that currently certified personnel can meet educational requirements for NREMT recertification should they choose to maintain NREMT status. There are three companion documents pertaining to EMS education: the National Scope of Practice Model, EMS Education Standards and the Instructor Guidelines (for each certification level). The page numbers in the tables below represent where the information can be found in the EMS Education Standards and Instructor Guidelines found on the web at: <http://www.ems.gov/EducationStandards.htm>. The department is developing amended versions of these documents that will include this information.

Emergency Medical Responder

Note: The following skills are no longer taught at this level:

- Pressure Points and Elevation for bleeding control,
- Insertion of Nasopharyngeal airway.

Skill	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Tourniquet	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now included in National Standard Skills
Auto Injector	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Self and Peer Only. Pg. 127
Topic	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Research	New Topic	Minimal depth, Basic importance of research. How EMR can contribute. Pg.4
Medical terminology	New topic at this level	12 common medical terms. Pg.21
Pathophysiology	New content to this level	Only focuses on respiratory dysfunction and shock. Pg. 22
Patient Assessment	New Terminology	Use of the terms, Primary and Secondary assessment. Pg.44
Shock and Resuscitation	New section	Combines CPR information from old curriculum with more detail, use of AED and more detailed shock information. Pg.79
Special Populations	Geriatrics	Simple depth. Impact of age related changes on assessment and care. Pg.112
Mass Casualty Incident	New topic	Simple depth and breadth. Basic concepts of MCI. Pg. 117
NIMS National Incident Management System	New Topic	Overview of Incident Command. Simple depth. Pg. 118
Hazardous Materials Incidents	New information	Simple depth. Hazardous materials awareness. pg.125

Emergency Medical Technician

Note: The following skills are no longer taught at this level:

- Pressure Points and Elevation for bleeding control

Skill	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Pulse Oximetry	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National standard
Tourniquets	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National standard
Transport Ventilator	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National Standard
Topic	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Patient Assessment	Use of new terminology	Use of the terms: Primary and Secondary Assessment
Pathophysiology	New to this level	Focuses on respiratory perfusion, and shock
Geriatrics	New Topic	Fundamental knowledge of aging process and related illnesses. Pg. 47
Incident Management	NIMS	Introduction to NIMS. Overview of the core concepts of NIMS. Pg.202
MCI Due to Terrorism and Disaster	All new content	Risks and Responsibilities of operating on the scene. Pg. 211
Hazardous Materials Awareness	New Content	HAZWOPER standard added. Pg.49

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician

Note: The following skills are no longer taught at this level:

- Pressure Points and Elevation for bleeding control
- Endotracheal intubation

Skill	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Insertion of Supraglottic airways		Now in National Standard
Provide Nitrous Oxide	Not permitted in Washington State	Medication In National Standard AEMT Formulary
Transport Ventilator	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National Standard
Use of tourniquets	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National Standard
Topic	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Patient Assessment	Use of new terminology	Use of the terms: Primary and Secondary Assessment
Pathophysiology	New to this level	Comprehensive knowledge of respiratory system, perfusion, and shock. Pg.21
Immunology	All new information	Complex depth and breadth. Anatomy, Pathophysiology and assessment of immune disorders. Pg.59
Geriatrics	New Topic	Complex depth, foundational breadth. Fluid resuscitation in the elderly. Pg.135

Paramedic

Note: The following skills are no longer taught at this level:

- Pressure Points and Elevation for bleeding control

Skill	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Use of Tourniquets	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National standard
Use of Nitrous Oxide	May be part of individual MPD Protocols	Now in National Standard
Topic	Gap	National EMS Education Standard
Research	Emphasis on value of research	Evidence based decision-making.
Patient Assessment	New Terminology	Primary Assessment, history taking monitoring devices including waveform capnography, chemistry analysis, arterial blood gas interpretation.
Trauma General	New information	Increased emphasis on Pathophysiology plus commotion cordis, cauda equina syndromes, high-pressure injection, blast injuries, critical thinking skill in trauma.
EMS Operations: Incident management	New information	Complex depth, comprehensive breadth. Must be able to establish and work within the incident management system. This information will be included in NREMT exam questions.

Meeting National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) Transition Requirements

Individuals can recertify their NREMT certification and meet the transition education requirements through the following process (by certification level).

- **Emergency Medical Responder (EMR), Emergency Medical Technician (EMT), Paramedic**
The candidate's OTEP or CME program must include the educational material in the table above. A candidate may also complete a formal refresher course that will satisfy the educational requirements. At the time of NREMT recertification, the candidate will apply for recertification via the NREMT's online recertification process (www.nremt.org). They should check the box verifying that they have obtained the additional information. Once completed, the provider's EMS agency training officer will be notified by the NREMT. The EMS agency training officer will confirm the applicant has completed the educational requirements. When this is complete, the candidate will obtain NREMT recertification. No test is required.
- **Advanced EMT (AEMT)**
The candidate's OTEP or CME program will include the educational material in the table above. For AEMT only, the individual will recertify via the paper method, not on line. The individual must provide documentation (letter or certificate signed by the MPD), stating they have met the additional education requirements. Once this is submitted, the AEMT recertification candidate will be required to take only the NREMT, AEMT cognitive (computer based) exam at a reduced cost. If successful, the candidate will receive NREMT AEMT status.