

EMT CONTINUING EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE

EMTs must complete refresher training during each biennium. Starting this year an alternate method is available. During the two-year period of your licensure, you must either complete a formal refresher course or accrue a set number of continuing education hours in order to qualify for license renewal. In addition, current certification in CPR (basic life support for the healthcare professional) must be maintained at all times for the EMT license to be valid.

Copies of documentation verifying continuing education from those not completing a formal refresher may be requested by the Department for audit purposes. You must retain copies of all applicable training records for a period of at least two years after the expiration date of the license. Failure to provide documentation, if requested, creates a presumption that the licensee has made a false and fraudulent statement in applying for a license to practice as an emergency medical technician.

Training requirements:

Each EMT must complete 30 hours of training in the 24 month licensure period (July 1 of even number year through June 30 of next even number year). If using the alternate continuing education method, no less than 6 of the total hours of training are to be completed in each 12 month period (July 1 through June 30).

Training Options:

1. A number of formal EMT Refresher courses will be held throughout the state by approved EMT training centers. 30 hours.
2. The EMT may select to obtain 24 hours of training using various forms of media, presenters, providers, etc. and based on the following topic areas and hourly minimums. (Any CECBEMS accredited hours will be automatically approved per the topic area.) This option also requires the EMT to complete and pass a 6 hour "mini-refresher" course that contains 2-4 hours of current topics and 2-4 hours of written and practical assessment.

The "mini-refresher" course and assessment are under development and will be available no later than June 30, 2009. Successful completion of a standardized written examination and practical skills assessment will be part of the completion criteria for the course. Anyone not passing the assessment will need to complete a formal refresher course.

EMT-Basic Refresher Equivalent

The required 24 hours of alternate content training is broken down with the following minimum hours per topic area:

Topic Category	Minimum # hours	Examples of training topics
Operations	2	PPE, BSI, disease prevention, managing exposure, injury prevention, safety, medical and legal topics, ethics, lifting and moving, stress management, well being of EMS provider, communications, documentation, disaster planning, emergency driving, triage, WMD, terrorism, medical control, crime scene awareness, hazardous materials
Airway – Basic and Advanced	2	Basic airway skills, combitube, King LTS-D, ventilation, BLS procedures
Medical emergencies	4	Pharmacology, patient assessment, physical examination, clinical decision making, critical thinking, abdominal illness, behavioral emergencies, cardiovascular emergencies, CNS illnesses, diabetic emergencies, environmental emergencies, poisons and overdoses, respiratory emergencies, shock
Pediatric medical emergencies	2	Pediatric pharmacology, patient assessment, physical examination, clinical decision making, critical thinking, abdominal illness, behavioral emergencies, cardiovascular emergencies, CNS illnesses, diabetic emergencies, environmental emergencies, poisons and overdoses, respiratory emergencies, shock
Trauma emergencies	4	Patient assessment, physical examination, clinical decision making, critical thinking, abdominal injury, bleeding, soft tissues injury, shock, burns, chest injuries, musculoskeletal injuries, spinal injury, rescue and extrication, splinting
Pediatric trauma emergencies	2	Pediatric patient assessment, physical examination, clinical decision making, critical thinking, abdominal injury, bleeding, soft tissues injury, shock, burns, chest injuries, musculoskeletal injuries, spinal injury, rescue and extrication, splinting
OB	1	Obstetrics, gynecological emergencies
Flexible content	7	Any EMS topics covered in the EMT Basic curriculum including advanced skills