

EMT Certification Reciprocity for all 50 States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam

This document is meant to supplement your research about the educational and certification requirements for working as an EMT-B on a state-by-state basis once you pass your National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam and/or your EMT-B credentials for North Carolina.

NREMT is the broadest certifying agency for EMT credentials in the United States, allowing for reciprocity in 40 states. If you are NREMT certified, you will often have to take additional continuing educational pieces or tests to meet each individual state's requirements.

Each state sets rules for whether your certification will be accepted. Unfortunately, states often change rules without notifying the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, so you'll have to verify the current requirements for the state you're interested in working in.

Common reciprocity requirements include:

- Current and valid NREMT certification or state certification
- Current state training meets the training requirements for the state in which you are applying
- Provide documentation of course completion initial certification at your level and/or course completion of a refresher course
- Written exam if you are not an NREMT
- Background check and possible fingerprinting
- Many states will waive further testing if you are an NREMT. Some states require an additional practical exam testing your skills.
- Some states require additional training to understand specific state protocols and procedures.

Below are the stated requirements for all 50 states, Puerto Rico, the District of Columbia, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands, and has been deemed to be valid by NCOAE as of May 24, 2022.

ALABAMA

Phone: (334) 206-5383

Link: <https://www.alabamapublichealth.gov/ems/>

Summary: Alabama recognizes the NREMT (National Registry) Exam as basis for certification, but practical licensing examinations are still given by state-approved EMT Training Centers and must be completed prior to an Alabama state EMT license being issued.

ALASKA

Phone: (907) 465-3140

Link: <https://dhss.alaska.gov/dph/emergency/pages/ems/training/default.aspx>

Summary: Out-of-state applicants who hold current NREMT certification and show evidence of completing additional training as outlined in the Alaska Scope of Practice are eligible for reciprocity to the EMT-1 level.

ARIZONA

Phone: (602) 364-3150

Link: <https://www.azdhs.gov/documents/preparedness/emergency-medical-services-trauma-system/certification/faqs.pdf>

Summary: Arizona does not have reciprocal agreements with any other states; therefore, you cannot transfer your certification to Arizona. You are required to have a current and valid National Registry certification and reside in Arizona.

ARKANSAS

Phone: (501) 661-2262

Link: <https://www.healthy.arkansas.gov/programs-services/topics/new-ems-applications>

Summary: Arkansas has a reciprocity process to attain certification. The applicant will use their NREMT certification and complete an Initial Certification application like any new applicant.

CALIFORNIA

Phone: (916) 322-4336

Link: <https://emsa.ca.gov/emt/#:~:text=In%20California%2C%20EMTs%20are%20certified,residing%20for%20information%20on%20reciprocity.>

Summary: California EMTs are certified by local EMS agencies or other authorized certifying entities, rather than by the state. You can contact the local EMS agency in the county in which you will be working or residing for information on reciprocity.

COLORADO

Phone: (303) 691-4932

Link: <https://cdphe.colorado.gov/emergency-care/emergency-medical-services/ems-providers/ems-provider-certification/ems-provider-0#:~:text=Colorado%20does%20not%20have%20a,you%20to%20practice%20in%20Colorado>

Summary: Colorado does not have a reciprocity process for EMS providers. All first-time applicants must be registered with the NREMT at the level they intend to practice, regardless of certification in another state.

CONNECTICUT

Phone: (860) 509-7975

Link: <https://portal.ct.gov/DPH/Emergency-Medical-Services/Licensing--Certification/EMT-endorsement-of-out-of-state-certification>

Summary: Connecticut requires you hold a current certification by the NREMT or by a state maintaining certification requirements equal to or higher than those of Connecticut.

DELAWARE

Phone: (302) 739-4773

Link: <https://statefirecommission.delaware.gov/wp-content/uploads/sites/103/2022/01/EMT-Reciprocity-Application-12-10-21.pdf>

Summary: Delaware requires you to hold NREMT certification and complete the Delaware State Fire School Reciprocity class, along with filling out a form and passing a background check. After this, you fill out a reciprocity form to get certified.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Phone: (202) 671-4222

Link: <https://dchealth.dc.gov/service/ems-provider-certification>

Summary: The District requires you to be certified by NREMT and be sponsored by a certified District EMS response organization or educational institution.

FLORIDA

Phone: (850) 245-4910

Link: <https://www.floridahealth.gov/licensing-and-regulation/emt-paramedics/licensing/index.html>

Summary: Florida requires you to submit proof of current NREMT certification.

GEORGIA

Phone: (770) 996-6204

Link: <https://dph.georgia.gov/ems-personnel-licensure#:~:text=Reciprocity%20Requirements,the%20required%20documents%20listed%20above.>

Summary: Georgia does not have a reciprocity process. However, to apply for a Georgia license you are required to have a current NREMT registration and submit an online application.

GUAM

Phone: (671) 735-7413

Link: <https://guamhplo.org/emsc/certification-procedure>

Summary: Guam accepts the successful completion of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) exam as reciprocity for certification, along with other forms and clearances it requires.

HAWAII

Phone: (808) 586-2708

Link: <https://health.hawaii.gov/ems/home/ems-laws-and-administrative-rules-that-relate-to-ems-2/subchapter-7-certifying-emergency-medical-service-personnel/%c2%a716-85-54-certification-application/>

Summary: Hawaii requires you to provide evidence of completion of an EMT-Basic course of training, which equals or exceeds the curriculum used in Hawaii, along with evidence of your current NREMT certification.

IDAHO

Phone: (877) 554-3367

Link: <https://healthandwelfare.idaho.gov/providers/emergency-medical-services-ems/emergency-medical-system-ems-providers>

Summary: Idaho requires you to apply for a license there with your current EMS license in another state or hold a current certification with the NREMT instead of taking an initial EMS class.

ILLINOIS

Phone: (217) 785-2080

Link: <https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/emsreciprocityapplication.pdf>

Summary: Illinois has a multi-step process with the requirements listed above to utilize the reciprocity application.

INDIANA

Phone: (317) 232-2222

Link: <https://www.in.gov/dhs/ems/individual-certifications/>

Summary: Indiana accepts a state form and verification of EMS status via the home state sending a form directly to the Indiana office of emergency medical services with a copy of their NREMT and/or state EMS certification with the application.

IOWA

Phone: (515) 281-0620

Link: <https://idph.iowa.gov/bets/ems/certification>

Summary: Iowa is now using the NREMT exam as basis for EMR, EMT, AEMT and Paramedic certification. The Iowa Bureau of EMS will accept NREMT (National Registry) certified EMS from another state as basis for reciprocity and certification.

KANSAS

Phone: (785) 296-7296 **Link:** https://www.ksbems.org/ems/?page_id=165

Summary: Kansas requires applicants to have a criminal history check prior to certification. Once this is completed, you will need to complete the recognition of non-Kansas credentials application.

KENTUCKY

Phone: (859)256-3565 **Link:** https://kbems.kctcs.edu/certification_and_licensure/

Summary: Applicants who are certified in a contiguous state to the Commonwealth of Kentucky or by the NREMT as a NREMT-Emergency Medical Technician or any member of the United States Armed Forces — or veteran who has transitioned within the past six (6) years from the United States Armed Forces, and has been registered by the National Registry as a NREMT-Emergency Medical Technician or EMT applying for reciprocity — must submit proof of NREMT Certification, proof of HIV/AIDS training, proof of completing Pediatric Abusive Head Trauma training, and proof of completing Awareness of Sexual Violence training in order to receive reciprocity.

LOUISIANA

Phone: (225) 342-9500

Link: <https://ldh.la.gov/index.cfm/faq/category/97#:~:text=Does%20Louisiana%20have%20a%20reciprocity,National%20Registry%20of%20EMTs%20certification.>

Summary: Louisiana requires a current state EMS license. To qualify, you must have a NREMT certification.

MAINE

Phone: (207) 626-3860

Link: <https://support.maineems.org/knowledgebase.php?article=75#:~:text=Solution,Maine%20EMS%20Rules%20Chapter%205.>

Summary: Maine allows you to receive a reciprocal license providing you satisfy all the requirements if you hold a valid license or certificate in another state.

MARYLAND

Phone: (410) 706 3666 **Link:** <https://www.miemss.org/home/ems-providers/reciprocity>

Summary: Maryland requires you submit a reciprocity application along with a copy of all current EMS certificates, licenses or registrations. Once your application has been received, you must enroll in, and successfully complete, a minimum of a 12-hour Maryland EMT Skills Refresher Course.

MASSACHUSETTS

Phone: (617) 753-7309

Link: <https://www.mass.gov/doc/application-for-emt-basic-holding-nremt-certification-withwithout-state-certificationlicensure-0/download>

Summary: Massachusetts has a form to use to apply for an EMT-B certification if you have an NREMT certification. If you have or have ever had EMT certification in any other state, you must also complete the state verification form. Your NREMT must be current and in good standing through the time of the process.

MICHIGAN

Phone: (517) 241-3025

Link: <https://www.michigan.gov/mdhhs/inside-mdhhs/legislationpolicy/ems/personnellic/frequently-asked-questions-faqs#seven>

Summary: Michigan requires a passing score on both National Registry exams, an out-of-state verification form, and a license application. If the state in which you are licensed does not verify the training of certain education categories, you will be required to take an abbreviate Michigan course.

<p>MINNESOTA</p> <p>Phone: (651) 201-2800 Link: https://mn.gov/emsrblicensing/ems-personnel.jsp</p> <p>Summary: Minnesota allows you to get a state license with the NREMT license.</p>
<p>MISSISSIPPI</p> <p>Phone: (601) 576-7400 Link: https://msdh.ms.gov/msdhsite/_static/47,0,307,374.html</p> <p>Summary: Mississippi requires a copy of your NREMT certification, a completed application, a reciprocity agreement from your home state and an original, signed jurisdictional medical control agreement.</p>
<p>MISSOURI</p> <p>Phone: (573) 751-6356</p> <p>Link: https://health.mo.gov/safety/ems/reciprocity.php#:~:text=Per%20the%20Comprehensive%20EMS%20Act,order%20to%20obtain%20initial%20licensure.</p> <p>Summary: Missouri only accepts current certification with the NREMT at the level of licensure desired.</p>
<p>MONTANA</p> <p>Phone: (406) 444-6880</p> <p>Link: https://rules.mt.gov/gateway/ShowRuleVersionFile.asp?RVID=4990#:~:text=(2)%20A%20qualified%20out%2D,appropriate%20fees%20to%20the%20board.</p> <p>Summary: Montana requires you to complete a reciprocity application and submit with the required supporting documentation and appropriate fees.</p>
<p>NEBRASKA</p> <p>Phone: (402) 471-0371 Link: https://dhhs.ne.gov/Pages/EHS-EMS-Licensing.aspx</p> <p>Summary: Nebraska requires applicants to have an NREMT license.</p>
<p>NEVADA</p> <p>Phone: (775) 687-7590</p> <p>Link: https://dpbh.nv.gov/uploadedFiles/dpbh.nv.gov/content/Reg/EMS/dta/Licensing/Reciprocity%20instructions%202-10-20.pdf</p> <p>Summary: Nevada has a reciprocal process with all 50 states as well as the National Registry of EMTs, so your certification may be transferrable to Nevada once you make residency there and find employment.</p>
<p>NEW HAMPSHIRE</p> <p>Phone: (603) 223-4200</p> <p>Link: https://www.nh.gov/safety/divisions/fstems/ems/documents/emsreciprocity.pdf</p> <p>Summary: New Hampshire requires proof of residency or work in NH (or pending work) to be considered for reciprocity. Proof of one of those is required, along with an application and successful completion of the NR CBT (computer-based test).</p>
<p>NEW JERSEY</p> <p>Phone: (609) 633-7777</p> <p>Link: https://casetext.com/regulation/new-jersey-administrative-code/title-8-health/chapter-41a-emergency-medical-technicians-paramedic-training-and-certification/subchapter-4-emt-paramedic-certification/section-841a-42-reciprocity</p> <p>Summary: New Jersey requires EMTs certified by NREMT or another state that has a course of study equivalent or greater than that required of EMTs in NJ.</p>

<p>NEW MEXICO</p> <p>Phone: (505) 476-8200</p> <p>Link: https://www.percomcourses.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/NM-EMS-Licensing-Reciprocity-Instructions.pdf</p> <p>Summary: New Mexico wants you to provide your fingerprints, the completed reciprocity agreement, complete a 16-hour transition course, and submit a copy of your completion certificate to the EMS Bureau before scheduling the NM EMS written licensing exam.</p>
<p>NEW YORK</p> <p>Phone: (518) 402-0996</p> <p>Link: https://www.health.ny.gov/professionals/ems/pdf/2016-04-06_draft_rec_pkt_revisions.pdf</p> <p>Summary: New York will consider granting reciprocal certification to individuals who hold certification within the 50 states and the District of Columbia.</p>
<p>NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Phone: (919) 855-3935</p> <p>Link: https://info.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/ems/resopros.htm</p> <p>Summary: North Carolina may issue an EMS credential through the legal recognition process to applicants currently holding EMS licenses from another state or a National Registry certification.</p>
<p>NORTH DAKOTA</p> <p>Phone: (406) 444-6880</p> <p>Link: https://rules.mt.gov/gateway/ShowRuleVersionFile.asp?RVID=4990#:~:text=(2)%20A%20qualified%20out%2D,appropriate%20fees%20to%20the%20board.</p> <p>Summary: Montana requires you to complete a reciprocity application and submit with the required supporting documentation and appropriate fees.</p>
<p>OHIO</p> <p>Phone: (614) 466-9447 Link: https://www.ems.ohio.gov/certifications-reciprocity.aspx#gsc.tab=0</p> <p>Summary: Ohio will review EMS license or certification requirements in other states to identify those that are substantially similar to their curriculum and certification standards for purpose of granting reciprocity.</p>
<p>OKLAHOMA</p> <p>Phone: (405) 426-8480</p> <p>Link: https://oklahoma.gov/health/protective-health/emergency-systems/ems-division/ems-personnel-licensure-registration-certification.html</p> <p>Summary: Oklahoma will accept a copy of the NREMT card with a completed application to grant reciprocity.</p>
<p>OREGON</p> <p>Phone: (971) 673-0520</p> <p>Link: https://www.oregon.gov/oha/ph/PROVIDERPARTNERRESOURCES/EMSTRAUMASYSTEMS/EMSTRAININGCERTIFICATION/Pages/recip.aspx#:~:text=Oregon%20Health%20Authority%2C%20Emergency%20Medical,a%20current%20National%20Registry%20certification</p> <p>Summary: Oregon may grant a license to an emergency medical services provider (EMSP) through reciprocity for those currently licensed in another state who also hold a current National Registry certification.</p>

<p>PENNSYLVANIA</p> <p>Phone: (717) 787-8740 Link: https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/EMS/Pages/FAQ.aspx Summary: Pennsylvania allows you to apply for PA EMS certification through certification by endorsement if you hold current certification in another state or through the NREMT.</p>
<p>PUERTO RICO</p> <p>Phone: (787) 754-2550 Link: https://www.salud.gov.pr Summary: National certification is required to become an EMT or Paramedic in Puerto Rico and is obtained by successfully completing the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians certification exam.</p>
<p>RHODE ISLAND</p> <p>Phone: (401) 222-5960 Link: https://rules.sos.ri.gov/regulations/part/216-20-10-2 Summary: Rhode Island allows reciprocal certification if you possess NREMT certification.</p>
<p>SOUTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Phone: (803) 545-4204 Link: http://www.dhec.sc.gov/health/ems/ Summary: South Carolina recognizes NREMT and other state certifications for purposes of reciprocal certification.</p>
<p>SOUTH DAKOTA</p> <p>Phone: (605) 367-5372 Link: https://doh.sd.gov/documents/EMS/E-Lic_Reciprocity_EMR-EMT_Instructions.pdf Summary: South Dakota allows you to apply through their e-licensing system to obtain your SD EMT certification if you are currently certified/licensed in another state and/or if you have NREMT.</p>
<p>TENNESSEE</p> <p>Phone: (615) 741-2584 Link: https://www.tn.gov/content/dam/tn/health/healthprofboards/ems/Reciprocity.pdf Summary: Tennessee will grant certification if you hold a license in another state and hold or have held a current NREMT certification for the level in which you are applying, or if you have received your training while employed at a federal agency and hold a current NREMT certificate.</p>
<p>TEXAS</p> <p>Phone: (512) 834-6734 Link: https://dshs.texas.gov/emstraumasystems/stdrecip.shtm Summary: Texas will grant reciprocity if your current certification (either out of state or NREMT) is current and you submit an online application. If you are state certified only, you must take the Texas Assessment Exam through the National Registry.</p>
<p>U.S .VIRGIN ISLANDS</p> <p>Phone: (340) 718-1311 ext. 1-3051 Link: https://www.usviems.com/licensure Summary: The United States Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. Thomas, St. John, and Water Island) requires EMT applicants to be registered with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), hold a valid Virgin Islands driver’s license, successfully complete the U.S.V.I.’s Emergency Defensive and Evasive Driving Course, and provide written evidence, verified by oath, of good character and good physical and mental health.</p>

UTAH

Phone: (801) 273-6666 **Link:** <https://bemsp.utah.gov/ems-personnel-licensure/>

Summary: Utah requires NREMT certification for reciprocity.

VERMONT

Phone: (802) 863-7200

Link: <https://www.healthvermont.gov/emergency-preparedness-ems/emergency-medical-services/licensing>

Summary: Vermont bases all EMS licenses on certification from the NREMT and an affiliation with a Vermont-licensed ambulance or first responder agency.

VIRGINIA

Phone: (804) 888-9100

Link: <https://www.vdh.virginia.gov/emergency-medical-services/education-certification/how-to-become-an-emergency-medical-services-provider-in-virginia/i-hold-an-ems-credential-in-another-state/>

Summary: Virginia will accept and consider application from providers with current EMS certifications from any state or territory at the EMT level, only through legal recognition.

WASHINGTON

Phone: (360) 236-4700

Link: <https://doh.wa.gov/sites/default/files/legacy/Documents/Pubs//530060.pdf>

Summary: Washington requires proof of valid EMS certification from another state or national certifying agency approved by the department, and proof of a passing score on the NREMT examination.

WEST VIRGINIA

Phone: (304) 558-3956

Link: <https://www.wvoems.org/wvoems-department/personnel-certification>

Summary: West Virginia requires a valid NREMT or state certification in another state.

WISCONSIN

Phone: (608) 267-9777

Link: https://www.dhs.wisconsin.gov/ems/licensing/reciprocity.htm#:~:text=*Current%20NREMT%20is%20a%20requirement,where%20you%20are%20currently%20licensed.

Summary: Wisconsin will grant reciprocity with documentation of a current license or certificate issued by another state, and will require a completed verification of licensure form from every state you've been license or certified in, along with verification of education determining the course to be equivalent to the training required for an initial license in the state.

WYOMING

Phone: (307) 777-7955

Link: <https://health.wyo.gov/publichealth/ems/frequently-asked-questions/>

Summary: Wyoming doesn't have reciprocity with any other state, program, or the National Registry, but if you have passed your National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians exam, you can fill out the state's certification application and take the state exam to become certified and licensed in Wyoming upon approval.