



Catherine E. Heigel, Director

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

March 30, 2016

Dear South Carolina Agency Directors and Training Officers:

The South Carolina Bureau of EMS strives to keep our EMS community informed of important certification requirements and decisions. It has come to our attention that there are still many questions concerning the Intermediate transition and how it will affect an individual's South Carolina certification. Each applicant should be considered individually when discussing their South Carolina certification options based on their state expiration date, South Carolina grandfathered status, and National Registry expiration date. However, there are a few points of interest for all South Carolina certified EMS technicians.

First, our Department will not take disciplinary action against South Carolina certified Intermediates who fail to transition until after their state expiration date or March 31, 2017, whichever occurs first. Intermediates may continue to work as Intermediates in South Carolina under their state certification despite having their National Registry certification dropped to an EMT. These candidates have the following certification options:

1. Submit a voluntary letter and NR EMT credential to down-grade their current SC Intermediate certification to EMT; or
2. Complete a recertification application at the EMT level; or
3. Continue to operate as an Intermediate until their state expiration date and submit a recertification application at least thirty days prior to their state expiration.

South Carolina grandfathered Intermediates (received state intermediate certification prior to June of 2006 and has maintained continuous state certification) are required to meet the transition requirements and obtain National Registry AEMT or Paramedic by March 31, 2017 or may choose to remain state only EMTs by:

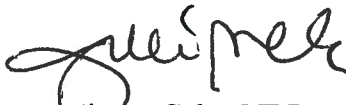
1. Submit a voluntary letter to down-grade their current SC Intermediate to EMT.

Please keep in mind that an agency may have more stringent requirements as long as they stay within the rules and regulations of state statute. Since Intermediates work under the authority of the agency Medical Control physician, your agency Medical Control may choose to only allow those Intermediates who down-grade their National Registry to operate as EMTs despite the state recognition of their Intermediate certification.

Additionally, South Carolina will not recognize the Intermediate level past March 31, 2017. All Intermediates whose National Registry expire on March 31, 2017 must transition, pass all examinations, and obtain National Registry Advanced certification prior to March 31, 2017. All Intermediates, regardless of where they are in the testing process, will be required to take a complete initial Advanced EMT course after March 31, 2017.

Additional information on the transition requirements can be found at nremt.org.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Julie McCabe', written in a cursive style.

Julie McCabe, NRP
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