



## MEMORANDUM

April 13, 2018

From: Ryan Nix, Training & Certification Manager  
To: All SC Certified EMTs  
Re: STATE ID CARDS – “FOREVER ID”

Beginning on Monday, April 16, 2018, the Bureau of EMS will begin issuing the State ID (“Forever ID”) Card with all new certifications and recertification. To receive your Forever ID Card, you must have a picture already uploaded to your Continuum profile. The Bureau can **not** upload any pictures. Pictures can be uploaded to Continuum by the agency’s Primary Contact, EMS Director, and Training Officer. Training institutions also have the ability to upload photos of students that may not be currently attached to an agency. The picture must be similar to a picture that you would see on a drivers’ license. The picture must be the individual being certified. Should the picture be deemed “inappropriate” by the Bureau, your ID Card will not be issued.

All initial certifications at each level will receive their ID Card, “traditional” paper certification cards, and a state patch for their respective level. The “traditional” paper certification cards will continue to include a wall copy of the certification. Should you voluntarily downgrade your certification level during your certification cycle, you will not be issued a Forever ID Card for the new level until your recertification date, only a paper certification.

All individuals who are recertifying and have a picture already uploaded to Continuum will only receive their ID Card. If the individual who is recertifying does not have a picture already uploaded to Continuum, they will receive only the “traditional” paper certification cards. If you have already received your ID Card, only your recertification information will be updated in Continuum, which will allow for instant recertification; once approved in Continuum, you are set to practice, no waiting for a paper credential in the mail! We will continue to temporarily issue paper credentials to those who do not have pictures in the system until June 29<sup>th</sup>. **Beginning July 2, 2018, a recertification or certification card will NOT be issued unless a picture is uploaded and the Bureau is able to issue a Forever ID.** It is our goal to transition away from paper credentials as expeditiously as possible and in order to do so, we must ensure compliance with photo uploads in order to produce the Forever IDs.

You will receive your first ID Card for each certification level free of charge. There will be a \$5.00 fee for any additional or replacement cards. There will also be a \$5.00 fee for anyone wishing to get their ID Card prior to their recertification date. Details on early receipt procedures will be forthcoming. **Do not** “arrive” at the office and expect a new ID until we announce this process, please.

The same rules for the “traditional” cards will apply for the new ID Cards. You must have your ID Card on your person when performing patient care. Only the actual, State issued ID Card or “traditional” paper certification card will be accepted. No pictures of your card on a smartphone or photocopies of your cards will be accepted when requested to produce your certification by a member of DHEC staff.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ryan S. Nix". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Ryan S. Nix, BS, NRP, NCI  
Training & Certification Manager  
Bureau of EMS