

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) and Paramedic with Critical Care Endorsement Training, Certification and Recertification Requirements

Approved by GRRC to be Effective December 31, 2024

The Arizona Department of Health Services has revised 9 A.A.C. 25, Articles 3 and 4 to address issues identified in a five-year-review report and to address statutory changes. Rule updates include addressing training requirements for Emergency Medical Responders (EMRs) and requirements related to Paramedics with Critical Care Endorsement.

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) Initial & Recertification Requirements

Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)	
Initial Certification Requirements	
Prerequisite	None
Course Hours	75 hours, including: 70 contact hours didactic/practical skills training - Five (5) contact hours of clinical training field training, with at least five patient or simulated patient interactions
National Certification	Exam through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)
Arizona Department of Health Services	No ADHS certification available at this time
Recertification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Current NREMT EMR Certification
Course Hours	16 hours of continuing education (CE) to recertify
National Certification	Recertification through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)
Arizona Department of Health Services	No ADHS certification available at this time

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Initial & Recertification Requirements

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)	
Initial Certification Requirements	
Prerequisite	None
Course Hours	130 hours, including: • 120 didactic instruction and practical skills training • 10 contact hours of clinical/field training to include 10 patient or simulated patient interactions
National Certification	Exam through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)
Arizona Department of Health Services	ADHS State Certification
Recertification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Current ADHS Certification
Arizona Department of Health Services	24 Hours of CE or Refresher course, including: • Worked >240 hours: CE or Refresher course • Worked <240 hours: Refresher course required • A minimum of 5 hours in pediatric emergency care
National Certification	40 hours of continuing education (CE) to recertify

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)

Initial & Recertification Requirements

Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)	
Initial Certification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
Course Hours	244 hours, including: • 100 didactic instruction & practical skills training • 144 contact hours of clinical/field training
National Certification	Exam through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)
Arizona Department of Health Services	ADHS State Certification
Recertification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Current Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)
Arizona Department of Health Services	48 Hours of CE or Refresher, including: • A minimum of 5 hours in pediatric emergency care
National Certification	50 hours of continuing education (CE) to recertify

Paramedic

Initial & Recertification Requirements

Paramedic	
Initial Certification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) or Advanced Emergency Medical Technician (AEMT)
Course Hours	1,000 hours, including: • 500 contact hours of didactic instruction and practical skills training • 500 contact hours of clinical training and field training
National Certification	Exam through the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT)
Arizona Department of Health Services	ADHS State Certification
Recertification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Current ADHS Paramedic Certification
Arizona Department of Health Services	48 Hours of CE or Refresher, including: • A minimum of 5 hours in pediatric emergency care
National Certification	60 Hours of CE

Paramedic with Critical Care Endorsement

Initial & Recertification Requirements

Paramedic with Critical Care Endorsement	
Initial Certification Requirements	
Prerequisite	AZ Paramedic Certification with 2 years of experience at the Paramedic level
Course Hours	135 contact hours of didactic instruction and practical skills training 40 contact hours of clinical training 25 contact hours of field training
National Certification	Current National certification, e.g. Board of Critical Care and Transport Paramedics Certification (BCCTPC) or Flight Paramedic Certification (FP-C)
Arizona Department of Health Services	ADHS State Endorsement
Recertification Requirements	
Prerequisite	Current AZ Paramedic Certification and Critical Care Paramedic Endorsement
Arizona Department of Health Services	60 Hours of CE/Refresher, including 8 hours pertinent to providing critical services
National Certification	Current National certification, e.g. Board of Critical Care and Transport Paramedics Certification (BCCTPC) or Flight Paramedic Certification (FP-C)