

THE REGIONAL EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY, INC.



Est. 1974

NYC REMAC			
Advisory No.	2022-02		
Title:	1-Year Extension of Paramedic Credentials		
Issue Date:	February 28, 2022		
Effective Date:	Immediate		
Supersedes:	n/a	Page:	1 of 1

The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City is responsible to develop, approve and implement prehospital treatment and transport protocols for use within the five boroughs of the City of New York. The Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (REMAC) of New York City operates under the auspices of Article Thirty of the New York State Public Health Law.

In order to be consistent with NYSDOH Policy 22-05: Certification Extension (attached) that extends certifications for 1 year, the NYC REMAC has extended NYC Paramedic credentials:

EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATION

- Paramedics currently credentialed by NYC REMAC as of February 1, 2022, had their regional credential extended for one (1) year from their documented expiration date.
- Paramedics previously credentialed by NYC REMAC as of February 1, 2022, whose regional credential expired between August 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022 were extended for one (1) year from their documented expiration date.

Owners/operators of Ambulance and ALS First Response Services providing prehospital medical treatment within the five boroughs of the City of New York are responsible to provide copies of the NYC REMAC Prehospital Treatment Protocols to their personnel, and to ensure that Service Medical Directors and EMS personnel are informed of all changes/updates to the NYC REMAC Prehospital Treatment Protocols.

Josef Schenker, MD, CPE, FACEP, FAEMS
Chair, Regional Emergency Medical Advisory
of New York City

Marie C. Diglio, EMT-P
Executive Director, Regional Emergency Committee
Medical Services Council of New York City



Policy Statement

Number: 22-05
Date: February 28, 2021
Supersedes/Updates: New

2022 Extensions of EMS Provider Certification Under EO #4

I. PURPOSE

On September 27, 2021, Governor Hochul issued an executive order declaring a statewide disaster emergency due to healthcare staffing shortages in New York State. Since then, New York has experienced COVID-19 transmission rates and hospitalizations not seen since 2020.

During the past several months, the COVID 19 pandemic has greatly impacted EMS providers and EMS education. Due to the rapid spread of the COVID-19 Omicron variant, EMS agencies have experienced increased staff shortages due to illness and exposure while simultaneously facing an increase in call volume. In many cases, EMS agencies have been forced to deploy all available EMS providers into direct patient care roles and cancel all non-essential functions, including EMS education and training, to handle the staffing shortfall and meet operational demands.

Due to the disruption in EMS education and increased workload of staff, the Bureau of EMS is extending certifications as noted below.

II. EXTENSION OF CERTIFICATION

Pursuant to Executive Order Number 4, issued on September 27, 2021, the following will now apply:

A. Persons Currently Certified as EMS Providers

On February 1, 2022, EMS provider certifications were extended for one (1) year from the expiration date listed on the provider certification card. The extension was automatically applied to all EMS providers who hold a current New York State EMS provider certification on February 1, 2022.

B. Persons Previously Certified as EMS Providers

On February 1, 2022, EMS providers whose certification had expired between August 1, 2021 and January 31, 2022 were automatically recertified, at their previous level of certification. An additional one (1) year has been added to their original expiration date.

Example: EMS certification expired on October 31, 2021 was extended for one year and will now expire on October 31st, 2022.

III. CERTIFICATION VERIFICATION

EMS providers who were extended in accordance with this section have not been issued a paper copy of their provider certification card containing the updated expiration date. EMS provider

certification status, including updated expiration dates, can be verified in the Department's online Health Commerce System (HCS) utilizing the EMT Certification Search tool.

- A. The HCS online portal can be accessed by Course Sponsors, EMS Agencies, and Regional Program Agencies, utilizing their verified account credentials, to verify the current stats, level of certification, and expiration date of EMS providers.
- B. Course sponsors shall verify the certification of all EMS providers enrolling in an advanced certification course. In addition to the copy of the student certification card, course instructors shall include a printout of the verification search results in the student course file.
- C. EMS agencies must include a printout of the EMT Certification search results in their EMS agency personnel file.