



Catherine B. Templeton, Director

Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

Memorandum

Date: January 02, 2013
To: All SC EMS Providers
From: Dawn Keller, Director
Division of EMS & Trauma
Subject: SC Paramedic Training programs

*This memorandum does **not** affect any SC Paramedic course which started in 2012.*

For the past two years, The National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians has notified all states of the following requirement involving the testing of paramedic candidates:

"After January 1, 2013, only graduates of CAAHEP accredited programs as well as graduates of programs holding a CoAEMSP LoR will be eligible for national EMS certification at the paramedic level."

Therefore, any advanced training institution in SC not found as either being accredited or holding a CoAEMSP Letter of Review (LoR), will no longer be authorized by DHEC to offer the paramedic course. DHEC will not grant approval for any paramedic course to begin in 2013 until the training institution has either gained accreditation or has "received" their CoAEMSP LoR.

Again, please note: *This memorandum does **not** affect any SC Paramedic course which started in 2012.*

As of today January 02, 2013, SC has three accredited Paramedic programs and three Paramedic programs with a CoAEMSP Letter of Review. Therefore, only the following schools may offer a Paramedic course in SC which begins on or after January 1, 2013:

Accredited Paramedic Programs:

Greenville Technical College - AD Program (Phil Head, Director)

Trident Technical College - AD Program (Ed Lee, Director)

Horry-Georgetown Technical College - AD Program (Scott Cyganiewicz, Director)

Programs with a CoAEMSP Letter of Review:

Pee Dee Regional EMS (Mark Self, Director)

Lowcountry Regional EMS (John Todaro, Director)

Spartanburg Community College - AD Program (Doug Paris, Director)

SC advanced training institutions that become accredited or obtain a CoAEMSP Letter of Review after January 01, 2013 may apply to the Department to have their paramedic training program re-instated.

A list of schools with accredited programs or schools which have a CoAEMSP Letter of Review may be found on the following website:

<http://www.caahep.org/Find-An-Accredited-Program/>

Please understand the state's position:

South Carolina is a National Registry state.

SC EMS Law 44-61 and SC EMS Regulation 61-7 requires any EMT seeking initial SC certification must obtain and maintain a National Registry credential to be eligible for SC state certification.

SC EMS Law 44-61-80(C)

"(C) A person seeking EMT certification must pass the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians examination for the level of certification desired and meet other requirements established by the department."

SC EMS Regulation 61-7 Section 902(F):

"F. All initial EMT certifications (Basic, Intermediate, Paramedic) must maintain a National Registry credential to be certified and recertified in South Carolina."

If you have any questions or concerns please contact Don Whiteley or Dawn Keller at 803.545.4204.