



Iowa EMS Certification Renewal Guidance

Renewal Requirement

An Iowa EMS certification must be renewed prior to the certification’s expiration date to maintain an active status. Failure to complete the renewal process prior to the expiration date will result in the Iowa EMS certification’s status to change from active to inactive. An Iowa emergency medical care provider may only provide emergency medical care with an active Iowa EMS certification.

Renewal of an Iowa EMS Certification with Continuing Education

To be eligible to renew an Iowa EMS certification with continuing education, a minimum number of core topic continuing education hours (CEHs), based on the level of certification, must be completed prior to the certification’s expiration date. The table below identifies the minimum number of CEHs, by core topic, and Iowa EMS certification level, that must be obtained prior to the certification expiration date.

All core continuing education hours used to renew an Iowa EMS certification must have a sponsor number by an authorized Iowa EMS Training Program, the Iowa Department of Public Health, the Iowa Board of Nursing, the Iowa Board of Medicine, or the Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) before the emergency medical care provider attends the offering.

Along with obtaining the minimum number of core continuing education hours the provider must also complete the online renewal process and pay any applicable renewal fees prior to the certification expiration date.

Core Topics	EMR/FR	EMT/EMT-D	AEMT	Paramedic
Airway, Respirations, Ventilations	1	1	2	3
Cardiology	2	6	7	9
Trauma	1	2	3	3
Medical	3	6	8	9
Operations	1	5	5	6
Totals	8	20	25	30



Nationally Recognized and Sponsored Education Programs

An Iowa EMS provider who has completed one or more of the following nationally recognized and approved educational programs during their certification period may apply the awarded continuing education hours (CEH) when renewing their Iowa EMS certification without obtaining a sponsoring number utilizing the following guidelines:

- The program must be completed in its entirety during the certification period being renewed
- The completed program must be recognized by the national sponsoring agency
- A certificate/card of program completion must be provided identifying the total number of CEHs awarded

Single Core Topic Area

The Iowa EMS Provider may choose to apply all of the awarded CEHs from the nationally recognized program to a single identified core topic area identified by an “X” in the following chart. As an example: An Iowa EMS Provider completes a nationally recognized CPR program and receives a certificate of completion for 3 CEHs. The provider applies all 3 CEHs to the Medical core topic area. Looking down the left hand column, locate the CPR program, moving from left to right the core topic areas of AVR, Cardiology, Medical, and Operations are marked with an “X” indicating the completed program CEHs can be applied to these topic areas, Trauma is marked with “N/A” indicating the CPR program CEHs could not be applied to this core topic area.

Multiple Core Topic Areas

The Iowa EMS Provider may choose to “split” the awarded CEHs between two or more of the identified core topic areas by program. As an example: An Iowa EMS Provider completes a nationally recognized CPR program and receives a certificate of completion for 3 CEHs. Looking down the left hand column, locate the CPR program, moving from left to right the core topic areas of AVR, Cardiology, Medical, and Operations are marked with an “X” indicating the completed program CEHs can be applied to these topic areas, Trauma is marked with “N/A” indicating the CPR program CEHs could not be applied to this core topic area. The provider can apply 1 of the 3 CEHs to the Medical core topic area, another CEH to the Cardiology core topic area, and the final CEH to the Operations core topic area (total of 3 CEHs applied). When applying CEHs from a single program to two or more core topic areas the total number of CEHs applied may not exceed the total number of CEHs awarded.



Iowa Department of Public Health
Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services

Nationally recognized/sponsored programs approved for Iowa EMS continuing education

Program	AVR	Cardiology	Trauma	Medical	Operations
ABLS	X	N/A	X	X	X
ACLS	X	X	X	X	X
ADLS	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
ALS	X	X	X	X	X
AMLS	X	X	X	X	X
APLS	X	X	X	X	X
ASLS	X	X	X	X	X
ATLS	X	X	X	X	X
BDLS	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
CEVO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
CPR/BLS	X	X	N/A	X	X
EMPACT	X	X	X	X	X
EMS Safety	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
ENLS	X	X	X	X	X
EPC	X	X	X	X	X
EVOC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
GEMS	X	X	X	X	X
HazMat	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 100	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 200	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 300	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 400	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 700	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 800	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
ITLS	X	X	X	X	X
NRP	X	X	X	X	X
PALS	X	X	X	X	X
PEARS	X	X	X	X	X
PEPP	X	X	X	X	X
PHTLS	X	X	X	X	X
TCCC	X	X	X	X	X
TECC	X	X	X	X	X
TIMS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X



Iowa Department of Public Health
Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services

Nationally recognized/sponsored continuing education programs

ABLS – Advanced Burn Life Support
ACLS – Advanced Cardiac Life Support
ADLS – Advanced Disaster Life Support
ALS – Advanced Life Support
AMLS – Advanced Medical Life Support
APLS – Advanced Pediatric Life Support
ASLS – Advanced Stroke Life Support
ATLS – Advance Trauma Life Support
BDLS – Basic Disaster Life Support
CEVO – Coaching the Emergency Vehicle Operator
CPR/BLS – Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation
EMPACT – Emergency Medical Patients: Assessment, Care and Transport
ENLS – Emergency Neurological Life Support
EPC – Emergency Pediatric Care
EVOC – Emergency Vehicle Operator Course
GEMS – Geriatric Education for EMS
HazMat – Hazardous Materials
IS 100 – Introduction to Incident Command System
IS 200 – Basic Incident Command System
IS 300 – Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents
IS 400 – Advanced ICS Command
IS 700 – Introduction to the National Incident Management System
IS 800 – National Response Framework, An Introduction
ITLS – International Trauma Life Support
NRP – Neonatal Resuscitation Program
PALS – Pediatric Advanced Life Support
PEARS – Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization
PEPP – Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals
PHTLS – Prehospital Trauma Life Support
TCCC – Tactical Combat Casualty Care
TECC – Tactical Emergency Casualty Care
TIMS – Traffic Incident Management System



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Renewal of an Iowa EMS Certification with NREMT Certification

An Iowa emergency medical care provider may renew their Iowa EMS certification with a current and valid NREMT certification that exceeds their Iowa EMS certification expiration date instead of renewing with CEHs. The provider must complete the online renewal process, pay any applicable renewal fees, and provide the Bureau with verification of a current, valid NREMT certification prior to their Iowa EMS certification expiration date. The renewed Iowa EMS certification's expiration date will not exceed the expiration date of the NREMT certification utilized for renewal.

Extension of an Iowa EMS Certification

An Iowa emergency medical care provider who is unable to attain all continuing education requirements within the certification period may request a one-time 45-day extension to complete the continuing education requirements and renewal process. Iowa emergency medical care providers who wish to apply for an extension must submit a completed application for extension and application fee to the Bureau at least 7-days prior to their certification's expiration date, but no more than 90-days prior to their certification's expiration date. An application for extension and instructions can be downloaded from the Bureau's website at <https://idph.iowa.gov/bets/ems/certification>.

Late Renewal of an Iowa EMS Certification

An Iowa emergency medical care provider who has completed the required continuing education requirements during the certification period but failed to either submit a completed application or pay applicable renewal fee or both is eligible for a late renewal. An application and instructions for late renewal is available for download from the Bureau's website at <https://idph.iowa.gov/bets/ems/certification>. The completed late renewal application and fee must be received by the Bureau by the last day of the month following the Iowa EMS certification expiration date.

Inactive Iowa EMS Certification Status

Iowa emergency medical care providers whose Iowa EMS certification status is inactive may not provide emergency medical care until their certification status is active. Providers with an inactive Iowa EMS certification may be eligible to reactivate their certification based on the amount of time since the certification became inactive. Reactivation of an inactive certification information and application can be downloaded from the Bureau's website at <https://idph.iowa.gov/bets/ems/certification>.

Additional questions can be addressed to:

Iowa Department of Public Health
Bureau of Emergency and Trauma Services
321 East 12th Street
Des Moines, Iowa 50319
515-281-0620