



HSHS St. Mary's EMS System

Continuing Education Policies

EMS Continuing Education Requirements (Region 6 Policy)

I. PURPOSE

To provide continuing education requirements for license renewal to Region 6 EMS providers at all levels.

II. DEFINITION—None

III. POLICY

FIRST RESPONDER/EMERGENCY MEDICAL RESPONDER

- A. Minimum of **24 hours** of continuing education per licensure period
- B. Minimum of 6 hours completed per year.
- C. May not exceed 20% of total hours in one subject area
- D. Current certification in CPR for Healthcare Professionals in accordance with the standards of a nationally recognized organization such as the American Heart Association or the American Academy of Orthopedic Physicians, which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN (EMT) – BASIC

- A. Minimum of **80 hours** of continuing education per licensure period.
- B. May not exceed 20% of total hours for one subject area
- C. Current certification in CPR for Healthcare Professionals in accordance with the standards of a nationally recognized organization such as the American Heart Association or the American Academy of Orthopedic Physicians, which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station.

EMT-INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED EMT

- A. Minimum of 120 hours of continuing education per licensure period
 - 1. Included in the 120 hours:
 - a. Attend an Advanced Skill Review annually
 - b. Maintain current ACLS certification (which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station)
 - c. Maintain current PALS or PEPP certification (which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station).

- d. Maintain current ITLS or PHTLS certification as per system requirement.
- B. May not exceed 20% of total hours for one subject area
- C. Current certification in CPR for Healthcare Professionals in accordance with the standards of a nationally recognized organization such as the American Heart Association or the American Academy of Orthopedic Physicians, which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station.

EMT-PARAMEDIC

- A. Minimum of 120 hours of continuing education per licensure period
 - 1. Included in the 120 hours:
 - a. Attend an Advanced Skill Review annually
 - b. Maintain current ACLS certification (which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station)
 - c. Maintain current PALS or PEPP certification (which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station).
- B. May not exceed 20% of total hours for one subject area
- C. Current certification in CPR for Healthcare Professionals in accordance with the standards of a nationally recognized organization such as the American Heart Association or the American Academy of Orthopedic Physicians, which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station.

PREHOSPITAL REGISTERED NURSE (PHRN)

- A. Minimum of 120 hours of continuing education per licensure period
 - 1. Included in the 120 hours:
 - a. Attend an Advanced Skill Review annually
 - b. Maintain current ACLS certification (which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station)
 - c. Maintain current PALS or PEPP certification (which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station).
 - d. Maintain current ITLS or PHTLS certification as per system requirement, or maintain TNS certification.
- B. May not exceed 20% of total hours for one subject area

- C. Current certification in CPR for Healthcare Professionals in accordance with the standards of a nationally recognized organization such as the American Heart Association or the American Academy of Orthopedic Physicians, which includes both a didactic and clinical skills station.
- D. Is a Registered Professional Nurse in accordance with the Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act.

Core Content Hours

| Content Category | EMR | EMT | AEMT/EMT-I | Paramedic/PHRN |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Preparatory | 2 hours/4 years | 6 hours/4 years | 6 hours/4 years | 8 hours/4 years |
| Airway Management/Ventilation | 2 hours/4 years | 10 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years |
| Patient Assessment | 2 hours / 4 years | 6 hours / 4 years | 6 hours / 4 years | 8 hours / 4 years |
| Trauma | 3 hours / 4 years | 10 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years |
| Cardiology | 2 hours / 4 years | 6 hours / 4 years | 16 hours / 4 years | 16 hours / 4 years |
| Medical | 5 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years | 16 hours / 4 years | 20 hours / 4 years |
| Special Populations | 4 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years | 16 hours / 4 years |
| Geriatrics | 1 hours / 4 years | 4 hours / 4 years | 4 hours / 4 years | 4 hours / 4 years |
| Operations | 1 hours / 4 years | 4 hours / 4 years | 4 hours / 4 years | 4 hours / 4 years |
| Other Misc. Education | 2 hours / 4 years | 10 hours / 4 years | 12 hours / 4 years | 20 hours / 4 years |
| TOTAL | 24 hour / 4 years | 80 hours / 4 years | 100 hours / 4 years | 120 hours / 4 years |

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS REGISTERED NURSE

- A. Minimum of 32 hours of continuing education per licensure period
- B. Is a Registered Professional Nurse in accordance with the Nursing and Advanced Practice Nursing Act.

EMS LEAD INSTRUCTOR

- A. Minimum 40 hours of continuing education per licensure period of which 20 hours shall be related to the development, delivery and evaluation of education programs.
- B. Attendance at a Department-approved curriculum review course, if applicable
- C. A letter of support from an EMS Medical Director indicating that the EMS Lead Instructor has satisfactorily coordinated programs for the EMS System at any time during the four-year period.

EMERGENCY MEDICAL DISPATCHER

- A. Minimum 12 hours annually of medical dispatch continuing education



HSHS St. Mary's EMS System

IV. RESOURCES

Refer to Illinois Department of Public Health Rules and Regulations, Section 515.590 EMT License Renewals, for complete requirements. · Refer to the 'Core Content Hours" section for a breakdown by content category.

Sources of Continuing Education

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to provide HSHS St. Mary's EMS System members with information on continuing education sources.

II. DEFINITION – None.

III. POLICY

A. Auditing Initial EMS Education Courses

1. EMS providers may attend regularly scheduled EMS Initial Education courses to obtain continuing education hours. Because these EMS providers are not regular members of the course, this is referred to as auditing. All Initial Education courses have a separate site code number assigned for continuing education. Awarding of continuing education hours is the responsibility of the Lead Instructor.
2. EMS Lead Instructors are encouraged to make the syllabi for EMS Initial Education courses available for posting to all
3. EMS providers who participate as "patients" for practical skills assessment stations in an EMS Initial Education course or ITLS course receive hour-for-hour continuing education credit for time spent in the station.

B. Continuing Education Credit for Academic Courses

1. EMT providers are encouraged by HSHS St. Mary's EMS System to further their education by attending institutions of higher education. Health-related, college-level courses are evaluated individually by the HSHS St. Mary's EMS System Medical Director and/or the HSHS St. Mary's EMS System System Coordinator for content and to determine if the course is applicable to EMS. College courses that are deemed appropriate for EMS continuing education (i.e. science courses, nursing courses) are awarded eight (8) continuing education credit hours for every course credit hour.
2. College courses may make up no more than 50 percent of the total required continuing education hours.

C. Continuing Education Credit for Teaching EMS Courses

1. EMS instructors in HSHS St. Mary's EMS System may be awarded continuing education credit for teaching EMS or other healthcare-related courses. Hour-for-hour continuing education is awarded for teaching any of the following:
 - a. Initial EMS education didactic and/or practical skills.
 - b. EMS continuing education didactic and/or practical skills.
 - c. Annual skills reviews.
 - d. Nationally recognized courses (i.e. CPR, ACLS, PALS, PEPP, ITLS, AMLS, etc.)

- e. CPR Class
 - g. First Aid Courses (with approval of EMS Office)
2. Teaching EMS courses may make up no more than 50 percent of the total required continuing education hours.
- D. Nationally Recognized Courses**
1. ~~HSHS St. Mary's~~ EMS System requires providers to maintain certification in specific nationally recognized courses to remain active in the system. ~~HSHS St. Mary's~~ EMS System provides opportunities for EMS providers to attend these courses. These courses include but are not limited to:
- a. American Heart Association Health Care Provider Level CPR (HCP CPR)
 - b. American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
 - c. American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
 - d. Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP).
 - e. International Trauma Life Support (ITLS)
2. All nationally recognized courses sponsored or facilitated by ~~HSHS St. Mary's~~ EMS System are taught according to the approved curriculum for that course. Any nationally recognized course sponsored or facilitated by ECIEMS will be taught only by individuals who hold instructor-level certification for that course.
3. Individuals requesting to take recertification courses in a nationally recognized course offered at ~~HSHS St. Mary's~~ EMS System must have current certification or certification that has been expired no more than 60 days from the expiration of the current certification. Individuals will be required to bring a copy of their current certification to the course with them. These courses include but are not limited to:
- a. American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS)
 - b. American Heart Association Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS)
 - c. Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP)
 - d. International Trauma Life Support (ITLS)
1. If an individual is registered for a recertification course, and the course is cancelled or postponed by the ~~HSHS St. Mary's~~ EMS System office, the individual will be allowed to attend the next available recertification course. agencies. If an EMS provider wishes to audit a particular course, he or she must contact the Lead Instructor for permission to attend all sessions or specific sessions of the course. EMS providers receive hour-for-hour continuing education credit for attending EMS Initial Education courses.

IV. REFERENCES--None