

STATE OF COLORADO

John W. Hickenlooper, Governor
Christopher E. Urbina, MD, MPH
Executive Director and Chief Medical Officer

Dedicated to protecting and improving the health and environment of the people of Colorado

4300 Cherry Creek Dr. S. Laboratory Services Division
Denver, Colorado 80246-1530 8100 Lowry Blvd.
Phone (303) 692-2000 Denver, Colorado 80230-6928
Located in Glendale, Colorado (303) 692-3090
<http://www.cdphe.state.co.us>



Colorado Department
of Public Health
and Environment

November 8, 2011

Mr. William Brown
National Registry of EMTs
Rocco V. Morando Building
6610 Busch Blvd.
Columbus, Ohio 43229

Mr. Brown:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide you with information regarding Colorado EMS provider transition requirements and how our office expects to address this important issue. We are extremely appreciative of the Registry's willingness to work with us to ensure a smooth transition for Colorado EMS providers choosing to maintain their National Registry credentials.

All of Colorado's recognized EMS education programs have long exceeded the minimum requirements outlined in the National Standard Curriculum and the National Scope of Practice. Thus, our office recognizes that Colorado's EMS education programs have met and continue to meet the new EMS Education Standards. The existing Colorado scope of practice for EMT-Basics/EMTs and EMT-Paramedics/Paramedics is fully consistent with the National Scope of Practice as currently described. Therefore, no formal transition courses will be required by our office for currently certified personnel to recertify as an Emergency Medical Technician (NREMT) or Paramedic (NRP). Although Colorado approved EMS Education programs will continue to offer continuing education courses and/or refresher courses, they will not be required to issue certificates stating that a formal transition course has been completed for the applicant to utilize when applying for National Registry recertification.

All Colorado certified EMS providers who wish to certify at a higher level (EMT-Basic/EMT to AEMT or EMT-Basic/EMT/AEMT to Intermediate-99) must complete the requirements of initial education provided by a Colorado approved EMS education center. Those centers must also be approved in the National Registry system by this office.

Intermediate-99s who wish to upgrade will be required to demonstrate successful completion of all academic and skill competencies required by a CAAHEP-accredited paramedic education program prior to making application to the National Registry for initial paramedic certification. We do anticipate that Colorado paramedic education programs will develop methodologies and curricula that

recognize the experience level of the Intermediate-99 candidates and adjust their course of study accordingly. These individuals will graduate with an approved Colorado paramedic program completion certificate and follow NREMT processes as new paramedic candidates.

Based on our recent conversation, it is our understanding that the National Registry will verify that applicants who demonstrate current certification in the State of Colorado will be deemed to have met all academic and skill requirements of the National Scope of Practice at the EMT and Paramedic levels. Upon submission of the requirements of the National Registry, Colorado EMTs and Paramedics will receive their National Registry re-certifications accordingly and will not be required to document completion of any specific transition course.

On behalf of Colorado's 16,000 EMS providers, we sincerely appreciate the time and effort you and the Registry Board of Directors have taken to develop these thoughtful and practical policies.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "D. Randy Kuykendall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "D".

D. Randy Kuykendall, MLS, NRP
Deputy Director
Health Facilities and Emergency Medical Services