



EMS Information Bulletin 2018-20

DATE: August 28, 2018

SUBJECT: Expired Providers Wanting to Reinstate at a Lower Level

TO: PA EMS Agencies & PA EMS Providers

FROM: Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
PA Department of Health
(717) 787-8740

A handwritten signature in blue ink, enclosed in a blue oval. The signature appears to be 'E. J. F.' or similar initials.

Recently the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services received a request to issue guidance for providers who have allowed a certification to expire previously, and want to reinstate at a lower certification level, through the lapse of registration process. For example, a Paramedic who allowed their certification to expire and wants to reinstate as an EMR or EMT.

The following procedure is now in effect:

1. An expired EMS provider may apply for reinstatement at a lower certification level through the lapse of registration process through their regional council.
2. Per 28 PA Code 1023.21 (e)(2) the provider must complete the continuing education necessary to apply for reinstatement at the desired level for each certification cycle that they were lapsed.
 - a. If downgrading to the EMT level the applicant must complete 24 hours of continuing education (18 CPC hours) for each certification cycle for which they were expired.
 - b. If downgrading to the EMR level the applicant must complete 16 hours of continuing education (12 CPC hours) for each certification cycle for which they were expired.
 - c. There is no requirement that the applicant complete an initial education program for these hours. This appears to have been a misconception across the Commonwealth. However, individuals may take a new initial education program to assist them in obtaining the hours required.
3. If the applicant for downgraded recertification has a certification expired for less than 2 years, they are only required to take and pass the NREMT cognitive assessment exam for the level which they are seeking to reinstate.
4. If the applicant for downgraded recertification has a certification expired for more than 2 years, they are required to take and pass both the NREMT cognitive assessment exam, and psychomotor (practical) assessment exams for the level which they are seeking to reinstate.

Please contact your Regional Council with any questions.