

## Fact Sheet- OAR chapter 333, division 264 EMS Provider Education Standards

**Effective date: November 1, 2024**

The Oregon Health Authority (OHA), Public Health Division, EMS and Trauma Systems program has permanently amended Oregon Administrative Rules relating to the education requirements and standards for EMS Providers due to changes to the certification examination policies and practices of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT), the [2019 National EMS Scope of Practice Model](#), and the [2021 National EMS Education Standards](#).

### What is New?

- All administrative rules relating to initial EMS provider courses have been moved from [OAR chapter 333, division 265](#) to [OAR chapter 333, division 264](#). The 333-265 rules will be specific to licensing requirements only. (A crosswalk of the rule numbers has been added below.)
- An EMS provider course requires additional instructors to assist in skill labs and scenarios and must meet qualifications outlined in [OAR 333-264-0050\(1\)\(c\)](#).
- Roles and responsibilities of a course director for an EMT course or higher are specified, including course planning, monitoring of student learning, assuring consistency of instruction, and issuing grades.
- Psychomotor testing has ended for all EMS provider levels.
- Requirements for EMS provider exams and oversight of an EMS licensing officer have been abolished.
- Competency verification in the classroom will take the place of psychomotor testing (see below for additional information.)
- Course directors instructing within the Authority-approved competency-based assessment program for the first time must participate in an orientation to the principles and strategies of competency-based assessment.
- Requirements for successful course completion for each course type have been identified in [OAR 333-264-0140](#). Students participating in field experience, clinical experience, or field internship must meet immunization, screening, training, and background check requirements identified under [OAR 409-030-0170 through 0230](#) and the associated [Table 1](#).

## What has Changed?

- Curriculum for all EMS provider courses must meet or exceed the 2021 National EMS Education Standards.
- Demonstration of technical proficiency with skills in the 2019 National EMS Scope of Practice Model and the Oregon scope of practice under [OAR 847-035-0030](#) is a requirement for course completion.
- Hours for clinical experiences and field experiences for EMT and AEMT courses are replaced by a plan for these experiences that are clearly linked to course objectives and student performance outcomes and approved by the medical director.
- A preceptor for a Paramedic field internship must only have one year of pre-hospital care experience instead of two, actively performing at or above the Paramedic scope of practice.
- Course directors for all EMS provider courses must have an AHA BLS provider certificate or equivalent instead of an AHA BLS instructor certificate.
- A paramedic who serves as the course director for a paramedic course must have an ACLS provider certificate, and a BTLIS or PHTLS provider certificate instead of instructor-level certificates.
- A registered nurse, nurse practitioner, physician, or physician associate in good standing with their licensing board may also serve as a course director for an EMR, EMT, AEMT, or EMT-Intermediate course if they have:
  - A minimum of three years of prehospital care experience;
  - Hold a current AHA or equivalent BLS provider card; and
  - Have successfully completed instructor training outlined in [OAR 333-264-0100\(2\)\(e\)](#) for EMR courses or [OAR 333-264-0110\(1\)\(d\)](#) for EMT courses and higher.
- A registered nurse, nurse practitioner, physician, or physician associate in good standing with their licensing board may also serve as a course director for a Paramedic course if they have:
  - Met the course director requirements in [OAR 333-264-0110\(1\)\(c\) and \(d\)](#)
  - At least three years of EMS-related working experience within the last 10 years at or above the scope of practice of a Paramedic;
  - Hold a current ATLS or PHTLS provider certificate or equivalent; and
  - Hold a current ACLS provider certificate from the American Heart Association or equivalent.
- A course director for any EMS provider course is considered the primary instructor and instructs, is present at, or facilitates 50 percent of the course rather than 50 percent of didactic instruction.

- The responsibilities of an EMS program director at an educational institution includes the coordination, oversight, and quality improvement of the program. The EMS program director or program administrator report verification of student competencies to NREMT.

### **Definitions that have Changed for Awareness**

- ‘Clinical experience’ expands learning to medical, social service, residential, psychological, public health or other settings that aligns with course competencies and outcomes.
- ‘Competency-based assessment’ is new and is an assessment system specified by the Authority used to verify achievement of student performance outcomes in an EMS provider course.
- ‘Course director’ and ‘Instructor’ are new and clarify roles of teaching in an EMS provider course.
- ‘Educational institution’ includes a reference to a regional accrediting body.
- ‘EMS provider course’ is new and describes the use of activities, experience, and assessments in meeting content standards and student performance outcomes.
- ‘Field experience’ is new and describes student learning at an EMS agency or ambulance that aligns with course objectives and student performance outcomes in an EMS provider course.
- ‘Field internship’ is new and describes student learning with a preceptor at an advanced life support ambulance service that operates within a 911 system.
- ‘Instruction replaces ‘Didactic Instruction’ and ‘Skills Instruction’ to encompass current methods and formats of instructional delivery.

### **Competency Based Assessment (CBA) Program for EMT, AEMT, and EMT Intermediate Courses (OAR 333-264-0070)**

This new rule requires that a competency based assessment (CBA) program be incorporated into all EMT, AEMT and EMT Intermediate courses. Educational and non-educational institutions must:

1. Submit an application to the OHA for approval at least 60 days prior to implementing a CBA program in a course.
2. The application must include the following:
  - a. Evidence of alignment between course activities and assessments with student performance outcomes.
  - b. A copy of course syllabus policies regarding assessment, scoring, remediation, and processes to verify achievement of student performance outcomes within the CBA program.

- c. Evidence of alignment of clinical and field experiences to state-required student performance outcomes for EMT and AEMT courses; and
  - d. A plan for instructor and student orientation to the CBA program.
3. Course directors must verify student achievement of each student performance outcome as prescribed by OHA.
4. Educational institutions must report the following data to the OHA by June 30 of the current academic year:
  - a. Student enrollment and retention from each course;
  - b. Evaluation of alignment between learning activities and student performance outcomes required by the OHA;
  - c. Evaluation of CBA program policies and processes; and
  - d. A plan of CBA program changes, if applicable.
5. Non-educational institutions must report the data elements noted in paragraph four within 30 days after completion of the course.
6. A revised application is required for significant changes to a CBA program and must be submitted to OHA a minimum of 30 days before implementing the changes.

### **Clinical Experience, Field Experience and Field Internship** ([OAR 333-264-0090](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hpa/hp/pages/sct.aspx))

Clinical experience, field experience and field internships remain largely the same with the following changes:

- In accordance with rules adopted under [OAR 409-030-0170 through 0230](https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hpa/hp/pages/sct.aspx), students placed in clinical training settings within Oregon are required to meet certain standards including immunizations, screenings, criminal background check, training, and insurance and liability coverage (if not covered by the educational or non-educational institution). The rules and clinical training standards for health profession students can be found at: <https://www.oregon.gov/oha/hpa/hp/pages/sct.aspx>.
- Requires written clinical agreements between the educational or non-educational institution and the clinical site.
- References to specific hospital settings for clinical experience were removed but the rule includes a requirement for experiences in acute and emergency care settings.
- A preceptor for a Paramedic field internship must only have one year of pre-hospital care experience instead of two, and actively performing at or above the scope of practice for a licensed paramedic.
- Language was revised to clarify the parameters for practicing skills outside of the classroom.

## Course Director Qualifications

The following tables outline the qualification necessary for a person to serve as a course director for EMT, AEMT, EMT-Intermediate, or Paramedic course.

EMT, AEMT, EMT-Intermediate Course Director Qualification Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Currently licensed Oregon EMS Provider<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Must be in good standing with the OHA.</li><li>– Must be licensed at the level of course being taught or higher.</li></ul></li></ul> <p><b>OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Currently licensed Oregon RN, NP, MD, or PA<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Must be in good standing with the respective licensing board</li></ul></li></ul>
Three years of prehospital care experience
Hold a current BLS provider card or proof of other course that meets or exceed the American Heart Association (AHA) CPR ECC guidelines
Completed at least <b>one</b> of the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• NAEMSE Level 1 Instructor Course;</li><li>• NFPA Fire Instructor I Course;</li><li>• Minimum of 40 hours of the DPSST Instructor Development program;</li><li>• Minimum of 3 college credits in adult educational theory and practice or vocational educational theory and practice;</li><li>• Other instructor course approved by the OHA.</li></ul>
Paramedic Course Director Qualification Requirements
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Currently licensed Oregon Paramedic<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Must be in good standing with the OHA;</li><li>– Have three years of prehospital care experience at the Paramedic level;</li><li>– Hold an associate degree from college or university;</li><li>– Hold a current BLS provider card or proof of other course that meets or exceed the American Heart Association CPR ECC guidelines;</li><li>– Hold a current ACLS provider certification from AHA or equivalent;</li><li>– Hold a current BTLS provider certificate or equivalent <b>or</b> a current PHTLS provider certificate or equivalent;</li><li>– Completed at least one of the following:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– NAEMSE Level 1 Instructor Course;</li><li>– NFPA Fire Instructor I Course;</li><li>– Minimum of 40 hours of the DPSST Instructor Development program;</li><li>– Minimum of 3 college credits in adult educational theory and practice or vocational educational theory and practice;</li><li>– Other instructor course approved by the OHA.</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

**OR**

- EMS Medical Director
  - Have three years of prehospital care experience;
  - Hold a current BLS provider card or proof of other course that meets or exceed the American Heart Association CPR ECC guidelines;
  - Completed at least one of the following:
    - NAEMSE Level 1 Instructor Course;
    - NFPA Fire Instructor I Course;
    - Minimum of 40 hours of the DPSST Instructor Development program;
    - Minimum of 3 college credits in adult educational theory and practice or vocational educational theory and practice;
    - Other instructor course approved by the OHA.
  - Successful completion of one of the following:
    - American Board of Emergency Medicine Certificate; or
    - Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) provider certificate or equivalent and Advanced Trauma Life Support certificate or equivalent.

**OR**

- Currently licensed Oregon RN, NP, MD, or PA
  - Must be in good standing with the respective licensing board.
  - Have a minimum of 3 years of EMS related working experience at or above the scope of practice for a licensed Paramedic within the past 10 years or equivalent;
  - Hold a current BLS provider card or proof of other course that meets or exceed the American Heart Association CPR ECC guidelines;
  - Completed at least one of the following:
    - NAEMSE Level 1 Instructor Course;
    - NFPA Fire Instructor I Course;
    - Minimum of 40 hours of the DPSST Instructor Development program;
    - Minimum of 3 college credits in adult educational theory and practice or vocational educational theory and practice;
    - Other instructor course approved by the OHA.
  - Hold a current ATLS provider certificate or equivalent or a current PHTLS provider certificate or equivalent;
  - Hold a current ACLS provider certification from AHA or equivalent.

## Crosswalk from OAR 333-265 to OAR 333-264

New OAR #	Old OAR #	OAR Title
333-264-0000		Applicability
333-264-0010		Definitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Definitions were removed from 333-265-0000 and added under this new rule</li> </ul>
333-264-0030	333-265-0010	Eligibility, Application, and Approval of EMT, AEMT, EMT-I and Paramedic Courses
333-264-0040	333-265-0012	Eligibility, Application and Approval of EMR Courses
333-264-0050	333-265-0014	EMS Provider Course Requirements
	333-265-0015 (repealed)	AEMT Field Internships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference new rule 333-264-0090</li> </ul>
	333-265-0016 (repealed)	Paramedic Field Internships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reference new rule 333-264-0090</li> </ul>
333-264-0070		Competency-Based Assessment (CBA) Program for EMT, AEMT, and EMT-I Courses
333-264-0090		Clinical and Field Requirements for EMT, AEMT, and Paramedic Courses
333-264-0100	333-265-0018	Course Director Qualifications for EMR Courses
333-264-0110	333-265-0020	Approved EMT, AEMT, EMT-I and Paramedic Course Director
333-264-0120	333-265-0022	EMS Education Program Administrator and Faculty Responsibilities at an Educational Institution
	333-265-0023 (repealed)	EMS Provider Examinations
	333-265-0024 (repealed)	EMT Intermediate Provider Examination
	333-265-0026 (repealed)	EMS Licensing Officer Application and Approval
333-264-0140		Requirements for Successful Completion of EMR, EMT, AEMT, EMT-Intermediate, and Paramedic Courses