



# Arkansas Department of Health

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**Governor Mike Beebe**

**Paul K. Halverson, DrPH, FACHE, Director and State Health Officer**

To: Advanced Training Sites  
EMT Instructors

From: Norajean Miles  
Certification Administrator

Date: August 22, 2007

Re: Paramedic Class eligibility

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Due to recent inquiries regarding the eligibility requirement for EMTs to begin a paramedic class in Arkansas the following is offered as clarification: the *Rules and Regulations for Emergency Medical Services* Section V, B Certification Standards lists the following for persons wishing to attend a Paramedic class under Section B1a(1)(a):

#### Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic

- 1). Pre-requisites for training
  - a) **Successful completion of an Arkansas EMT Basic Course, or hold a current State EMT or Intermediate certification, or Military and Federal Employees who have a current National Registry card.**
  - b) Current CPR card.....

Students may begin an Arkansas approved Paramedic training program as long as they have an Arkansas certification OR hold current active certification at the basic level from another state. The confusion appears to be when the course is complete and testing is needed. Section V.B.1a (2)(a)

- 2). Pre-requisites for testing
  - a) **Currently certified as an Arkansas EMT.**
  - b) Successful completion ....

EMT-Basic students from outside Arkansas must complete the reciprocity requirements to become an Arkansas certified EMT-Ambulance before testing. The Section of EMS and Trauma Systems recommends that these students complete the reciprocity process during the first semester of the Paramedic program and BEFORE beginning clinical and field rotation.

Additionally, the *Accreditation Manual for Advanced EMT Courses for Intermediate and Paramedic Programs* states in Section 2.I that in order to be admitted to a paramedic program in Arkansas, students must be “certified as an Arkansas EMT.”

Both these documents can be accessed on the Section’s website at [www.healthyarkansas.com/ems](http://www.healthyarkansas.com/ems) or a copy can be mailed to you at your request. If you need additional information, please contact me at (501) 661-2333 or [Norajean.Miles@arkansas.gov](mailto:Norajean.Miles@arkansas.gov).