

# RECOGNITION OF EMS PERSONNEL LICENSURE INTERSTATE COMPACT (REPLICA)

## **Background on Interstate Compacts**

Interstate compacts are contracts between two or more states to agree on an issue. States use compacts as a legal relationship to address an issue. Indiana currently participates in 35 interstate compacts (listed below). Indiana does not currently participate in any compacts around health professional licensure.

- Agreement on Detainers
- Agreement on Qualifications of Educational Personnel
- Civil Defense and Disaster Compact
- Compact for Education
- Compact on Mental Health
- Compact on Placement of Children
- Driver License Compact
- Emergency Management Assistance Compact
- Great Lakes Basin Compact
- Great Lakes-St.Lawrence River Basin Water Resources Compact
- Health Care Compact
- Indiana-Kentucky Boundary Compact

- Interstate Compact for Adult Offender Supervision •
- Interstate Compact for Juveniles
- Interstate Compact on Adoption and Medical Assistance
- Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for 
   Military Children
- Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children
- Interstate Compact to Conserve Oil and Gas
- Interstate Corrections Compact
- Interstate Earthquake Emergency Compact
- Interstate High Speed Rail Network Compact
- Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Compact
- Interstate Library Compact
- Interstate Mining Compact

- Interstate Rail Passenger Network Compact
- Midwest Interstate Low-Level Radioactive Waste Compact
- Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Compact
- Midwestern Higher Education Compact
- Multistate Lottery Agreement
- Nonresident Violator Compact
- Ohio River Valley Water Sanitation Compact
- Surplus Lines Insurance Multi-State Compliance Compact
- Uniform Unclaimed Property Act
- Wabash Valley Compact
  - Wildlife Violator Compact

## What is REPLICA? 1

REPLICA is a licensure compact that allows EMS personnel to practice in all compact states under their home state license. Unlike the Nurse Licensure Compact that provides a single, multi–state license, REPLICA allows EMS personnel to obtain a license under their home state and use that home state license as their privilege to practice under other participating states.

## How is REPLICA administered?

REPLICA is administered by the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice (Commission). The commission is comprised of one delegate from each member state. The Commission has authority to promulgate rules necessary to implement and administer the Compact.

## What occupations are included in REPLICA?

REPLICA includes emergency medical technicians (EMTs), advanced EMTs (AEMTs), and paramedics.

## How might the compact impact the license acquisition/renewal process?<sup>1</sup>

Participation in REPLICA requires the home state to implement criteria associated with license requirements:

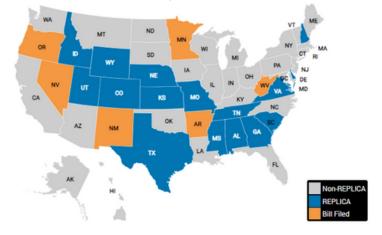
- 1. Requires the use of the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) examination to issue initial licenses (Indiana already does this)
- 2. No later than five years after activation of the Compact, participating states must issue a criminal background check of all applicants for initial licensure (including fingerprinting or other biometric data checks) (Indiana does not currently have this requirement. Implementation may have associated costs.)

## What COSTS are associated with REPLICA?<sup>1,2</sup>

REPLICA reports that the federal Department of Homeland Security covered costs associated with the development of the Compact. Currently, there are no financial costs associated with state participation. However, participation in the Compact allows the Compact Commission to raise funds to cover costs of operations (not required so far).

Currently, there is no licensing fee for EMTs/AEMTs/Paramedics in Indiana. Participation in REPLICA would require a background check for these personnel (not currently required in Indiana). This would likely be associated with a cost.

## REPLICA: How many states participate?<sup>1</sup>





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## How does the Compact intersect with SCOPE OF PRACTICE? 1,2

EMS personnel retain their home state SOP and protocols when working in another participating state. For example, if an EMT's home state is Tennessee (a REPLICA state), and he/she transports a patient to Indiana (assuming Indiana participates in REPLICA), that EMT would be permitted to practice under their Tennessee scope of practice while in Indiana.

## What is the process for DISCIPLINARY actions? 1,2

The home state has the exclusive ability to take disciplinary action against a license issued by that state. If another participating state decides to restrict an individual's privilege to practice in their state, they notify the Compact Commission and their practice privileges are suspended in all member states until the adverse action is resolved.

## Potential BENEFITS associated with participating in REPLICA<sup>1,2</sup>

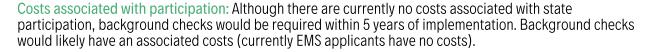


Privilege to Practice in other Compact states: Emergencies occur across state lines. REPLICA allows EMS personnel to seamlessly practice in participating states. A personnel's home state license has immediate legal recognition in participating remote states.

Enhanced coordination of license information: Participation in REPLICA provides participating states with a mechanism to share relevant information, including: license history, investigatory information, and discipline/adverse actions.

Quality assurance of EMS Personnel: Implementation of standardized licensing requirements (including a federal background check) ensures confidence in the EMS workforce.

## Potential CHALLENGES associated with participating in REPLICA<sup>1,2</sup>





Variations in practice provisions: REPLICA allows EMS personnel to retain their home state practice protocols when working in another participating state. The National EMS Scope of Practice Model generally serves as a foundation for education and practice, but states do have sovereignty over how this is defined within their borders.

Compact value/utility: Currently, none of Indiana's contiguous states participate in REPLICA, likely limiting the utility of the Compact for EMS personnel participating in ground transportation. However, Indiana's EMS personnel may provide air transportation EMS services within participating states.

## Compact contact information for follow-up or more specific information:

Visit the REPLICA website at https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/replica or email the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice for additional information (info@emscompact.gov; www.emscompact.gov).

This brief was prepared by the Bowen Center for Health Workforce Research & Policy to objectively inform decisionmakers on the generalities and specificities within a licensure compact, while wearing an Indiana "lens." This brief was not prepared on behalf of REPLICA. Any questions on REPLICA may be directed to the Compact. Any questions on the content of the brief may be directed to the Bowen Center team (bowenctr@iu.edu).

Sources.

1. REPLICA: https://www.nremt.org/rwd/public/document/replica

2. A detailed PowerPoint over REPLICA is available through the Conference Presentations section of the Bowen Center website: https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/handle/1805/17977