



## Overview of Indiana EMS Training Certification

Emergency medical services (EMS) training institutions must complete a multi-step certification process as outlined below. An understanding of each requirement may help identify potential bottlenecks in the current system or highlight areas to be targeted for improvement.

### Training Institution Certification Levels

Training programs have the option to be certified as either a Basic Life Support (authorized to train emergency medical responders (EMRs) and emergency medical technicians (EMTs)) or an Advanced Life Support (authorized to train advanced emergency medical technicians (AEMTs) and paramedics). In addition, Advanced Life Support institutions conducting paramedic training are required to submit proof of national accreditation of the program<sup>1</sup>.

### EMS Course Development

Each certified institution is responsible for evaluating their own courses based on the Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the EMS Commission-approved curriculum guidelines and skills checklists.<sup>2</sup> These guidelines have been developed to ensure both Indiana and national EMS certification requirements can be met. Syllabi must be approved by the commission and include the minimum skills to be taught, training hours, and hospital and clinical experience, if applicable.

Table 1 - EMS Course Requirements

	Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)	Emergency Medical Technologist (EMT)	Advanced EMT (AEMT)	Paramedics
<b>Education/Training Required</b>	50.5 Hrs.	151-159 hours, including 16 hours of mandatory ride time	162.5 hours	452 hours including internship
<b>Initial Exam Source</b>	State written and state practical exam	<u>NREMT exam for EMTs</u>	<u>NREMT exam for AEMTs</u>	<u>NREMT exam for Paramedics</u>
<b><u>Continuing Education</u></b>	20 hours every 2 years	40 hours didactic plus verification of skill competency every 2 years	54 hours didactic plus verification of skill competency every 2 years	72 hours didactic plus verification of skill competency every 2 years

<sup>1</sup> IDHS Training Reference Manual. 2014. Available at: [https://www.in.gov/dhs/files/Training\\_Reference\\_Manual\\_Section\\_1\\_Training\\_Institutions.pdf](https://www.in.gov/dhs/files/Training_Reference_Manual_Section_1_Training_Institutions.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> IN EMS Commission – Levels of EMS Personnel Certification. Available at: <https://www.in.gov/dhs/files/Indiana-EMS-Commission-Levels-of-EMS-Personnel-Certification6-2019-c.pdf>



## Supervising Hospitals

EMS training institutions certified as Advanced are required to have a partnership with a supervising hospital.

## Program Director

Each training institution is required to staff a medical director as well as a program director with appropriate credentials, education, and experience for the course levels being offered (see Table 2 for details).

Table 2-Minimum Program Director Credentials Required for Each Course Level<sup>3</sup>

Program Director Type Course	Physician	Paramedic	Registered Nurse	Advanced EMT	EMT - Basic Advanced
EMT & EMR	x	x	x	x	x
Advanced EMT	x	x	x	x	
Paramedic	x	x	x		

## Primary Instructor Certification

Each training institution must employ appropriately certified primary instructors (PI) to lead each course of study. PIs, in addition to being current on their EMS certification with the State, must also be certified as a PI by the EMS Commission after passing the Indiana PI exam. Only individuals who have held an Indiana EMT certification for at least a year and have one year of experience in pre-hospital settings are eligible for the PI course.<sup>4</sup> All primary instructor candidates must successfully complete a primary instructor cognitive examination within one year of course completion, available at Ivy Tech Community College testing centers across the state.

There are five pathways to become eligible to take the Indiana Primary Instructor exam:

- Successful completion of an Indiana PI course from a certified training institution. The course is a combination of classroom learning and an internship with an affiliated training institution.
- Successful completion of a National Association of Emergency Medical Service Educators (NAEMSE) Level 1 Instructor course.

<sup>3</sup> 836 IAC 4-2-2. Available at: [http://iac.iga.in.gov/iac/iac\\_title?iact=836](http://iac.iga.in.gov/iac/iac_title?iact=836)

<sup>4</sup> IDHS Primary Instructor Certifications., Available at: [https://www.in.gov/dhs/ems/guidance-training-institutions-primary-instructors/#Primary\\_Instructor\\_Certifications](https://www.in.gov/dhs/ems/guidance-training-institutions-primary-instructors/#Primary_Instructor_Certifications)



## Indiana EMS Assessment

- Through reciprocity with another state that has instructor certification requirements comparable to Indiana's.
- Through reciprocity with other healthcare disciplines for those certified in a comparable educational components non-EMS discipline such as military, Indiana Fire Instructor II and Indiana Law Enforcement Academy Instructor.
- Successful completion of the Nationally Credentialed EMS Educator (NCEE) certification process.