



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Peter Hans, President

(Public Safety Memo PS19-01)

(RSVPs Requested)

January 7, 2019

To: Chief Academic Officers
Senior Continuing Education Administrators

From: Tracy McPherson, Director, Public Safety Training Programs

RE: **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) – Regional Roundtables**

The NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NC OEMS) has announced proposed rules changes that will impact EMS educational programs across the state, whether offered through curriculum or continuing education. To assist colleges in preparing for these proposed changes, the System Office is hosting three regional EMS Roundtables in conjunction with NC OEMS. Please share the following information with your college EMS education and training staff. RSVPs are requested, as noted.

EMS Regional Roundtables: 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. (see details below)

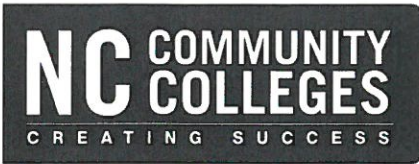
- **Thursday, January 24: Asheville-Buncombe Community College-Woodfin**
If you are attending this meeting, please RSVP by January 10, if possible.
Emergency Services Training Center (Large Conference Room), 24 Canoe Lane, Woodfin, NC 28804; <https://www.abtech.edu/about/locations/a-b-tech-woodfin>
- **Thursday, January 31: South Piedmont Community College – Old Charlotte Highway Campus**
If you are attending this meeting, please RSVP by January 15.
Building A (Salon A), 4209 Old Charlotte Highway, Monroe, NC 28110;
<http://spcc.edu/och-map-directions/>
- **Tuesday, February 19: Johnston Community College-Main Campus**
If you are attending this meeting, please RSVP by February 1st.
Public Safety Training Center (Bldg. J Room 1630), 245 College Road, Smithfield, NC 27577;
<http://www.johnstoncc.edu/about/campus-buildings/campus-map.aspx>

Details:

- The agenda will be the same at each location and will include an overview of the proposed rules, a discussion of best practices, and identification of any college issues and concerns.
- Each meeting will run from 9:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., with the first 30 minutes scheduled for registration and networking and the formal agenda starting at 10 a.m.
- We will not break for lunch, but light refreshments will be available.
- Any college staff connected with your EMS education and training programs are invited to attend.
- **RSVPs are requested via email to Tonya Clark at clarkt@nccommunitycolleges.edu.** Please note the date you plan to attend and the name(s) of the persons attending. Thank you.

For more information on the proposed rules changes, please see memo PS18-06 attached.

C: Todd Messer, NC OEMS



NORTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Peter Hans, President

(Public Safety Memo PS18-06)

October 31, 2018

To: Senior Continuing Education Administrators
From: Tracy McPherson, Director, Public Safety Training Programs
RE: **Emergency Medical Services (EMS) - Proposed NC OEMS Rules Changes**

The purpose of this memo is to provide an update for Senior Continuing Education Administrators on proposed changes to NC Office of Emergency Medical Services (NC OEMS) rules that could significantly impact EMS training programs whether offered through Workforce Continuing Education or Curriculum.

NC OEMS staff have informed stakeholders of proposed rule changes that will take effect in 2020, if approved as proposed. Depending on the status of your current program, the changes could require significant planning to implement; therefore, it is recommended that you review the proposals now to assess your college's readiness to comply.

NC OEMS Education Manager Todd Messer provided an update in September at the NC Community College Adult Educators Association Conference. His presentation has been posted to the System Office website for reference and may be found via the link below. It is also attached for your convenience. **All proposed rules have an effective date of 2020 unless otherwise noted*** (there were some informal discussions on our part at the conference that *incorrectly* noted different dates). OEMS explains that the purpose of the proposed rules is to do what is right for the patient, provider and student, while moving the profession forward (please see attached document for additional information on this national focus).

NC OEMS Proposed Rules Presentation:

<https://www.nccommunitycolleges.edu/workforce-continuing-education/2018-ncccaea-fall-conference>
(scroll down to the presentation titled "2018 Office of Emergency Medical Services")

Please review the entire presentation, as there are numerous proposed changes. Here are a select few:

- **National accreditation for Advanced EMT and Paramedic programs will be required.**
If approved as proposed, institutions will have to possess verification of accreditation or a valid letter of review from the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP).
- **Individuals seeking a Paramedic credential will need a minimum of an Associate Degree and complete a CAAHEP-accredited program to be eligible for the credential.**
*If approved as proposed, ***effective July 1, 2022***, individuals seeking a Paramedic credential must possess a minimum of an Associate Degree (non-specific) from a regionally accredited institution of higher learning. Individuals not possessing an Associate Degree will be credentialed at the Advanced EMT Level (AEMT) until a degree is obtained.

(continued)

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- **State exam attempts will be limited to a maximum of three within six months.**
If approved as proposed, the new rule will impose a revised testing rule of a maximum of three attempts within six months. The current rule allows for a maximum of three attempts within nine months from the graded date in the course.
- **EMS Program Director/Level II requirements will increase.**
If approved as proposed, institutions must designate a single person to oversee the program as Program Director, and the institution's Program Director must possess a Level II credential at or above the level of instruction.
 - Level II Instructors must complete post-secondary education equal to or exceeding a Baccalaureate Degree, if approved as proposed.

Additional Topics of Concern:

You will notice that the attached conference presentation outlines additional topics covered by Mr. Messer, including concerns identified by NC OEMS during their compliance audits:

- **Of major concern is inadequate record keeping**, sometimes to include lack of entire student records or missing items such as documentation of necessary prerequisites, grading, attendance, and/or clinical and field documentation. We recommend the development of internal supports to ensure records compliance, if you don't already have such support in place.
- **Of additional concern are the many instances where course information is not entered by colleges into the NC OEMS data management system in a timely manner.** Please review your college's work flow to ensure compliance with required deadlines.
- **You are reminded that in the event of a staff change, notify your NC OEMS Education Specialist immediately.** If you do not have a person credentialed as a Level II managing your program, you are not offering an approved EMS program. NC OEMS staff contact information may be found at <https://www2.ncdhhs.gov/dhsr/EMS/staff.htm> .

Please note that this memo is for general information only. NC OEMS is the official source of the current status of the rules discussion and any official changes. Contact NC OEMS staff if you have specific questions or concerns about NC OEMS program compliance or proposed rules.

Please feel free to contact our office if you have questions about managing your Workforce Continuing Education EMS program within the context of NC Community College rules. Tonya Clark, EMS Training Specialist within our NCCCS Public Safety Training Team, works collaboratively with System Office staff and with NC OEMS to vet questions and concerns as needed. Tonya is available to consult with your college via phone or college visit. Her contact information is clarkt@ncccommunitycolleges.edu or (828) 545-5061.

As always, thank you for ensuring that your public safety students are Ready to Work and Ready to Respond. You are making a difference in your communities and across the state.

Attachments (2)

CC: Dr. Lisa Chapman, NCCCS
Ms. Margaret Robertson, NCCCS
Ms. Tonya Clark, NCCCS

Mr. Todd Messer, NC OEMS
CC-EMS Training
Workforce CE EMS Program Directors