



CENTRAL SHENANDOAH EMS COUNCIL

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June 17, 2002

To: CSEMS Agencies

From: Matt Painter
Executive Director

Re: State Rules and Regulations Changes
Governors Advisory Board Nomination

You may be aware of the recent media coverage regarding the Office of EMS Rules and Regulations changes. Unfortunately the content of the articles was not totally accurate. I hope to clarify with this.

Training

FR and EMT will be unchanged in the number of hours and testing.

Shock Trauma will be discontinued and replaced with EMT- Enhanced. The hour requirements and skills for this course will be much the same as they are for ST. For our area there will be no changes from the skills a current ST and a new Enhanced can perform.

Cardiac Tech will be replaced with Intermediate. This is a major change. The hours and clinical for Intermediate are considerably more than for CT. Currently to become a Cardiac Tech a provider would have about 180 hours in training. Under the new Intermediate that would increase to approximately 250 to 265 hours of training. These hours not counting EMT.

Also Intermediate is a national training level requiring accreditation. We are pursuing accreditation at this time. Current ST's will become Enhanced by attending continuing education and WILL NOT have to take a test. Current CT's will have to attend a CT to I bridge course and WILL NOT have to take a test unless they wish to become nationally certified, through the bridge course CT's will become Virginia Intermediates. The state Office of EMS indicates that current ST's and CT's will be allowed to recertify twice prior to bridging to the new equivalent level of training they hold.

Minimum personnel requirement

Section 12VAC-5-31-620 of the proposed rules and regulations states that if you have less than 12 members able to function as AIC's you must submit a written plan to OEMS as to how you intend to provide 24 hour coverage. It also states that you should have no less than 8 personnel able to function as AIC's period.

This would certainly impact many agencies in our area. From discussions with the state they do not intend to try to put squads out of business and that they will discuss this issue with your agency leadership for options. What I would like to convey about this is no agency should be upset that they will be shut down upon approval of these new regulations. I once again urge you



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to review the proposed rules and regulations. They can be found on the OEMS web page at www.vdh.state.va.us/oems/index.asp. Comments will be accepted until June 30, 2002.

Governors Advisory Board Nomination

We have one representative on the Governors Advisory Board that represents our Council along with TJEMS, LFFEMS and REMS Councils. Essentially a representative on the board for all four Councils. We have been asked to submit a name for an expiring seat. I have talked with the directors from the other regions and we felt the fairest way to proceed is to have persons interested in the position to submit a resume or CV and a committee will review and recommend to the state the most qualified applicant. If you are interested in this position please forward your information to me by June 30. Qualified candidates would be very versed in EMS with many years of experience.

I hope this clarifies these issues. If I can be of assistance please feel free to contact me. On another note the Council will be advertising for an EMS trainer over the next month. This will be a full time training position that we hope will help offer more training courses for our region, both ALS and BLS.

Sincerely,

Matt Painter