



## Washington State Department of Health Guideline for state and local topic areas for NREMT NCCP recertification December 2017

### Overview

Washington State Department of Health, in conjunction with Washington State appointed medical program directors (MPD), have identified six topic areas to meet state and local content requirements for National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) national continued competency program (NCCP) method of recertification for Washington State EMS Providers.

### Background

In 2012, NREMT established a new method for providers to renew their national EMS certification. At that time, NREMT allowed each state to choose to adopt the NCCP model, or to remain with the traditional model for recertification for providers within its jurisdiction.

In October 2017 Pre-hospital Technical Advisory Committee (PHTAC) recommended that Washington State adopt an optional status for NREMT NCCP recertification. This will allow Washington State EMS providers who maintain their NREMT certification to choose between the traditional or NCCP method to renew their NREMT certification. In March 2019, all providers will be required to use the NCCP model for recertifying their national EMS certifications.

The NCCP recertification model divides the total number of hours required for recertification into three categories: national content 50 percent, state and local content 25 percent, and individual content 25 percent.

With the NCCP model, the total number of hours required to recertify decreased for each certification level compared to the traditional model. The traditional model required 72 hours of education for each level, except for EMR. NCCP hour requirements for a two-year certification include EMR (16 hours), EMT (40 hours), AEMT (50 hours), and Paramedic (60 hours).

National content topics will be updated by NREMT every four years. The next update will be in 2020. State and local content topic areas established in this document will be updated as needed. The individual hours are considered flexible content by NREMT. Providers may use any state- or [Commission on Accreditation for Pre-Hospital Continuing Education \(CAPCE\)](#) (formerly known as CECBEMS)-approved EMS-related education to fulfill these requirements.

Distributive education (DE) is any instruction method where the student does not have access to an instructor in real time. Examples include: online courses, video reviews, and journal article reviews. Note: CAPCE uses the F3 designation for distributive education. Other CAPCE designations F1 (one-time events), F2 (multiple-event activities), and F5 (Virtual Instructor Led Training-VILT) are not classified as distributive education and can be counted as instructor-based training.

DE hours allowed by NREMT are listed below in the table. The number of hours will vary by certification level.



**Washington State Department of Health**  
**Guideline for state and local topic areas for NREMT NCCP recertification**  
**December 2017**

Hour Category	EMR	EMT	AEMT	Para	Percentage of DE hours allowed
National Content	8 (3)	20 (7)	25 (8)	30 (10)	One-third
State and Local Content	4 (3)	10 (7)	12.5 (8)	15 (10)	Two-thirds
Individual Content	4 (4)	10 (10)	12.5 (12.5)	15 (15)	Three-thirds
Total Hours NREMT for recertification	16	40	50	60	Actual number of hours listed in (#)

**Guideline for Washington State and local LCR Topic Areas**

Education hours to meet the NREMT NCCP state and local content may come from any of the below topics. No specific number of hours within each category are prescribed; however, it is recommended that providers seek education hours from more than one topic area.

- **Patient Advocacy**
  - Reporting obligations
  - POLST
  - People with disabilities or functional needs
- **Provider Advocacy**
  - Suicide awareness
  - Mental and physical wellbeing
  - Workplace safety
- **Law and Regulations**
  - Scope of practice
  - Regulatory requirements
- **Protocols**
  - State triage tools (stroke, cardiac, trauma)
  - County and regional MPD patient care protocols (protocols)
  - County operating procedures (COP)
  - Regional patient care procedures (PCP)
- **Disaster Preparedness**
  - ICS
  - Disaster preparedness
- **Documentation**
  - Clinical patient care (data quality and documentation standards)
  - Key performance indicators (KPI) and research

Washington State will recognize education hours from the following sources: hours associated with state and MPD approved OTEP, state approved refresher courses, CAPCE accredited education providers, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), and conferences that are recognized by Washington State or regional and local EMS councils.

For more information or if you have questions, please contact the EMS Education and Training consultant at 360-236-2842 or [HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov](mailto:HSQA.EMS@doh.wa.gov).