

MEMORANDUM

To: All Ambulance and First Response Services in WREMAC

From: Dr. Brian Walters, Chairman

CC: NYS Bureau of EMS – Western Office
REMSCOs – WREMAC region
County EMS Coordinators – WREMAC region
Program Agencies – WREMAC

Date: May 21, 2015

Re: Policy update: WREMAC Provider Privileges and CME #2013-1

At the May 20, 2015 WREMAC meeting, Policy #2013-1 (Provider Privileges and Continuing Medical Education) was revised to better define the expectations and responsibilities of the previous policy. The incorporated changes were based on feedback received from the entire EMS community.

It is most important to note that **the adopted changes do not alter the annual provider requirements previously established in this policy.** The procedural reporting changes adopted in this policy will not take effect until the period ending **June 30, 2016**.

Currently, the list of on-line providers who have completed the annual credentialing requirements in each agency is due to the EMS Program Agency by August 1, and this will remain the deadline for 2015. Beginning next year, the list of online providers will be due on July 1 annually. A revised version of this policy will be promulgated to reflect the new reporting deadline. Please plan accordingly for this change to ensure your agency is in compliance.

Lastly, the EMT-Intermediate level of care has been removed from this policy as this level will not be recognized in New York State after June 30, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding this policy or the incorporated changes, I ask you please contact the EMS Program Agency in your region (found in policy Attachment 2).

Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee

Title: Provider Privileges and Continuing Medical Education Policy	Effective Date: January 16, 2013
Policy #2013-1	Revised: May 2015 Supersedes: Policy: # 2001-2 Revisions: 6/2009, 1/2013, and 3/2014

Policy:

As a part of the delegated medical authority of the Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (WREMAC), all certified providers and all agencies (at all levels of care) operating within the eight-county region of Western New York are required to comply with the requirements of this WREMAC policy and any additional requirements as set forth by the Agency Medical Director.

Providers must apply for privileges using the “WREMAC Provider Privileges Application”. The application will be reviewed and information verified by the WREMAC, the EMS Program Agency, and Medical Director (or his designee) to determine a provider’s eligibility for regional privileges.

In addition to the “WREMAC Provider Privileges Application”, **providers must meet all of the didactic and skill requirements for his/her level of certification as outlined in this policy on a yearly basis.** A provider who is not entirely compliant with this policy shall be considered “off-line” until such time as he/she becomes compliant. An agency that fails to comply with this policy will be taken “off-line” and may be required to attend a WREMAC review hearing. Under the authority of the Agency Medical Director (or designee), the EMS agency is responsible for ensuring its providers are compliant with this policy. A provider or agency taken off-line for non-compliance with this policy shall be notified, in writing, and a copy of the notice shall be sent to the EMS Program Agency, the Agency Medical Director, and NYS Department of Health’s Bureau of EMS and Trauma. In cases when an agency is taken off-line, proper notice shall also be made to the County EMS Coordinate and appropriate elected official(s) for the area(s) serviced by the agency to ensure proper planning during the service’s absence.

“Off-line” means an agency or provider is restricted from performing procedures, treatments, and therapies. Restrictions are defined as follows:

“**Full Restriction**”: all care is restricted (may not provide care at any level).

“**ALS Restriction**”: skills beyond the BLS level are restricted (may still provide basic level care)

“**Partial Restriction**”: restricts an individual skill or procedure, and/or removes standing orders (requires contact with Medical Control and receive specific on-line orders to perform procedures, treatments, and therapies).

Agency Medical Directors may require additional requirements beyond this policy but may not alter the minimum requirements established in this policy.

Upon review and verification of a provider’s application for privileges and meeting the minimum requirements of this policy (and any additional requirements set by the Agency Medical Director), a provider is credentialed as an on-line provider (OLP) with privileges in this region.

Procedure:

1. The agency shall ensure that each certified provider complete and sign the “WREMAC Provider Privilege Application” (ATTACHMENT 1) as follows:

- A. upon attaining initial certification, or
- B. upon attaining certification at a new level, or
- C. upon joining an agency as a currently certified provider, or
- D. upon request from the program agency, Medical Director, or WREMAC.

The EMS agency shall ensure each provider maintains continuous certification with all didactic requirements (by level of care) and successfully demonstrates skill competency as set forth in this policy **on an annual basis** (all skills must be verified at least 1 time between the period of July 1 – June 30 each year). Providers with lapsed certifications/credentials and/or who do not successfully demonstrate skill competency shall be taken “off-line” by the agency and notice shall be provided to the EMS Program Agency.

Skill competency shall be validated when any one of the following occurs:

1. Successfully demonstrate the skill in the presence of a WREMAC Skill Preceptor, Medical Director (or designee) during simulation; or
2. Medical Director approved documentation of successful performance of the skill during patient care; or
3. Attend Medical Director (or designee) approved training on the skill.

Designated skill preceptors must meet WREMAC Skill Preceptor Qualifications as outlined in the position description (attached), complete the WREMAC Skill Preceptor Course, complete any required updates, be in good standing with all WREMAC policies, and not have any restrictions imposed by the WREMAC or Medical Director. All preceptors are registered with the EMS Program Agency and will be posted to the WREMAC Website

Agencies are responsible for maintaining documentation of competency for each of its providers. Providers who are members of more than one agency must demonstrate competency only once – but must provide written verification of competency to each requesting agency.

By August 1st of each year, all agencies shall submit a list of on-line providers, in a format acceptable to the EMS Program Agency. Agencies are encouraged to have each of its providers complete a “WREMAC Provider Privilege Application” annually. Agencies that do not submit the required information to the EMS Program Agency by August 1st will be taken “off-line” (as described in paragraph 3 on page 1 of this policy), will not be authorized to provide EMS, and will be subject to a hearing review by the WREMAC.

Continuing Medical Education (CME) Requirements

CME has two components: **didactic** and **skill** requirements. Providers must meet **all** of the didactic and skill requirements for his/her level of privileges. Any provider who does not meet the requirements shall

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1. DIDACTIC REQUIREMENTS

Providers shall maintain continuously current credentials as detailed below. There is no “grace period” for expired credentials.

	CFR	EMT	AEMT	EMT-CC	EMT-P
CPR (healthcare provider)*	X	X	X	X	X
Trauma Life Support*			X	X	X
Pediatric Life Support*				X	X
Cardiac Life Support*				X	X
Protocol Exam			X	X	X

* Programs as approved by the WREMAC (see ATTACHMENT 3)

2. SKILL REQUIREMENTS

Competency in the following skills shall be demonstrated at the time of initial certification and at least once annually between (July 1 – June 30).

	CFR	EMT	AEMT	EMT-CC	EMT-P
AED	X	X	X		
Epi-Pen		X*	X*		
Nebulized Albuterol		X*	X*		
Intranasal Naloxone	X*	X*	X*		
Blood Glucose Monitoring		X*	X*	X	X
Nebulized Medications				X	X
IV (adult & pediatric)			X	X	X
Saline Trap			X	X	X
IO (adult & pediatric)			X*	X	X
EJ Cannulation			X*	X	X
ET Intubation (Adult)			X*	X*	X*
ET Intubation (Pediatric)			X*	X*	X*
Waveform Capnography			X**	X**	X**
Rescue Airways (King, etc)			X	X	X
CPAP			X*	X*	X*
Manual Defibrillation				X	X
Lead II cardiac monitoring				X	X
12-lead monitoring				X	X
Synchronized cardioversion				X	X
External Pacing				X	X
NG/OG Tube				X	X
Needle Thoracostomy			X*	X	X
Needle Cricothyrotomy				X	X
IV Bolus Medication			X	X	X
Subcutaneous/IM injection			X	X	X

* Required only if agency is approved to perform skill

** Required only if credentialed to intubate

ATTACHMENT

1

ATTACHMENT

2

WREMAC EMS Program Agencies

All documents shall be provided to the EMS Program Agency contracted to serve the region in which your EMS agency is registered with the Bureau of EMS.

Niagara, Orleans, & Genesee Counties

Lake Plains Community Care Network

575 East Main Street
Batavia, NY 14020
Phone: 585-345-6110
Fax: 585-345-7452
www.lpcnems.org

Director: Charlotte Crawford
ccrawford@lakeplains.org

Wyoming & Erie Counties

Office of Prehospital Care

462 Grider Street
Buffalo, New York 14215
Phone: 716-898-3600
Fax: 716-898-5988
www.opcems.org

Director: Scott Wander
swander@ecmc.edu

Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, & Allegany Counties

Southern Tier EMS (STEMS)

One Blue Bird Square
Olean, New York 14760
Phone: 716-372-0614
Fax: 716-372-5217
www.sthcs.org

Director: Donna Kahm
dkahm@sthcs.org

WREMAC Policy 2013-1

ATTACHMENT 3

The Western Regional Emergency Medical Advisory Committee (WREMAC) has approved only the following courses to meet the requirements of WREMAC Policy 2013-1.

Note: Valid instructor certification satisfies the requirement for provider certification.

CPR:

Training must meet or exceed the requirements established in **Bureau of EMS Policy #11-07: Required CPR Testing**. In general, CPR courses intended for healthcare providers meet the requirement. CPR courses intended for lay rescuers (Heartsaver, etc) do not satisfy the requirement.

Trauma Life Support:

Valid certification from one of the following courses:

- Pre-Hospital Trauma Life Support (PHTLS) – advanced level only; **OR**
- International Trauma Life Support (ITLS) – advanced level only

Cardiac Life Support:

Valid certification from an American Heart Association Advanced Cardiac Life Support (ACLS) Course.

Pediatric Life Support:

Valid certification from one of the following courses:

- Pediatric Advanced Life Support (PALS) – American Heart Association only; **OR**
- NAEMT's Emergency Pediatric Care (EPC) – advanced level only; **OR**
- Pediatric Emergencies for Prehospital Professionals (PEPP) – advanced level only