

# **RECOGNITION, RERECOGNITION AND SUSPENSION OF ECRN/ECP**

## **I. GUIDELINES FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS REGISTERED NURSE (ECRN) RECOGNITION/RERECOGNITION/INACTIVE STATUS**

### **A. Recognition:**

1. To be approved as an ECRN, an individual shall:
  - a. Be a registered nurse in accordance with the current Illinois Nursing Act with a minimum of one (1) year emergency department nursing experience or appropriate equivalent as approved by the EMS Medical Director (EMSMD)
  - b. Current ACLS certification
  - c. Successfully complete an educational curriculum formulated by an EMS System and approved by the Department, which consists of at least 40 hours -- Classroom (minimum 32 hours) and practical training (8 hour clinical on the ambulance) -- for both the adult and pediatric population, including telecommunications, system standing medical orders and policies and procedures.
  - d. Complete a competency-based internship conducting actual medical oversight calls under the supervision of a recognized ECRN or ECP.
  - e. Meet and maintain all requirements mandated by the IDPH Rules and Regulations.
2. An acknowledgement will be awarded from the Resource Hospital after completion of the ECRN transaction card and above requirements. The individual will be submitted to IDPH for state recognition.
3. The EMS Medical Director shall approve an individual as an ECRN for four years.

### **B. Rerecognition: The EMS Medical Director shall re-approve ECRNs every four years if the ECRN:**

1. Is a registered nurse in accordance with the current Illinois Nursing Act.
2. Has completed 32 hours of continuing education in a four-year period.
3. Has successfully completed the mandatory continuing education to keep abreast of any system function changes and is encouraged to complete 8 hours of ambulance ride time every 4 years.
4. Remains active as an approved ECRN in the system.
5. Has returned a complete Child Support Form to the Resource Hospital

6. Current ACLS certification

C. Inactive status:

1. Prior to the expiration of the current approval, the ECRN may request to be placed on inactive status. The request shall be made in writing to the EMS Medical Director and shall contain the following information:
  - a. Name of individual;
  - b. Date of approval;
  - c. Circumstances requiring inactive status;
  - d. A statement that recertification requirements have been met by the date of the application for inactive status;
  - e. ECRN recognition
2. The EMS Medical Director will review and grant or deny requests for inactive status.
3. For the ECRN to return to active status, the EMS Medical Director must document that the ECRN has been examined and found capable of functioning within the EMS System, that the ECRN's knowledge and clinical skills are at the active ECRN level, and that the ECRN has completed any refresher training deemed necessary by the EMS System. If the inactive status was based on a temporary disability, the EMS System shall also verify that the disability has ceased.
4. During inactive status, the individual shall not function as an ECRN.
5. The EMS Medical Director shall notify the Department in writing of the ECRN's approval, re-approval, or granting or denying inactive status within 10 days after any change in an ECRN's approval status.

**II. GUIDELINES FOR EMERGENCY COMMUNICATION PHYSICIAN (ECP) RECOGNITION/RERECOGNITION IN REGION XI:**

A. To be approved as an ECP, an individual shall:

1. Be a physician currently licensed in Illinois and regularly involved in the provision of emergency medical services, and approved by the EMSMD.
2. Complete the system physician's base station course or equivalent as determined by the EMSMD.
3. Be required to maintain the necessary continuing education to keep abreast of any system function changes.

B. As long as the physician remains active as an ECPs in the system and completes any mandatory continuing education, and has no sustained complaints he/she will continue to be certified.

**III. TRANSFERRING ECRN**

- A. A Region XI ECRN who is currently functioning in another Region XI Resource or Associate Hospital or has been active within the last six months and receives a letter of good standing from his/her EMS Coordinator shall meet with his/her current EMS Coordinator or EMSMD for approval and orientation prior to resuming ECRN function.
- B. Nurses who have successfully completed a similar ECRN course of training at another Resource Hospital, outside the Region XI EMS System, which is deemed comparable by the EMSMD, and are issued a letter by that hospital that they are currently a recognized ECRN in good standing may be allowed to challenge the system exam.
- C. Additional educational requirements may be required by the EMSMD.

#### **IV. SUSPENSION OF MEDICAL OVERSIGHT FUNCTION**

- A. A nurse or physician may be suspended from medical oversight function upon verbal notification of the EMSMD. After verbal notification the person shall receive written notification designating the reasons for the suspension, terms of the suspension, the means for dispute resolution and due process procedures.

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