



**REGION 11
CHICAGO EMS SYSTEM
POLICY**

Title: EMS Reciprocity

Section: EMS Personnel

Approved: EMS Medical Directors Consortium

Effective: December 17, 2025

EMS RECIPROCITY

I. PURPOSE

To allow for an EMD, EMR, EMT or Paramedic licensed or certified in another state, territory or jurisdiction of the United States seeking licensure in Illinois to apply to IDPH for licensure by reciprocity, using an IDPH-approved form and available on the IDPH website:

<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/emsreciprocityapplication.pdf>

II. DEFINITION

Reciprocity: Allows EMDs, EMRs, EMTs and Paramedics who are licensed in another state, the military, and/or certified by the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) to apply for licensure in Illinois using a streamlined process.

III. STATE TO STATE RECIPROCITY

A. The reciprocity application shall contain the following information:

1. Verifiable proof of current state, territory or jurisdiction licensure or certification, or current registration with NREMT;
2. A written statement of satisfactory completion of an education program that meets or exceeds the requirements of IDPH;
3. A letter of recommendation from the EMS Medical Director of the EMS System in the state, territory, or jurisdiction from which the individual is licensed. The letter should include a statement that the applicant is currently in good standing and up to date with continuing education (CE) hours; and
4. A current CPR for Healthcare Providers card that covers didactic and psychomotor skills that meet or exceed American Heart Association guidelines.

B. IDPH will review requests for reciprocity to determine compliance with the applicable provisions of [IDPH Section 515.610](#). CE hours from the state of current licensure will be prorated based on the expiration date of the current license.

C. Individuals who meet the requirements for licensure by reciprocity will be State licensed consistent with the expiration date of their current license but not to exceed a period of four years.

D. Following licensure by reciprocity, the individual must comply with the requirements of [IDPH Section 515.590](#) for relicensure.



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IV. NREMT RECIPROCITY AND PROVISIONAL SYSTEM STATUS

- A. IDPH shall permit immediate reciprocity to all EMS personnel who hold an unencumbered National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians (NREMT) certification for EMTs or Paramedics, allowing such individuals to operate in an EMS System under a provisional system status until an Illinois license is issued.
- B. To operate on an EMS System transport or non-transport IDPH licensed vehicle under provisional system status, an individual must have applied for licensure with IDPH and meet all requirements under the Act. All IDPH-required application materials for submission must be provided to the EMS System for review prior to system provisional reciprocity approval.
- C. The EMS System has the responsibility for validating National Registry Certification of each individual.
- D. An individual with a Class X, Class 1 or Class 2 felony conviction or out-of-state equivalent offense, as described in IDPH [Section 515.190](#), is not eligible for provisional system status.

V. REGION 11 CHICAGO EMS

This policy applies specifically to EMDs, EMRs, EMTs and Paramedics, as Region 11 Chicago EMS does not recognize the A-EMT licensure levels within their EMS Systems.