

## Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board

<b>Examinations – General</b> <b>EMALB2016-01</b>  <b>Responsible Branch: Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Branch</b>  <b>Contact:</b> Kim Fiege – Policy and Project Analyst Richard Simpson – Director Phone: 250-952-1211	<b>Reference Information (Manual, page number, chapter):</b>
	<b>Replaces former policy: N/A</b>
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<b>Keywords: examinations, written, practical, jurisprudence</b>	<b>E.g. examinations, regulation, licensure etc.</b>

### 1. Policy Rationale & Purpose:

The EMA Licensing Board (Board) licenses candidates that have completed a training program recognized by the Board and passed the examinations approved by the Board. The Board also licenses applicants licensed in jurisdictions outside of BC and may require an applicant to complete an examination when the Board feels that the applicant’s qualifications, examinations or training required for their authorization to practise in the other jurisdiction are not equivalent to those required in BC for the category of licence sought. In addition, the board may require that a former EMA successfully complete examinations in order to have a licence reinstated.

The purpose of the examination process is to ensure that candidates possess the necessary knowledge, abilities, skills aptitudes and judgements for entry to practice into the paramedic and first responder professions in BC.

### 2. Policy Scope

This policy applies to all candidates applying for initial licensure for a licence category in British Columbia and all former EMAs applying for licence reinstatement.

### 3. Exemptions

Candidates applying for a licence in the Infant Transfer Team (ITT) and Critical Care Paramedic (CCP) categories complete examinations approved by the EMA Licensing Board as part of the recognized training program.

As of April 1, 2016, candidates applying for a licence in the EMA FR category will be examined and licensed according to the EMA FR Initial, Renewal and Reinstatement Licensing Requirements policy.

### 4. Policy Statement:

The EMA Licensing Board requires that candidates applying for a licence in BC complete a written examination, practical examination, and jurisprudence examination in order to ensure that candidates possess the necessary knowledge, skills and abilities for entry to practice into the paramedic profession in BC for the EMR, PCP, ACP, and CCP licence categories.

The written examination will assess a candidate’s knowledge, skills and abilities specific to the National Occupational Competency Profile for Paramedics (NOCPs) that guide practice in Canada.

The practical examination will assess a candidate's ability to apply their knowledge and skills in a practical environment as required by an emergency medical assistant in British Columbia as per the BCAS Treatment Guidelines.

The jurisprudence examination will assess a candidate's knowledge on the relevant legislation, regulation, and policy that guides EMA practice in BC.

Candidates have three attempts to successfully complete each of the required exams.

**5. Legal Authority:**

[Emergency Health Service Act Section 6\(5\)\(a\)](#)

[Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation Section 2\(ii\)](#)

[Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation Section 3\(3\)\(a\) and \(b\)](#)

[Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation Section 9.2\(b\)](#)

**6. Key Stakeholders:**

- Training Institutions
- Paramedic Community
- Ministry of Health
- BCEHS
- CUPE 873

**7. Resources:**

- [National Occupational Competency Profile for Paramedics \(NOCP\)](#)
- [BCAS Treatment Guidelines](#)
- [Applicant Guide to the BC Jurisprudence Examination](#)

**Reviewed by the EMA Licensing Board:** December 17, 2015

**Approved:** Richard Simpson



**Date approved:** December 17, 2015

**Drafted by:** Kim Fiege