

Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board

EMALB 2023-04 EMA FR Challenge Policy Responsible Branch: Emergency Medical Assistants (EMA) Licensing Branch Contact: Exam program area getanexam@gov.bc.ca	Reference Information (Manual, page number, chapter):
	Replaces former policy: N/A
	Date Effective: 2023-03-01
	Last Update: November 3, 2023
	Next Review Date: January 2025
Keywords	E.g. examinations, regulation, licensure etc.

1. Policy Rationale & Purpose:

Communities are increasingly seeking Emergency Medical Responders as the minimum level of license at fire departments. This trend has resulted in an influx of Emergency Medical Responder applicants to the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Branch.

The evaluation process for an Emergency Medical Responder requires a certificate of completion from a Board recognized Emergency Medical Responder program and the successful completion of Board approved examinations consisting of two online examinations and one practical examination.

Practical examinations are hosted regularly at seven locations throughout the province. The Branch also offers special ad hoc practical exam sessions in smaller communities in order to reduce the financial burden for volunteers and candidates. These sessions are booked around the existing examination schedule and can, therefore, result in a delay for some candidates to complete all examinations and become eligible for licensure as an Emergency Medical Responder.

A person who holds a First Responder license, and is in the Emergency Medical Responder examination process, may need to renew their license before the process has concluded. Renewal requires the successful completion of an online written examination; however, the Emergency Medical Responder examinations are at a higher license level.

The purpose of this policy is to grant First Responder licensure to graduates of Board recognized Emergency Medical Responder programs who have met specific criteria so they can continue or start to practice during the examination process. This is a means to streamline the pathways to Emergency Medical Assistance licensure within emergency health services by granting recognition of the Emergency Medical Responder programs for the First Responder licence category. Licence applicants under this policy will be required to complete the Emergency Medical Responder written and Jurisprudence examinations.

2. Policy Scope

This policy applies to all Emergency Medical Responder applicants who:

- have a valid certificate from a Board recognized Emergency Medical Responder program and are in the process to become Emergency Medical Responders
 - are current or past First Responders who need to renew/reinstate their First Responder license to continue practicing while awaiting practical examinations for the Emergency Medical Responder level.
 - are seeking an initial First Responder licence

3. Requirements:

To apply for examinations:

- Submit electronically the [Application for Licence](#) form to register for exams
- Ensure your training provider has sent your certificate to getanexam@gov.bc.ca
- Obtain a [BCeID](#). **Please use only lowercase characters in your BCeID username.** (If you already have a BCeID and password you may skip this step)
- Please use your BCeID username and password to create a new account in the [online learning system](#) (it may take up to 2 weeks to be granted access)
- Read the [BC provincial examination guidelines for PCPs and EMRs](#)
- Successfully complete both the EMR written and jurisprudence exams online

To apply for your licence, follow these steps:

- Undergo a [criminal record check](#) within 12 months of the licence application
- Submit the [Acknowledgement of Scope of Practice](#) form.

4. Legal Authority:

- EMA Licensing Board Licensing Policy
- EMA Regulations [Section 2](#)

5. Key Stakeholders:

- *Fire Departments*
- *First Responders*
- *Emergency Medical Responders awaiting examinations*

Reviewed by the EMA Licensing Board on: March 8, 2023

Approved Wendy Vowles:



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Drafted by: Samantha Creamer

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Date	Author	Details
2023-11-03	Screamer	Policy reviewed, updated links