



Applicant Guide to the B.C. Jurisprudence Examination for the EMA FR Licence Category

Developed by:

**The Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing
Branch
Ministry of Health
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Overview

This Applicant Guide will give you the information and resources needed to prepare for your online provincial jurisprudence examination.

“Jurisprudence” refers to the statutory framework which guides your practice as an Emergency Medical Assistant (EMA) in British Columbia.

The B.C. jurisprudence examination is an online, open book exam. The exam covers components of the EMA Regulations, EMA licensing policies, the *Emergency Health Services Act*, the *Good Samaritan Act*, and the *Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act*.

Educational Goal

To provide the requisite knowledge of relevant British Columbia provincial legislation, regulation, policy, procedure and level of service information for paramedics applying for licensure in British Columbia.

Assessment

All licensing and reinstatement candidates are required to successfully complete the jurisprudence examination.

Candidates that have been unsuccessful in the exam process and did not attain licensure will be required to take the jurisprudence exam again (even if they have previously successfully passed the jurisprudence exam), along with the written and practical exams, upon proof of successful completion of a new recognized training program. The jurisprudence exam is online and may be completed anywhere. The exam has 50 questions and there is **no time limit** to complete the exam.

Contact Information

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Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board

The Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board is responsible for examining, registering and licensing all emergency medical assistants (EMAs) in B.C., including First Responders.

The board, under the authority of the *Emergency Health Services Act*, sets licence terms and conditions. In addition, the board investigates complaints and conducts hearings where necessary.

Key Study Areas:

Review the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board section of the EMA Licensing website (located on the navigation pane on the left side of the website).

Link: [Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board](#)

Complaint and Hearing Procedures

The EMA Licensing Board is mandated to investigate complaints regarding patient care and violations to the EMA code of ethics.

Key Study Areas: Review the Complaints section of the EMA Licensing website (located on the navigation pane on the left side of the website) and the Board Rules.

Link: [Complaints](#)

Link: [Board Rules](#)

Licensing Policy

Key Study Areas: Read all licensing policies pertaining to examinations, licensure, and complaints.

Link: [Licensing Board/Branch Policy](#)

Licensing Examinations

Key Study Areas: Review the Scheduling your Examination section of the EMA Licensing website.

Links: [Scheduling your Examination](#); [Examination code of conduct](#)

Emergency Health Services Act

The *Emergency Health Services Act* (the *Act*) defines key terms associated with the emergency medical services professions, for example “ambulance” and “emergency medical assistant (EMA)”. *The Act* also describes British Columbia Emergency Health Services (BCEHS), which is the corporation with the legislated mandate to provide British Columbia residents with ambulance services and emergency health services. *The Act* outlines the power and authority of the BCEHS.

This *Act* describes the composition of the Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board and outlines the scope of its power and authority. The EMA Licensing Board is responsible for examining, registering and licensing all EMAs in B.C., including First Responders.

In addition, *the Act* outlines the disciplinary action that may occur against an EMA following a complaint investigation and the actions the EMA Licensing Board may take to protect the public. *The Act* also outlines the appeal process an EMA may decide to pursue, if adversely affected.

Key Study Areas: Review the *Emergency Health Services Act*, focusing on the following sections:

Links:

- Definitions ([Section 1](#))
- Purposes of corporation ([Section 5.1](#));
- Emergency Medical Assistants Licensing Board ([Section 6](#))
- Disciplinary action ([Section 7](#));
- Extraordinary action to protect the public ([Section 8](#));
- Appeal ([Section 9](#));
- No service contrary to advance directive ([Section 11.1](#)); and
- Licence required ([Section 12](#))

Link: [Emergency Health Services Act](#)

Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation

The EMA Regulation outlines a comprehensive list of code of ethics requirements for all EMAs; it describes the precise scope of practice for each licence category and describes the continuing competency requirements EMAs are required to complete to maintain licensure.

Additionally, the EMA regulation describes the licence application process, the information requirements necessary for licensure and the various categories of EMA licence available.

Key Study Areas: Review the Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation, focusing on the following sections:

- Definitions ([Section 1](#));
- Application for licence ([Section 2](#));
- Applicants authorized to practice in a jurisdiction outside of British Columbia ([Section 3](#));
- Categories of licence ([Section 8](#));
- Term of licence ([Section 9](#));
- Requirements for renewals and reinstatement ([Section 9.1](#) & [9.2](#));
- Endorsement of other skills ([Section 10](#));
- Condition of licence ([Section 11](#));
- Register ([Section 13](#));
- Services – Licence Category ([Schedule 1](#))
- Services – Licence Endorsement ([Schedule 2](#)); and
- Code of Ethics – ([Schedule 3](#)).

Link: [Emergency Medical Assistants Regulation](#)

Emergency and Health Services Regulation

The Emergency and Health Services Regulation outlines the fees charged for licensing EMAs.

Key Study Areas: Review the Emergency and Health Services Regulation.

Link: [Emergency and Health Services Regulation](#)

Advance Directive

Key Study Areas: Review the EMA Licensing Board special bulletin outlining applicable information on the advance directive.

Link: [Advance Directive](#)

Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act

The *Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act* requires EMAs to notify local police when an individual presents for treatment of a gunshot or stab wound.

Key Study Areas: Review the Act and supporting documentation detailing reporting requirements.

Links: [Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Act](#) and [British Columbia Gunshot and Stab Wound Disclosure Requirements](#)

Good Samaritan Act

The *Good Samaritan Act* describes how “off-duty” health care professionals who render assistance to a sick or injured person cannot be held liable for damages, injuries or death that allegedly result from the act or omission of an act in offering medical assistance. The only exception to this act is if the established injuries or death are caused by the “off-duty” professional’s gross negligence in offering care.

Key Study Areas: Review the Act.

Link: [The Good Samaritan Act](#)