Northeast Wisconsin Technical College  
Information Sheet: Revisions to Wisconsin EMS Curricula

1) The state of WI DHS EMS Section is mandating the transition of each level of EMS curricula compliant with:
   - EMS Educational Standards published by the federal DOT National Highway Transportation and Safety Administration (NHTSA).
   - EMS Education Standards have been adopted by the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) as required to complete NREMT cognitive/psychomotor skills testing.

2) Effective August 1, 2012 at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College- inclusive with this transition is the adoption of the names of each level of EMS licensure compliant with the EMS curricula cited in the NHTSA National EMS Education Standards:
   - Medical First Responder becomes Emergency Medical Responder (EMR)
   - EMT-Basic becomes Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)
   - EMT-Intermediate Technician becomes Advanced EMT (AEMT)
   - EMT-Paramedic becomes Paramedic

3) Effective August 1, 2012 at Northeast Wisconsin Technical College - the hours of core content in each EMS basic (initial) course increases to include the new *EMS topics in the NHTSA National EMS Education Standards:
   - Emergency Medical Responder Basic Course: from 72 hours to 80 hours
   - Emergency Medical Technician Basic Course: from 144 hours to 212 hours (including 4 hrs orientation + 16 hrs clinical experience in the hospital ER + 8 hrs NREMT practical skills lab). Approximately 40 hrs of online EMS training.
   - Advanced EMT: from 92 hours to 168 hours (including 40 hours of clinical experience in the hospital ER). Approximately 40 hrs of online EMS training.
   - AEMT students are required to pass NREMT AEMT written examination and practical skills examinations (practical test increases from 3 stations to 10 stations).

4) Specific EMS topics areas included in the new EMS curricula can be referenced on the NHTSA National EMS Educational Standards website at http://www.ems.gov:

   **EMT-Basic Level:**
   - Enhancements in anatomy/physiology and pathophysiology
   - Enhancement s in critical thinking, evidence-based decision making
   - Involvement in public health programs (screening of populations – pediatric, generic)
   - Pharmacodynamics
   - Sympathetic vs parasympathetic nervous system functions
   - Stages of shock
   - Tracheostomy care
AEMT Level:
- All topics in EMT-Basic course
- Capnometry, capnography
- Cellular functions, cellular structure
- Drug classifications
- Intraosseous infusions

5) In the interest of accommodating the additional hours/EMS topic areas in the core content of each course, WI-approved EMS training centers are authorized to utilize online, web-based and/or other distributive learning resources to complete all didactic/lecture content.

6) The WI DHS EMS Section (under the advisement of the WI EMS Advisory Board) directed that:
- All currently licensed EMS providers in Wisconsin must complete "transition" training to the new levels of EMS licensure during the 2012-2014 EMS licensure period.
- All transition training is to be completed via the format of the EMS refresher course for each level of licensure.
- EMS transition courses will not incur increases in hours of core content or increases in course fees over the current conventional EMS refresher courses.

7) The following reflects the guidelines established by the WI DHS EMS Section for the transition of EMS training:
- **EMRs and Paramedics**: "transitioned" via existing EMS refresher course process
- **Emergency Medical Technicians**: complete 24 hours of transition materials followed by 6 hours of EMS "hot topics" and practical skills/written testing.

The 24 hours of transition training can be completed through a WI-approved EMS training center (30-hour conventional EMT Refresher format) or via the EMT Refresher Flexible content format (followed by the 6-hour EMT Flexible Mini-Refresher sanctioned through a WI-approved EMS training center).

- **Advanced EMTs** will not be required to attend a separate 30-hour EMT Refresher course and 12-hour EMT-IT Refresher course.
- **AEMTs** will be required to complete 36 hours of transition training followed by the 6-hour EMS "hot topics" and practical skills/written testing (for 42 hours total).

8) Course fees/tuition at NWTC will increase approximately 4% (consistent with COLA index). There will be no increases in course fees based on the addition of credits. (Technical Diploma courses: EMT remains at 5 credits and AEMT remains at 2 credits). Increases in curriculum hours translates into increases in credits (one credit = $116.90). NWTC suppressed increases in the number of credits (ie: increasing course fees by designing the EMT and AEMT curricula in components (lecture, practical skills, clinical experience).

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