

Response to ACT 483 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session

Licensing of EMS Practitioners in 2022

Prepared by:

Louisiana Department of Health

Office of Public Health – Bureau of EMS and EMS Certification Commission

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Emergency Medical Services Occupational Licenses

The Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (BEMS) coordinates, develops, improves, and maintains a comprehensive and dynamic emergency medical services system. This system ensures prompt, effective, and unimpeded service by appropriately educated and licensed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Practitioners and appropriately licensed EMS Providers to all residents and visitors of the state.

As a vital component of healthcare, public health, and public safety, EMS responds to calls for help twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. EMS saves lives from life-threatening emergencies such as heart attacks and strokes; treats injuries due to motor vehicle crashes, shootings, stabbings, and other violence; and provides care for many other illnesses and injuries that occur daily. In addition, EMS provides care for chronic illnesses and preventive care through community paramedicine and mobile integrated healthcare programs.

Pursuant to Act 483 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session, the following page contains a report regarding the requirements to obtain an initial EMS Practitioner license in the State of Louisiana. A link to the number of initial licenses and the number of renewed licenses by parish of residence that have been issued in the calendar year 2022 has been posted to the Louisiana Department of Health website and can be found here [Act 483 Compliance: 2022 EMS Licensing Data | La Dept. of Health](#).

EMS Licensing Requirements

EMS Practitioners are required to meet the following qualifications to obtain an initial EMS Practitioner license in the State of Louisiana:

- Successfully complete an EMS Practitioner course in a state-approved educational program (R.S. 1133.6).
- Successfully complete the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) cognitive and psychomotor certification exam (Emergency Medical Responder level option).
- Complete an EMS Practitioner license application and pay the required fees.
- Obtain the criminal background information as outlined in R.S. 40:1141 (not required at Emergency Medical Responder level).
 - If answering affirmatively to criminal background questions, comply with the requests of the EMS Certification Commission.

EMS Practitioner License Renewal requires the following:

- Successfully complete the continuing education requirements that are listed on the NREMT website.
- Renew National Registry certification (Emergency Medical Responder optional).
- Complete an EMS Practitioner license renewal application and pay the required fees.
 - If answering affirmatively to criminal background questions, comply with the requests of the EMS Certification Commission.

The number of EMS Practitioner initial licenses and renewed licenses by parish of residence can be found at [Act 483 Compliance: 2022 EMS Licensing Data | La Dept. of Health](#).

Louisiana Department of Health

628 North Fourth Street, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70802

(225) 342-9500

www.ldh.la.gov



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