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Scope of Practice, Floor Skills, and Optional Modules

1. What is Scope of Practice (SoP)?
 - Describes what interventions a licensed individual legally can and cannot do.
 - Idaho's SoP is established by the EMS Physician Commission (EMSPC).
 - Learn More:
 - EMSPC Standards Manual
2. What does the SoP consist of?
 - Four separate but related activities:
 - Education (trained to do)
 - Certification (certified as competent)
 - Licensure (state licensed to practice)
 - Credentialing (agency medical director)
3. What are Floor Skills?
 - The skills and interventions that all personnel of a certain license level can perform.
 - The fundamental skills at each level that define the minimum standard of service.
 - Floor skills are marked with an "X" in the SoP grid.
 - Learn More:
 - EMSPC Standards Manual
4. What are Optional Modules (OMs)?
 - Optional skills that can be authorized by an agency's medical director.
 - Optional modules are marked with an "OM" in the SoP grid.
 - Learn More:
 - EMSPC Standards Manual
5. How can my agency perform Optional Modules?
 - The agency medical director chooses to incorporate OMs.
 - Agency must: report patient care, submit addendum to medical supervision plan (MSP) indicating which OMs will be implemented, and submit verification of OM credentialing to the EMS Bureau.
 - Learn More:
 - EMSPC Standards Manual > pg 14
 - Idaho EMS Webpage > Education > Optional Modules
6. What is the relationship between OMs and the scope transition?
 - OMs are independent of the scope transition.
 - Transitioning does not automatically give an agency authority to implement OMs.
 - Even if currently authorized to use OMs, providers will still have to transition before practicing the new SoP.
 - There are some select OMs that will become floor skills in the new scope (see below).
7. Which skills are converting from OMs to floor skills in the new SoP?
 - EMR-2011: Tourniquet

- EMT-2011: Pulse Oximetry, Asprin, Epi Auto Injector
- AEMT-2011: Pulse Oximetry, Intraosseous-Adult, IM medication admin, Subcutaneous medication admin, Aspirin, Epi Auto Injector, Glucagon
- Paramedic: BiPAP, CPAP, PEEP-Therapeutic, Blood Chemistry Analysis, Maintenance of Blood Admin
- Learn More:
 - EMSPC Standards Manual > SoP Grid, Appendix A

Scope Transition Basics

1. Do I have to transition to keep my EMS license?
 - Yes, for EMR, EMT and Paramedic providers.
 - Optional, for AEMT providers.
2. What is the new curriculum and license level designations?

Curriculum	Idaho Standard Curriculum (ISC)	Idaho EMS Curriculum (IEC)
License Level Designation	EMR/FR 94	EMR-2011
	EMT/EMTB 95	EMT-2011
	AEMT/AEMT-85	AEMT-2011
	Paramedic/EMTP 98	Paramedic-2011

3. What are the steps to transitioning?
 - Complete your transition education
 - Competency assessment (for AEMT-2011 this includes NREMT exams)
 - This is determined by the assigned course physician. At the BLS level (EMR/EMT) the course physician can delegate a designee to assess competency.
 - State Licensing
 - Submit a Transition Application and receive a new, updated license. New licenses will identify providers that have transitioned.
 - Credentialing from your agency medical director
4. Where can I find a transition course?
 - The Idaho EMS Bureau keeps a list of transition courses on the EMS webpage
 - Learn More:
 - www.IdahoEMS.org > Education Page > Training Opportunities-Transition Courses
5. How much will it cost to transition?
 - This can vary depending on the educational medium you choose.
 - Many agencies are doing transition courses during their monthly training meetings. This would keep costs at a minimum.
 - Other providers are choosing to go through educational institutions and pay for their course. This is a more costly approach.
6. How does transition work with continuing education (CE) hours?
 - Transition Courses count as CE. The EMS Bureau provides a tracking tool on the website to monitor CE hours during a transition course.
 - If 75% or more of your required CE hours in a single license cycle are spent in a transition course the venue requirement no longer applies.
 - Note: This only applies if you intend to transition.
 - CE requirements do not change with the new scope:

- EMR-24hr, EMT-48hr, AEMT-54hr, Paramedic-72hr

7. Can I revert to a lower level instead of transitioning?
 - EMT: No, there is new knowledge and skills at both the EMR and EMT levels.
 - AEMT: Yes, you can revert to an EMR-2011. You cannot revert to an EMT-2011 without an EMT transition course.
 - Paramedic: Yes, you can revert to an EMR-2011, EMT-2011 or AEMT-2011 without any transition course.

8. Now that the new education is competency based, does that mean I can challenge the exam?
 - EMR, EMT, and Paramedic transition courses do not have a required exam associated with them. If the course physician uses an exam to determine competency, then they determine who gets access to that exam.
 - AEMTs must complete a Transition or Initial IEC course to get access to the NREMT written and practical exams.

TimeLine

1. How many hours will the new training take?

- The 2011 Idaho EMS Curriculum (IEC) is competency based, so there is no minimum or maximum classroom hours required.
- Course will be successfully completed when student can demonstrate competency to the course physician in the new information and skills.

***Remember: If transition education makes up 75% or more of your required CE hours, the venue requirement no longer applies during that cycle.

2. When is the new SoP effective?

- EMR/EMT: May begin practicing at the new SoP after July 1, 2012 upon completion of:
 - Transition education
 - Competency assessment
 - Licensing at the 2011 level
 - Medical director credentialing
- AEMT/Paramedic: May begin practicing at the new SoP after January 1, 2013 upon completion of:
 - Transition education
 - Competency assessment (NREMT exams for AEMT)
 - Licensing at the 2011 level
 - Medical director credentialing

3. How long will I have to transition?

- Emergency Medical Responders (EMR) and Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT)

Effective date of initial license	Date transition requirements MUST be completed
April 1, 2011 – September 30, 2011	September 30, 2014
October 1, 2011 – December 31, 2011	March 31, 2015

Effective date of renewed license	Date transition requirements MUST be completed
April 1, 2011	March 31, 2014
October 1, 2011	September 30, 2014
April 1, 2012	March 31, 2015
October 1, 2012	September 30, 2015
April 1, 2013	March 31, 2016
October 1, 2013	September 30, 2016
April 1, 2014	March 31, 2017

- Paramedics & Advanced EMTs (if the AEMT chooses to transition)

Effective date of initial license	Date transition requirements MUST be completed
April 1, 2012 – September 30, 2012	September 30, 2014
October 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012	March 31, 2015

Effective date of renewed license	Date transition requirements MUST be completed
April 1, 2012	March 31, 2014
October 1, 2012	September 30, 2014
April 1, 2013	March 31, 2015
October 1, 2013	September 30, 2015
April 1, 2014	March 31, 2016

4. If I transition before my required renewal cycle, what will happen with my effective and expiration dates and my CE hours?
 - If you transition early, your new license will have same expiration date, but new effective date.
 - CEs will continue to count toward renewal requirements.
5. Once I begin my transition education, how long to I have to complete it?
 - EMRs and EMTs have 3 years from the day they start their transition education to finish.
 - AEMTs and Paramedics have 2 years from the day they start their transition education to finish.
 - It is ok if the education carries over into another license cycle.

Education

1. I am considering becoming an EMS professional in Idaho. How does the SoP change affect me?
 - Students trained in the old scope ISC curricula must be successfully tested and licensed by certain deadlines:
 - EMR/EMT by Dec. 31, 2011
 - AEMT/Paramedic by Dec. 31, 2012
 - Students trained in the new scope IEC curricula must successfully pass state designated exams based on new scope standards to be licensed.
2. How long will the transition course be?
 - It is competency based, so the course is complete when competency is demonstrated to the course physician or designee (BLS level).
 - No minimum/maximum number of hours.
3. Will I have to take the NREMT tests to transition and update my license?
 - No, for EMR, EMT and Paramedic providers.
 - Yes, for AEMT providers transitioning to AEMT-2011. They will take the NREMT written exam and 10 station practical exam
4. Can I attend part of an Initial IEC course to qualify as a transition course?
 - Yes, though it will still require competency assessment by the course physician or designee (BLS level).
 - Educators may consider managing initial and transition courses concurrently.
5. What are the pre/co-requisite courses for transition?
 - ICS-100
 - Course available at: <http://training.fema.gov/emiweb/is/is100b.asp>
 - NIMS-700
 - Course available at: <http://training.fema.gov/EMIWeb/is/is700.asp>
 - HazMat
 - Course available at:
http://www.saferesponse.com/sub_page/hazmat_main.htm
 - Extrication Awareness
 - Course available at: www.IdahoEMS.org > Education Page > Scope of Practice Transition, Transition Education Materials > Extrication Awareness.
6. Can an EMR complete an EMT Transition Course and count it for their EMR Transition Course?
 - No, there are components of an EMR transition course that will not be included in the EMT Transition Course.

Instructors

1. Who can teach a transition course?
 - Transition courses do not require approved Idaho EMS instructors. Rather, any health care provider or educator with qualifying credentials, education or experience can teach portions of a transition course.
 - Example: Paramedics, Nurses, MD/Physicians, FNP, PA, RT, etc.
 - All transition instructors must be approved by the course sponsoring physician.
 - Instructors teaching at their same license level must be transitioned prior to teaching a transition course.
 - Example: An EMT instructor must take their transition education before teaching any other new scope EMT courses.
2. As an approved Idaho EMS instructor, what must I do to teach an Initial IEC course?
 - If required, obtain necessary education (transition course for your license level).
 - Update your instructor status at the new license level with the EMS Bureau.
 - Stay current with Instructor Orientation (required every two years).
3. When must I start teaching the 2011 Idaho EMS Curriculum (IEC)?
 - EMR/EMT: After 12/31/2011
 - AEMT/Paramedic: After 12/31/2012

***Remember to leave your students enough time to complete their exams and apply for licensure before those dates if currently teaching ISC courses.

AEMT

1. As an Advanced EMT (AEMT-85) what are my options?
 - Maintain and renew your AEMT-85 license indefinitely.
 - Complete an AEMT-2011 transition course, NREMT exams (written & practical), and license as an AEMT-2011.
 - Complete an EMT-2011 transition course for supplemental knowledge and skills but maintain and renew your AEMT-85 license.
 - Complete an EMT-2011 transition course and revert to EMT-2011.
 - Revert to EMR-2011 (no transition required).
2. As an AEMT-85, what are the supplemental skills I would gain by taking an EMT-2011 transition course?
 - ATV- non-intubated, Pulse Oximetry, Aspirin, Epi Auto-Injector, Atropine Sulfate auto injector
3. As a current AEMT-85, can I get my license back if I let it lapse?
 - No, you would be required to transition or revert to reinstate your license.
4. How long will the EMS Bureau license providers as AEMT-85s?
 - Currently licensed AEMT-85s can maintain their license at that level until they retire.
 - New graduates will only be licensed at that level until December 31, 2012
5. I am an AEMT/I-99. How can I transition to an AEMT-2011?
 - After Jan 1, 2013 you may apply for the new license if you hold either a current National Registry I-99 card or state licensure at the I-99 level.

Medical Directors/Course Physicians

1. How is competency assessed?
 - This is determined by each individual MD/Course Physician.
 - Examples of methods to verify competency:
 - Observation
 - Exams (written, practical, oral, etc)
 - Field Internship/Clinical Hours
 - Consider current licensure or certifications for skills evaluated
2. What licensure levels require a course physician for their Transition and Initial IEC courses?
 - Transition Courses: All license levels now require a designated course physician for Transition courses.
 - EMR and EMT Initial IEC Courses: They require a designated course physician, but the physician can identify designees that are authorized to determine competency in their stead.
 - AEMT and Paramedic Initial IEC Courses: They require a designated course physician.

Important Links

1. Idaho EMS Webpage
 - a. www.IdahoEMS.org
 - b. Scope of Practice Transition Webpage
 - i. [Hyperlink](#)
2. EMS Physician Commission webpage:
 - c. [Hyperlink](#)
 - d. EMSPC Standards Manual
 - e. Scope of Practice Grid (Appendix A of EMSPC Standards Manual)

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