

STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH



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OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES *OEMS COMMUNICATIONS STATEMENT 17-02*

Date: January 19, 2017

To: All Connecticut certified EMS Instructors

From: Terry DeVito, Ed.D, RN, LP, EMSI, CHCQM
Training & Education Coordinator, OEMS

Re: New versions for EMR Certification and EMR/EMT Recertification Exams

OEMS is pleased to announce that the new version of the written exams will be rolled out for use for all candidates testing beginning February 1, 2017

The new exam was constructed by a committee of EMS providers from across the state. The questions were developed from the competencies described by the National EMS Scope of Practice Model for EMS Professionals and the 2009 National Educational Standards. This committee worked with a professional test construction organization - I/O Solutions - to develop the test bank of questions that were vetted through a professional process meeting the criteria for job-relatedness, accuracy, content validity, difficulty indexing, and reliability. I believe this 2016 version will meet your expectations.

Much thanks is given to Kevin Brown and the committee members for their diligence and hard work during this process.

As in the past, the exams will not be available for discussion or review by anyone. While we understand a candidate's desire to "see" the test and evaluate his/her own performance, this is a credentialing process and not an educational setting where such discussion assists with the learning process.

The exams administered by OEMS validate a provider's ability to function in the role he/she will be certified/licensed in. The exams must be kept secured in order to maintain content validity and reliability for the credentialing process. This is the same standard for any licensing/certification process for all health career fields, statewide and nationally. In this way test security and validity is maintained and provider competency measured.



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The caution I will provide at this point is a reminder to all instructors and potential candidates that the state exams/certifying process is based on the National Scope of Practice and National EMS Education Standards, *not* local protocol. Local protocol adherence is up to the sponsor hospital to validate.

Thank you all for your continued hard work and support of Connecticut's EMS educational process. Feel free to contact me or your Regional Coordinator with concerns or suggestions.