



C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner

*Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment.*

**Memorandum**

Date: November 2, 2009

To: All EMS Agencies  
All EMT Advanced Training Centers

From: Alonzo W. Smith, Director

Re: Changes to State Written Examination

Effective January 1, 2010, the Division of EMS and Trauma will begin using the National Registry's Assessment Examination as our new "state" written exam for Intermediate and Paramedic candidates who fall under the "state-only" rule. Use of the National Registry Assessment Examination will ensure our method for evaluating the cognitive skills of our state-only candidates is consistent across all certification types and levels.

The assessment exam will be used to recertify Intermediates and Paramedics who fall into the following categories:

- I. Those who have allowed their South Carolina certification to expire.  
*Note: Upon successful completion of both the practical and assessment exams, candidates from this category will receive a provisional certification. They will be required to obtain a National Registry credential to recertify in the future.*
- II. Those who became certified prior to the 2006 revision of Regulation 61-7 and have maintained their state certification.

The procedure for taking the new "state" written examination is similar to those seeking a National Registry credential. EMTs must first create a profile on-line with the National Registry ([www.nremt.org](http://www.nremt.org)) and complete an application. Under "Application Level", the state-only candidate will select "Assessment - (Intermediate or Paramedic)" as appropriate for their level from the drop down menu. They will then select their state (SC) and "Other" as the reason for testing. Once they pay their fee for the assessment examination, they will receive an ATT letter (Authorization to Test) giving them the information to set up an appointment at a Pearson-Vue testing center for their examination.

If you have any questions, please contact Don Whiteley or Jennifer Paddock at 803-545-4204.