

## 1 VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY — CHAPTER

2 *An Act to amend and reenact § 32.1-111.5 of the Code of Virginia, relating to emergency medical*  
3 *services personnel; certification.*

4 [H 2279]

5 Approved

6 **Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**7 **1. That § 32.1-111.5 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

8 § 32.1-111.5. Certification and recertification of emergency medical services personnel.

9 A. The Board shall prescribe by regulation the qualifications required for certification of emergency  
10 medical care attendants, including those qualifications necessary for authorization to follow Do Not  
11 Resuscitate Orders pursuant to § 54.1-2987.1. *Such regulations shall include criteria for determining*  
12 *whether an applicant's relevant practical experience and didactic and clinical components of education*  
13 *and training completed during his service as a member of any branch of the armed forces of the United*  
14 *States may be accepted by the Commissioner as evidence of satisfaction of the requirements for*  
15 *certification.*

16 B. Each person desiring certification as emergency medical services personnel shall apply to the  
17 Commissioner upon a form prescribed by the Board. Upon receipt of such application, the  
18 Commissioner shall cause the applicant to be examined or otherwise determined to be qualified for  
19 certification. *When determining whether an applicant is qualified for certification, the Commissioner*  
20 *shall consider and may accept relevant practical experience and didactic and clinical components of*  
21 *education and training completed by an applicant during his service as a member of any branch of the*  
22 *armed forces of the United States as evidence of satisfaction of the requirements for certification.* If the  
23 Commissioner determines that the applicant meets the requirements ~~of such regulations~~ *for certification*  
24 *as emergency medical services personnel*, he shall issue a certificate to the applicant. An emergency  
25 medical services personnel certificate so issued shall be valid for a period required by law or prescribed  
26 by the Board. The certificates may be renewed after successful reexamination of the holder. Any  
27 certificate so issued may be suspended at any time that the Commissioner determines that the holder no  
28 longer meets the qualifications prescribed for such emergency medical services personnel. The  
29 Commissioner may temporarily suspend any certificate without notice, pending a hearing or informal  
30 fact-finding conference, if the Commissioner finds that there is a substantial danger to public health or  
31 safety. When the Commissioner has temporarily suspended a certificate pending a hearing, the  
32 Commissioner shall seek an expedited hearing in accordance with the Administrative Process Act  
33 (§ 2.2-4000 et seq.).

34 C. The Board shall prescribe by regulation procedures and the qualifications required for the  
35 recertification of emergency medical services personnel. Such regulations shall include (i) authorization  
36 for continuing education and skills testing, in lieu of a written examination, with the signature of the  
37 relevant operational medical director; (ii) authorization for the relevant operational medical director to  
38 require the written examinations administered or approved by the Office of Emergency Medical  
39 Services, as deemed necessary, of certain emergency medical services personnel; (iii) authorization for  
40 exemptions from the written test for recertification by the relevant operational medical director; (iv)  
41 triennial recertification of advanced life support providers; (v) approval by the Office of Emergency  
42 Medical Services of continuing education modules in which each module may be tested separately; and  
43 (vi) effective on January 1, 1998, a sequential option for the completion of the skills tests for  
44 recertification.

45 D. The Commissioner may issue a temporary certificate when he finds that it is in the public interest.  
46 A temporary certificate shall be valid for a period not exceeding ninety days.

ENROLLED

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