

**Emergency Medical Services Division**

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[www.kingcounty.gov/health](http://www.kingcounty.gov/health)

## **EMS Reciprocity Requirements for King County, Washington State**

In King County there are two recognized levels of pre-hospital care, Paramedic and EMT. In all counties in Washington State except for King, you may be able to reciprocate your current recognized level of care. In King County, you can only reciprocate as an EMT. The following steps are required to gain reciprocity as an EMT from other states or the National Registry.

**Step # 1:** Complete a Department of Health approved HIV/AIDS Prevention class (Note: you must complete the 7-hour course approved for Washington State). Listed below is a link to approved organizations that have an internet based application that can help you meet this requirement.

[HIV/AIDS Classes for Licensure - HIV Prevention - HIV/AIDS - Washington St Dept of Health](#)

**Step # 2:** If you do not already possess a National Registry Basic Card, you will need to obtain one. If you have a National Registry Card and have not retested within a year from the time it was issued then you will need to take the National Registry Assessment Exam for Washington State. This exam is administered through the National Registry. Information on how to do this can be found at: [NREMT - Written Exam Information](#)

Frequently asked questions about the exam can be seen at the following link:

[EMT Testing in Washington State](#)

**Step # 3** Complete parts 1-3 of the **EMS Reciprocity / Challenge Application Packet** found at the link below. Be sure to read the instructions and complete it in ink. If you have any question on this application please call (360) 236-4700 to speak to someone for clarification.

[EMS Reciprocity / Challenge Application Packet](#)

**Step # 4:**     **Complete the EMS Verification Form (part 4 of the application).** After completing the EMS Verification Form send it directly to the state EMS office in which you obtained your credential. If you do not, it will delay your Washington State credential from being issued.

You can usually find the address for your state office by using the internet. Use your favorite internet search to search for YOUR State then EMS. The purpose of this form allows the state from where you hold your current certification to disclose your EMS records to Washington State. If you are only National Registry Certified you do not need to complete this part of the application.

**Step # 5:**     Please **DO NOT** send the documents to the address on the EMS Reciprocity / Challenge Application Packet.

Send the following documents to my office:

- 1) Original **EMS Reciprocity / Challenge Application** completed in ink (Step 3).
- 2) Copy of the completion **certificate from the HIV/AIDS Prevention Class** (Step1).
- 3) Copy of your current **State and / or National Registry EMT card.**
- 4) Copy of your **EMT course completion certificate from your class** (if you have it)
- 5) Copy of **Picture ID** (Note: Both the text and picture must be legible).

Please mail these documents to:

Blake Marcus Harrison, Program Manager  
EMS Licensing and Certification  
King County Emergency Medical Services  
401 – 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Suite 1200  
Seattle, Washington 98104

**Step # 6:**     **EMS Supervisor / Medical Program Director Signature Form.** This is the last part of the application process and the form is in your Application packet. You are eligible for certification as an EMT in Washington State when you become associated with a DOH-licensed/approved prehospital EMS agency. Your next step is to gain association with a pre-hospital EMS agency such as ambulance or fire service in Washington State. Listed below is a link with agencies in Washington State that you may be able to affiliate with to get your

Washington State EMT credential. You will need to contact them directly for available opportunities.

### [Licensed EMS Agencies](#)

For those seeking an ER or surgery Tech position, these are not considered to be pre-hospital EMS agencies and will not work in order to obtain a Washington State credential. Depending on the institution your National Registry certification may suffice instead, you will need to check with the institution that you wish to seek employment with for clarification.

When you find an supervising EMS agency with which to associate , you will need to complete the EMS Supervisor / Medical Program Director Signature Form with your prospective agency in which you wish to work or volunteer.. Your agency supervisor will then send it to our office for MPD signature. We will then send it to the Washington State Department of Health (DOH) who will then issue your credential. An EMT card will be mailed to you at the address on the application within 6 weeks time. If there is a problem with your application DOH will contact you directly for clarification by letter.

If you have any further questions regarding reciprocity or challenge in King County, you may contact Blake Harrison at (206) 263-8576 or by e-mail at: [blake.harrison@kingcounty.gov](mailto:blake.harrison@kingcounty.gov)

For additional information about EMS in Washington State please see:  
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/hsqa/emstrauma/default.htm>