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Georgia's EMS Community,

Over the past several license renewal cycles, the Office of EMS and Trauma (“OEMS”) has received many comments and requests from our EMS community seeking to have Georgia's renewal cycle align with the National Registry of EMT's (“NREMT”) recertification cycle. Both cycles are two years in length. While Georgia's renewal cycle is fixed, running even year to even year, the NREMT's recertification cycle is staggered and is based on the month of initial certification, either January to June or July to December.

We listened and have determined that changing Georgia's license renewal cycle to mirror the NREMT renewal cycle will be beneficial to the EMS Community. Therefore, effective July 1, 2015, OEMS has adopted the NREMT renewal cycle for all EMS personnel licensed by the department.

How will it work, since the current Georgia license cycle ends next year on June 30, 2016?

All EMS personnel with an active Georgia license that expires on June 30, 2016, will receive a 9-month extension and be issued a new Georgia license identification that shows a March 31, 2017, expiration date.

EMS personnel with an active Georgia license and who were licensed between January 1, 2015 and June 30, 2015, will see their licensed period reduced from June 30, 2018 to March 31, 2017, in order for their Georgia license to match their NREMT certification.

Important Note: Maintaining NREMT certification is optional and **IS NOT** required for Georgia license renewal.

During this transition period there will likely be complications, such as someone who's Georgia license and NREMT certification both expire in 2016. If you have a concern or a potential complication, please contact OEMS via email at: dph-phemsinfo@dph.ga.gov.



How will the continuing education requirement be effected by this change?

EMS personnel whose Georgia license expiration is changed to March 31, 2017, will have until that date to complete their continuing education requirement. The current continuing education requirement is 40 hours with 24 hours of general EMS content, 8 hours of pediatric content, 4 hours of cardiovascular content and 4 hours of trauma content.

Will the license renewal fee change?

No, the license renewal fee will remain at \$75.00 and will be due at renewal on March 31, 2017.

How does this change affect people who apply for a Georgia EMS license on July 1, 2015 or later?

All Georgia EMS licenses issued on July 1, 2015 or later, will have expiration dates that match the applicant's NREMT expiration date.

What do I need to do?

No action is required at this time. OEMS anticipates having new license identifications mailed to all affected EMS personnel on or before December 31, 2015.

In closing, I want to thank each and every one of you for the service that you provide to your communities and our state. We have the best EMS providers in the nation.

Sincerely,



R. Keith Wages, Director
Office of EMS and Trauma
Georgia Department of Public Health