

Certification Policies for Emergency Trauma Technicians



Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT)

The Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) program is a statewide training and certification system designed to provide foundational emergency medical response education for individuals and organizations serving Alaska's rural, industrial, and frontier communities.

Program Information Section

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The ETT program is managed by Southeast Region EMS Council in partnership with the State of Alaska Office of Emergency Medical Services.

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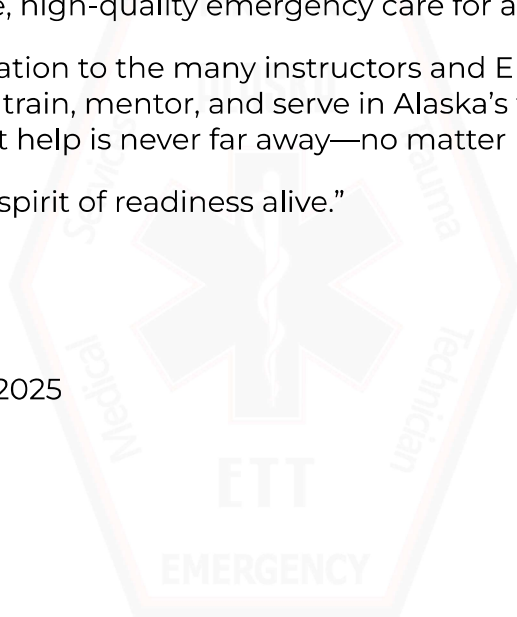
Acknowledgments

The continued growth of Alaska's Emergency Trauma Technician Program is made possible through the collaboration and commitment of instructors, regional EMS directors, and Community Health Aide Program (CHAP) coordinators who share a common vision of accessible, high-quality emergency care for all Alaskans.

We extend heartfelt appreciation to the many instructors and EMS providers who give their time, skill, and heart to train, mentor, and serve in Alaska's frontier communities. Your dedication ensures that help is never far away—no matter how remote the road.

"Together, we keep Alaska's spirit of readiness alive."

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1. Purpose	2
2. Standard of Care	3
ETT Standard of Care	3
3. Approved Training Courses	4
All ETT training courses must:	4
4. CPR and Basic Life Support	4
5. Examinations for Initial Certification	5
5.1 Administration	5
5.2 Passing Criteria	5
5.3 Examination Failures	5
6. Examination for Recertification	5
6.1 Administration	5
6.2 Exam Failures	5
7. Application for Certification	5
7.1 Initial Certification	5
7.2 Renewal of Certification (Current)	6
7.4 Expired > 12 months	6
8. Term of Certification	7
9. Certification Fee	7
10. Reciprocity	7
11. Youth Responder Policy	8
12. Curriculum and Materials	8
13. Textbook and Supply Ordering	8
14. Suspension, Revocation, or Denial of Certification	8
15. Criminal History and Disclosure	9

Emergency Trauma Technician-ETT Certification Policies

1. Purpose

The purpose of these policies is to ensure consistent and high-quality training, certification, and recertification of Emergency Trauma Technicians (ETTs). These policies support alignment with Alaska Administrative Code (7 AAC 26.410 – 7 AAC 26.490) and standardize expectations for instructors, training programs, and certification processes.

The following terms are used throughout these policies to promote consistency and understanding across ETT training programs:

ETT Learning Objectives – The approved list of knowledge and performance standards required for certification as an Emergency Trauma Technician.

ETT Competency Records – The collection of all skill evaluations and competency documentation completed during an ETT course or certification period.

ETT Practical Skills Portfolio – The collection of all practical skills required for certification or recertification.

ETT Skills Verification Sheet – The official sign off page of the ETT Practical Skills, verifying successful completion and demonstrated competency in all required skills.

State of Alaska LMS system - State of Alaska EMS Licensing Management System, also known as the **State EMS Portal**.

Vital Skills – Core hands-on and decision-making skills essential to providing safe, effective prehospital care (e.g., scene safety, patient assessment, airway management, bleeding control, splinting, environmental emergencies, and patient handoff). *It is strongly recommended that students practice these vital skills in scenarios designed to simulate their intended work environment.*

2. Standard of Care

ETT Standard of Care

Emergency Trauma Technicians embody the spirit of readiness and compassion that defines emergency care in Alaska. Often arriving in the most challenging conditions—remote, unpredictable, and vast—they are the steady hands and calm voices that bring care to those in crisis.

Within their scope of training, ETTs perform life-saving measures to improve patient safety, prevent further injury, and prepare patients for the next level of care. Their work bridges the gap between the moment of need and definitive medical treatment, often serving as the first contact in the continuum of care.

An Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) is authorized to perform vital life support skills as outlined in the ETT learning objectives and ETT Practical Skills Record. Each ETT course should provide ample opportunities for learners to practice and demonstrate their competency in these

skills through scenario-based training that reflects realistic work environments such as EMS, industrial, or community health settings.

These vital skills include, but are not limited to:

- Basic scene safety, with scene control and extrication
- Patient assessment
- Cardiac arrest management
- Airway management
- Bleeding control
- Splinting and spinal protection
- Environmental emergencies
- Transport and patient handoff to higher care

ETTs must operate within their scope of training and are expected to adhere to the most current version of the ETT curriculum learning objectives and minimum competencies published.

3. Approved Training Courses

All ETT training courses must:

- Be taught by a State of Alaska certified ETT Instructor or EMS Instructor;
- Follow the curriculum approved under 7 AAC 26.410 – 7 AAC 26.490;
- Be approved and documented in the Alaska EMS License Management System(LMS) <https://emsdata.chems.alaska.gov/licensure/public/alaska/portal#/login>

3.1 Initial ETT Course: An Initial Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) Course provides the foundational knowledge and skills required to become certified as an Emergency Trauma Technician. This course must meet the minimum hours and curriculum standards established under 7 AAC 26.450 and is taught by a State-approved ETT Instructor or EMS Instructor.

3.2. Refresher ETT Course: A Refresher Course is designed for currently certified ETTs seeking to maintain their active certification status or expired ETTs (expired less than 12 months) seeking to renew their active certification status. The course provides a review of essential knowledge, updates on protocol or regulatory changes, and a practical skills assessment to verify continued competency. This course is taught by a State-approved ETT Instructor or EMS Instructor.

3.3. Continuing Medical Education (CME) Course: CME courses offer ongoing training and education opportunities for certified ETTs to expand or refresh their knowledge and skills. CME content may focus on specific patient care topics, equipment updates, or advanced training areas. Completion of approved CME hours may be used to support renewal requirements when applicable.

4. CPR and Basic Life Support

Initial ETT courses include comprehensive instruction and evaluation in all components of ILCOR current CPR standards including one- and two-rescuer CPR, airway management, including the use of barrier devices and automated external defibrillators (AEDs). These essential

skills are fully integrated into the ETT curriculum, allowing new students to demonstrate competency without requiring a separate CPR certification card at the time of initial training.

Instructors are encouraged to strengthen this learning through relevant and practical resources—such as healthcare or wilderness First Aid modules, workplace-specific training videos, or other instructional materials that reflect the environments where ETTs may serve.

For renewal or recertification, ETTs must hold a current Basic Life Support (BLS) or equivalent healthcare-level CPR certification (meeting the State of Alaska policy on approved CPR programs), reflecting their continued commitment to maintaining proficiency in these life-saving measures. See this link for the state of Alaska policy for approved [CPR programs](#).

5. Examinations for Initial Certification

5.1 Administration

- Initial Exams must be administered and graded by a certified ETT or EMS Instructor. *The written exam may be read aloud to students by the instructor or a designee.*
- The exam includes both a written (cognitive) exam and a hands-on evaluation of skills using the ETT Practical Skill Records.
**Only SEREMS may modify the written exam. No alternate versions may be used without written approval. To obtain the most current version of the exam send an email to ETT@serems.org*

5.2 Passing Criteria

- Written Exam: Minimum passing score of 70%
- Practical skills: All required skills must be demonstrated successfully.

5.3 Examination Failures

- Three failed attempts on the written exam and / or the inability to demonstrate all required Vital skills requires the completion of a refresher course
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6. Examination for Recertification

6.1 Administration

- Renewal certification does not require a written cognitive exam.
- The ETT Practical Skill evaluations remain required and must be verified by two peers and either a state of Alaska EMS instructor or a current EMT-I (or higher) provider.

6.2 Exam Failures

- Inability to effectively complete all required components of the practical skills require a refresher course or other instructor-led remediation.
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7. Application for Certification

7.1 Initial Certification

To be eligible for initial ETT certification, applicants must:

- Be at least 14 years of age;
- Successfully complete a State of Alaska-approved ETT Initial training course;
- Pass both: the ETT written final exam and complete all of the Practical Skill Evaluations within 12 months of course completion, verification must be by a state-certified Instructor;
- Submit an ETT initial application via the [State of Alaska Licensing Management System](#).

7.2 Renewal of Certification (Current)

Applicants who are currently ETT certified must:

- Complete at least 16 hours of Continuing Medical Education (CME) or an approved refresher course;
- Submit a peer-reviewed and signed practical skills verification sheet (verified by a state of Alaska EMT-1 or higher);
- Hold a current CPR credential as listed for all EMS levels in [the state policy for approved CPR programs](#);
- Submit an ETT renewal application along with practical skills verification sheet via the [State of Alaska LMS system](#)

7.3 Renewal of Certification (Expired ≤ 12 months)

Individuals whose ETT certification has expired are **not authorized to practice or represent themselves as Emergency Trauma Technicians** until their certification has been renewed and verified as active.

Applicants with an ETT certification that has been expired for fewer than 12 months must:

- Complete an approved ETT refresher course;
- Submit a peer-reviewed and signed practical skills verification sheet (verified by a state of Alaska EMT-1 or higher);
- Hold a current CPR certification as listed for all EMS levels in [the state policy for approved CPR programs](#);
- Submit an ETT renewal application along with practical skills verification sheet via the [State of Alaska LMS system](#)

7.4 Expired > 12 months

Individuals whose ETT certification has expired are **not authorized to practice or represent themselves as Emergency Trauma Technicians** until their certification has been renewed and verified as active. Applicants with a certification expired for more than one year must:

- Re-enroll in and complete a full initial ETT course, and
- Complete an application for initial ETT certification.

8. Term of Certification

- ETT certification is valid for two years from the date of issuance.
- A 60-day extension may be granted by contacting SEREMS at ETT@serems.org, along with a \$25 extension fee.

9. Certification Fee

The certification fee of \$25 per applicant covers registration in the State of Alaska LMS system and includes downloadable wall certificates and wallet cards.



Payment may be made in one of the following ways:

- By Instructor: Instructors may submit a single group payment for their entire class through the SEREMS website at <https://serems.org/shop>. When doing so, the instructor must have the corresponding course number during checkout.
- By Individual Student: Students may submit their certification fee directly through the SEREMS website at <https://serems.org/shop>.
- By Purchase Order: Instructors, schools, or agencies may arrange payment through a purchase order by contacting finance@serems.org prior to the start of the course. SEREMS will provide an invoice and payment instructions when the class is completed and closed.

Youth applicants (under age 18 or enrolled in a high school ETT course) are exempt from this fee. Instructors offering youth courses should email finance@serems.org with the course number at the completion of training to request a fee waiver. Students should note their high school program on their State LMS application.

10. Reciprocity

Applicants who hold a current and valid Emergency Medical Responder (EMR) or Wilderness First Responder (WFR) certification may apply for Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) certification through reciprocity.

To be considered, the applicant must review the ETT Learning Objectives available on the SEREMS website and meet with a State of Alaska–approved ETT or EMS Instructor to compare the scope and depth of training. If the instructor determines that the applicant's prior education and experience are comparable to the ETT learning objectives, and practical skills records, the instructor will [submit the following documentation](#):

- Proof of current credentials (EMR or WFR certification)
- Verification that the prior training meets or exceeds ETT learning objectives
- A completed ETT Practical Skills Verification Sheet
- Successful completion of the ETT Cognitive Exam (Electronic testing is available upon request).

Applicants should be aware that not all Wilderness First Responder courses meet reciprocity standards. Some WFR courses are brief introductory or refresher classes and may not provide adequate depth or coverage of medical skills to meet Alaska ETT learning objectives. Each application will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis to ensure compliance with state standards and consistency in certification.

Once reciprocity is approved, the applicant must complete and submit an Initial ETT Application through the [State of Alaska License Management System](#) to obtain official certification.

11. Youth Responder Policy

SEREMS supports ETT training access for youth ages 14–18. **Certification fees are waived** for youth 18 and under or enrolled in a high school ETT course. Instructors are asked to request a youth fee waiver from finance@serems.org.

12. Curriculum and Materials

Instructors must:

- Apply for course approval through the [State of Alaska LMS system](#).
- Use the most current SEREMS ETT curriculum including ETT Learning objectives and ETT Skill Records (available on [our website](#));
- Reference the SEREMS ETT Manual (recommended) or an EMR textbook;
- Administer the [current SEREMS-approved exam](#); (revised September 2025)
- Document completed course in the State LMS system including exam scores and practical skills verification sheets for each student.
- Course management help pages are available on our website: <https://serems.org/ett-course-management-update-for-instructors/>

13. Textbook and Supply Ordering

ETT Patches, T-shirts, pins, and textbooks may be ordered through the SEREMS website: <https://serems.org/shop>



14. Suspension, Revocation, or Denial of Certification

SEREMS reserves the right to suspend, revoke, or deny certification based on failure to comply with training, conduct, or documentation requirements as established in state regulation or these policies.

15. Criminal History and Disclosure

To protect patients, maintain public trust, and uphold professional standards, the Southeast Region EMS Council (SEREMS) expects all Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) students, instructors, and certified providers to demonstrate integrity, professionalism, and sound moral character.

In small communities where formal human resources systems are not in place, individuals with a history of criminal convictions—including but not limited to offenses involving violence, sexual misconduct, or substance-related driving offenses (such as DUI) are expected to disclose this information to their local EMS leadership or agency representative prior to engaging in patient care activities. This disclosure allows local teams to make informed decisions regarding duty status, safety, and community trust.

SEREMS does not currently perform formal background checks, but reserves the right to request documentation or conduct verification if concerns arise.

All disclosures need to be handled with discretion and respect for privacy, consistent with the responsibility to protect patients and uphold the integrity of the EMS profession.

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