

Computer testing Q&A

By now you know that as of January 1, 2007, all testing for EMS certification and licensure will be done through National Registry of EMTs at Pearson VUE testing sites located across the state. What does that mean for you? In this issue and the next, we'll run Frequently Asked Questions about computer-adaptive testing (CAT), and we also will publish the locations of testing sites once we get confirmation from NREMT and Pearson VUE. You also can check our website for more articles about computer testing and other information.

Q. When will the computerized test results be available?

A. Scores will be available on the NREMT website (www.nremt.org) in most cases the next business day after the candidate has completed the exam. A results letter will be mailed to the candidate within two to four weeks.

Q. Do I have to be an experienced computer user and be able to type to take the computer-based examination?

A. The computer testing system has been designed so that it can be used by those with even minimal computer experience and typing skills. A tutorial will be available to each candidate at the testing center prior to taking the examination.

Q. When will the exams be administered?

A. In most cases, whenever a candidate wants to schedule it. The NREMT exam will be available during the day, in the evening and on some weekends.

Q. Where will the computerized tests be administered?

A. The NREMT exam will be offered through Pearson VUE's extensive testing network, which includes hundreds of testing centers across the United States. *Texas EMS Magazine* will publish Pearson VUE locations for Texas when confirmed.

Q. If the closest Pearson VUE test center is in another state, can I test outside my state border?

A. Candidates can test at any Pearson VUE test center in the United States. The exam is the same regardless of which state it is taken in.

Q. Can exams be scheduled online?

A. Exams can be scheduled online at the Pearson VUE website or by calling a toll-free number after the candidate has received confirmation from the NREMT that he or she has successfully completed all of the necessary application steps.

Q. Once an exam appointment is scheduled, can it be changed or canceled?

A. Yes. Each candidate must contact Pearson VUE directly to cancel or change an appointment to test. This must occur no less than 24 hours prior to the appointment or the candidate will be charged for the exam.

Q. What is the cost to take the computer-based NREMT exam?

A. Exam fees, effective January 1, 2007:

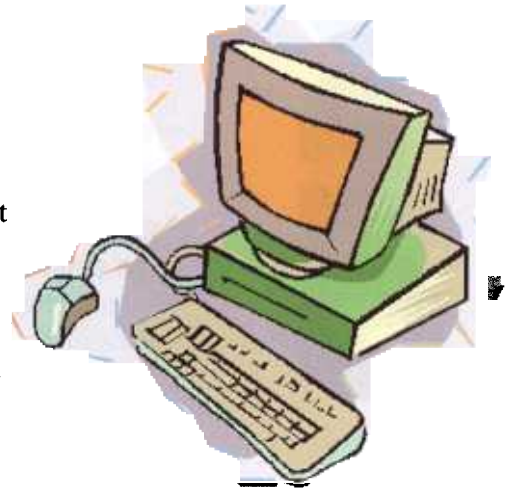
EMT Level	Exam Fee
First Responder	\$65
EMT-Basic	\$70
EMT-Intermediate/85	\$100
EMT-Intermediate/99	\$100
Paramedic	\$110

The move to computer testing comes with an increase in price.

These fees cover both the testing center fee and the NREMT registration fee. Texas certification and licensing fees are **additional** and are paid directly to DSHS. Volunteers are not exempt from NREMT/testing center fees.

Q. Why is the price of the exam increasing?

A. National Registry is committed to keeping its fees as low as possible. This is only the second time that the price of the NREMT exam has changed in the 35 years since its inception. While National Registry successfully negotiated a very competitive price for computer-based administration of the NREMT exams, there are real costs associated with the increased levels of security and additional services offered by



implementing computer-based testing. We now have professional testing centers equipped with state-of-the-art technology to provide the best security and testing experience for candidates. Candidates have more flexibility in scheduling their exams. And making the exams computer-based allows faster results. The exams also are being converted to adaptive exams to deliver more precise and efficient assessment.