



## 102ND GENERAL ASSEMBLY

### State of Illinois

2021 and 2022

HB3571

Introduced 2/22/2021, by Rep. David A. Welter

#### SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

210 ILCS 50/3.50

Amends the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems Act. Provides that an Illinois licensed EMR, EMD, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or PHRN whose license has expired may, within 6 months after license expiration, apply for relicensure, show compliance with all relicensure requirements, and submit the required relicensure fees, including a late fee, and, after that 6-month period, may apply for reinstatement.

LRB102 14694 CPF 20047 b

1 AN ACT concerning regulation.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 5. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems  
5 Act is amended by changing Section 3.50 as follows:

6 (210 ILCS 50/3.50)

7 Sec. 3.50. Emergency Medical Services personnel licensure  
8 levels.

9 (a) "Emergency Medical Technician" or "EMT" means a person  
10 who has successfully completed a course in basic life support  
11 as approved by the Department, is currently licensed by the  
12 Department in accordance with standards prescribed by this Act  
13 and rules adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act, and  
14 practices within an EMS System. A valid Emergency Medical  
15 Technician-Basic (EMT-B) license issued under this Act shall  
16 continue to be valid and shall be recognized as an Emergency  
17 Medical Technician (EMT) license until the Emergency Medical  
18 Technician-Basic (EMT-B) license expires.

19 (b) "Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate" or "EMT-I"  
20 means a person who has successfully completed a course in  
21 intermediate life support as approved by the Department, is  
22 currently licensed by the Department in accordance with  
23 standards prescribed by this Act and rules adopted by the

1 Department pursuant to this Act, and practices within an  
2 Intermediate or Advanced Life Support EMS System.

3 (b-5) "Advanced Emergency Medical Technician" or "A-EMT"  
4 means a person who has successfully completed a course in  
5 basic and limited advanced emergency medical care as approved  
6 by the Department, is currently licensed by the Department in  
7 accordance with standards prescribed by this Act and rules  
8 adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act, and practices  
9 within an Intermediate or Advanced Life Support EMS System.

10 (c) "Paramedic (EMT-P)" means a person who has  
11 successfully completed a course in advanced life support care  
12 as approved by the Department, is licensed by the Department  
13 in accordance with standards prescribed by this Act and rules  
14 adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act, and practices  
15 within an Advanced Life Support EMS System. A valid Emergency  
16 Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) license issued under this  
17 Act shall continue to be valid and shall be recognized as a  
18 Paramedic license until the Emergency Medical  
19 Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) license expires.

20 (c-5) "Emergency Medical Responder" or "EMR (First  
21 Responder)" means a person who has successfully completed a  
22 course in emergency medical response as approved by the  
23 Department and provides emergency medical response services  
24 prior to the arrival of an ambulance or specialized emergency  
25 medical services vehicle, in accordance with the level of care  
26 established by the National EMS Educational Standards

1 Emergency Medical Responder course as modified by the  
2 Department. An Emergency Medical Responder who provides  
3 services as part of an EMS System response plan shall comply  
4 with the applicable sections of the Program Plan, as approved  
5 by the Department, of that EMS System. The Department shall  
6 have the authority to adopt rules governing the curriculum,  
7 practice, and necessary equipment applicable to Emergency  
8 Medical Responders.

9 On August 15, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act  
10 98-973), a person who is licensed by the Department as a First  
11 Responder and has completed a Department-approved course in  
12 first responder defibrillator training based on, or equivalent  
13 to, the National EMS Educational Standards or other standards  
14 previously recognized by the Department shall be eligible for  
15 licensure as an Emergency Medical Responder upon meeting the  
16 licensure requirements and submitting an application to the  
17 Department. A valid First Responder license issued under this  
18 Act shall continue to be valid and shall be recognized as an  
19 Emergency Medical Responder license until the First Responder  
20 license expires.

21 (c-10) All EMS Systems and licensees shall be fully  
22 compliant with the National EMS Education Standards, as  
23 modified by the Department in administrative rules, within 24  
24 months after the adoption of the administrative rules.

25 (d) The Department shall have the authority and  
26 responsibility to:

1           (1) Prescribe education and training requirements,  
2           which includes training in the use of epinephrine, for all  
3           levels of EMS personnel except for EMRs, based on the  
4           National EMS Educational Standards and any modifications  
5           to those curricula specified by the Department through  
6           rules adopted pursuant to this Act.

7           (2) Prescribe licensure testing requirements for all  
8           levels of EMS personnel, which shall include a requirement  
9           that all phases of instruction, training, and field  
10          experience be completed before taking the appropriate  
11          licensure examination. Candidates may elect to take the  
12          appropriate National Registry examination in lieu of the  
13          Department's examination, but are responsible for making  
14          their own arrangements for taking the National Registry  
15          examination. In prescribing licensure testing requirements  
16          for honorably discharged members of the armed forces of  
17          the United States under this paragraph (2), the Department  
18          shall ensure that a candidate's military emergency medical  
19          training, emergency medical curriculum completed, and  
20          clinical experience, as described in paragraph (2.5), are  
21          recognized.

22          (2.5) Review applications for EMS personnel licensure  
23          from honorably discharged members of the armed forces of  
24          the United States with military emergency medical  
25          training. Applications shall be filed with the Department  
26          within one year after military discharge and shall

1 contain: (i) proof of successful completion of military  
2 emergency medical training; (ii) a detailed description of  
3 the emergency medical curriculum completed; and (iii) a  
4 detailed description of the applicant's clinical  
5 experience. The Department may request additional and  
6 clarifying information. The Department shall evaluate the  
7 application, including the applicant's training and  
8 experience, consistent with the standards set forth under  
9 subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) of Section 3.10. If the  
10 application clearly demonstrates that the training and  
11 experience meet such standards, the Department shall offer  
12 the applicant the opportunity to successfully complete a  
13 Department-approved EMS personnel examination for the  
14 level of license for which the applicant is qualified.  
15 Upon passage of an examination, the Department shall issue  
16 a license, which shall be subject to all provisions of  
17 this Act that are otherwise applicable to the level of EMS  
18 personnel license issued.

19 (3) License individuals as an EMR, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT,  
20 or Paramedic who have met the Department's education,  
21 training and examination requirements.

22 (4) Prescribe annual continuing education and  
23 relicensure requirements for all EMS personnel licensure  
24 levels.

25 (5) Relicense individuals as an EMD, EMR, EMT, EMT-I,  
26 A-EMT, PHRN, PHAPRN, PHPA, or Paramedic every 4 years,

1 based on their compliance with continuing education and  
2 relicensure requirements as required by the Department  
3 pursuant to this Act. Every 4 years, a Paramedic shall  
4 have 100 hours of approved continuing education, an EMT-I  
5 and an advanced EMT shall have 80 hours of approved  
6 continuing education, and an EMT shall have 60 hours of  
7 approved continuing education. An Illinois licensed EMR,  
8 EMD, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or  
9 PHRN whose license has expired may, within 6 months after  
10 license expiration, apply for relicensure, show compliance  
11 with all relicensure requirements, and submit the required  
12 relicensure fees, including a late fee. An Illinois  
13 licensed EMR, EMD, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN,  
14 PHPA, PHAPRN, or PHRN whose license has been expired for  
15 more than 6 months but less than 36 months may apply for  
16 reinstatement by the Department. Reinstatement shall  
17 require that the applicant (i) submit satisfactory proof  
18 of completion of continuing medical education and clinical  
19 requirements to be prescribed by the Department in an  
20 administrative rule; (ii) submit a positive recommendation  
21 from an Illinois EMS Medical Director attesting to the  
22 applicant's qualifications for retesting; and (iii) pass a  
23 Department approved test for the level of EMS personnel  
24 license sought to be reinstated.

25 (6) Grant inactive status to any EMR, EMD, EMT, EMT-I,  
26 A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN, PHAPRN, PHPA, or PHRN who

1           qualifies, based on standards and procedures established  
2           by the Department in rules adopted pursuant to this Act.

3           (7) Charge a fee for EMS personnel examination,  
4           licensure, and license renewal.

5           (8) Suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew the  
6           license of any licensee, after an opportunity for an  
7           impartial hearing before a neutral administrative law  
8           judge appointed by the Director, where the preponderance  
9           of the evidence shows one or more of the following:

10           (A) The licensee has not met continuing education  
11           or relicensure requirements as prescribed by the  
12           Department;

13           (B) The licensee has failed to maintain  
14           proficiency in the level of skills for which he or she  
15           is licensed;

16           (C) The licensee, during the provision of medical  
17           services, engaged in dishonorable, unethical, or  
18           unprofessional conduct of a character likely to  
19           deceive, defraud, or harm the public;

20           (D) The licensee has failed to maintain or has  
21           violated standards of performance and conduct as  
22           prescribed by the Department in rules adopted pursuant  
23           to this Act or his or her EMS System's Program Plan;

24           (E) The licensee is physically impaired to the  
25           extent that he or she cannot physically perform the  
26           skills and functions for which he or she is licensed,

1 as verified by a physician, unless the person is on  
2 inactive status pursuant to Department regulations;

3 (F) The licensee is mentally impaired to the  
4 extent that he or she cannot exercise the appropriate  
5 judgment, skill and safety for performing the  
6 functions for which he or she is licensed, as verified  
7 by a physician, unless the person is on inactive  
8 status pursuant to Department regulations;

9 (G) The licensee has violated this Act or any rule  
10 adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act; or

11 (H) The licensee has been convicted (or entered a  
12 plea of guilty or nolo contendere ~~nolo contendere~~) by  
13 a court of competent jurisdiction of a Class X, Class  
14 1, or Class 2 felony in this State or an out-of-state  
15 equivalent offense.

16 (9) Prescribe education and training requirements in  
17 the administration and use of opioid antagonists for all  
18 levels of EMS personnel based on the National EMS  
19 Educational Standards and any modifications to those  
20 curricula specified by the Department through rules  
21 adopted pursuant to this Act.

22 (d-5) An EMR, EMD, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN,  
23 PHAPRN, PHPA, or PHRN who is a member of the Illinois National  
24 Guard or an Illinois State Trooper or who exclusively serves  
25 as a volunteer for units of local government with a population  
26 base of less than 5,000 or as a volunteer for a not-for-profit

1 organization that serves a service area with a population base  
2 of less than 5,000 may submit an application to the Department  
3 for a waiver of the fees described under paragraph (7) of  
4 subsection (d) of this Section on a form prescribed by the  
5 Department.

6 The education requirements prescribed by the Department  
7 under this Section must allow for the suspension of those  
8 requirements in the case of a member of the armed services or  
9 reserve forces of the United States or a member of the Illinois  
10 National Guard who is on active duty pursuant to an executive  
11 order of the President of the United States, an act of the  
12 Congress of the United States, or an order of the Governor at  
13 the time that the member would otherwise be required to  
14 fulfill a particular education requirement. Such a person must  
15 fulfill the education requirement within 6 months after his or  
16 her release from active duty.

17 (e) In the event that any rule of the Department or an EMS  
18 Medical Director that requires testing for drug use as a  
19 condition of the applicable EMS personnel license conflicts  
20 with or duplicates a provision of a collective bargaining  
21 agreement that requires testing for drug use, that rule shall  
22 not apply to any person covered by the collective bargaining  
23 agreement.

24 (f) At the time of applying for or renewing his or her  
25 license, an applicant for a license or license renewal may  
26 submit an email address to the Department. The Department

1 shall keep the email address on file as a form of contact for  
2 the individual. The Department shall send license renewal  
3 notices electronically and by mail to a licensee ~~all licensees~~  
4 who provides ~~provide~~ the Department with his or her email  
5 address. The notices shall be sent at least 60 days prior to  
6 the expiration date of the license.

7 (Source: P.A. 100-1082, eff. 8-24-19; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19;  
8 101-153, eff. 1-1-20; revised 12-3-19.)