



# Policy Statement

## Paramedic Practical Skill Exam (PSE)

### Background

The New York State Department of Health (Department), Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is responsible for overseeing New York State (NYS) EMS education and training programs, leading to NYS EMS certification. Courses leading to certification at all levels of Emergency Medical Technician are required to have all candidates seeking certification to pass a state practical skills exam for the level at which certification is sought.

### Purpose

This policy is intended to guide NYS EMS course sponsors who may be accepting EMS students to complete their certification process and educational objectives that lead to NYS EMS certification.

### Procedures

Effective January 1st, 2022, all original Paramedic Practical Skills Examinations will use the NREMT Paramedic Practical Skills Exam (PSE) process, scoring, and oversight. PSEs will be administered by a State Rep and/or an NREMT exam proctor assigned by the Bureau. All first attempts and initial re-tests will be required to be part of an approved NREMT PSE and must have an NREMT exam proctor assigned by the Bureau. This includes all Paramedic programs regardless of the student's eligibility to take the NREMT.

If a PSE site believes they will need more than one day to do initial tests and/or re-test (for example, re-test the next day or two days later) the PSE site should coordinate this request with Examination & Certification Unit Chief George "Drew" Chesney at least 30 days before the exam. The Bureau of EMS will work to accommodate these requests when scheduling permits. If this is not possible, a second PSE exam date would need to be scheduled at a later point in time.

All recertification PSEs may use the State or NREMT PSE to re-certify. The Bureau of EMS must be aware of the PSE, but a proctor may or may not be assigned to the state-only PSE exams.

The coordination of a BLS practical skills exam will no longer need to occur at the same time as the Paramedic PSE stations. Paramedic programs should utilize a portfolio method or skill sheets documenting BLS competency during the course. However, course administrators conducting a Paramedic recertification course should incorporate a BLS competency session to verify the candidate's proficiency with BLS skills. Verification of documentation of BLS competency may be requested by the State EMS representative at the time of the Paramedic PSE.