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Emergency Medical Services

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TO: Ohio's Chartered Fire Training Programs
Ohio's Accredited EMS Training Programs

FROM: Melvin R. House, Executive Director

DATE: March 30, 2018

SUBJECT: Division of EMS Computer-based Examination Delivery Enhancements

Effective April 24, 2018, in conjunction with the rollout of the Hazard Recognition Officer (HRO) and Fire Safety certification examinations, several enhancements to the computer-based test delivery platform will occur that affect **all certification examinations** delivered through the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS. We would like to review those specific changes with you so that your students will be prepared for the examinations at that time:

- A time elapsed counter will be visible on the screen that counts down the time remaining in the examination to help students pace themselves through the examination.
- The test items will be delivered individually (one at a time). The student will be able to answer the item, skip it for later and move on to the next item, or mark it to review later. After all the items have been delivered, and provided there is time remaining in the examination, the student will be able to go back and review all the items. Those items that were skipped or marked for review will be highlighted during the review process to assist the student in using the remaining time more efficiently.
- A student will be able to end the examination at any time he/she desires. No student will be forced to answer every single item before submitting their answers for scoring. The required minimum score to pass the examination will not be adjusted for those students who choose to end the examination before all items have been answered.
- Regardless of the number of items answered when the student chooses to end the examination, or when the maximum time limit has been reached, that attempt will count towards the maximum number of attempts permitted for that level of certification.

- At any point during the examination, when the maximum amount of time allowed for the examination has been reached, the test will end and the student will be graded on items answered up to that point. However, the required minimum score to pass the examination will not be adjusted for those students who are unable to complete the entire examination within the maximum time permitted.
- There is no penalty for guessing an answer. Items left blank will be scored as incorrect responses.
- Two-part examinations (FSI and HRO only)—because the HRO and FSI examinations contain two parts, namely a closed book portion and an open book portion, once Part 1 of the examination (closed book portion) is completed and reviewed by the student, the student will not be able to return to Part 1 of the examination for any reason. The student will immediately move on to Part 2 of the examination (open book portion), provided there is time remaining in the examination.

For example, when the student acknowledges that he/she has completed Part 1 (closed book portion) of the examination and acknowledges that no further changes can be made to any answer in Part 1 after completing the review, Part 2 (open book portion) of the examination will begin (provided there is time remaining in the examination). Part 2 (open book portion) will be the only accessible part for that examination.

Both Part 1 and Part 2 of the FSI and HRO examinations will contain the same navigation and review functions. When Part 2 of the examination is completed and reviewed before the maximum time limit has been reached, the student will submit all answers for official scoring.

The following chart identifies all fire certification examinations currently offered by the Ohio Department of Public Safety, Division of EMS for initial certification, reinstatement, and reciprocity applicants. The related Ohio Administrative Code for each level, the number of items contained in each examination, the required minimum passing criteria for each examination, and the maximum amount of time to complete each examination are also listed.

Please contact Rob Wagoner, DEMS Deputy Director, at 614.387.0454 with questions regarding the examination system enhancements.

| INITIAL CERTIFICATION | OAC | NUMBER OF ITEMS | MINIMUM PASSING CRITERIA | MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT |
|--|----------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Volunteer Firefighter | 4765-20-06 (A) | 70 | 70% | 1 hr. 45 min. |
| Firefighter I | 4765-20-06 (A) | 100 | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| Firefighter I and II | 4765-20-06 (A) | 130 | 70% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| Firefighter II (comprehensive FFI and II) | 4765-20-06 (A) | 130 | 70% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| Fire Safety Inspector | 4765-20-06 (C) | 100 | 70% | 3 hrs. |
| Hazard Recognition Officer: Part 1 – Closed Book; Part 2 – Open Book | 4765-20-06 (E) | 80 (60 + 20) | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| Fire Instructor Knowledge | 4765-21-05 (A) | 130 | 80% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| Fire Safety Inspector Knowledge: Part 1 – Closed Book; Part 2 – Open Book | 4765-21-05 (C) | 130 (100 + 30) | 70% | 3 hrs. |
| Assistant Fire Instructor FFI | 4765-21-05 (E) | 100 | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| Assistant Fire Instructor FFII | 4765-21-05 (E) | 130 | 70% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| EMS Instructional Methods | 4765-21-05 | 100 | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| EMS Instructional Methods In Lieu of CE | 4765-21-05 | 100 | 70% | 2 hrs. |

| REINSTATEMENT* | OAC | NUMBER OF ITEMS | MINIMUM PASSING CRITERIA | MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT |
|---------------------------------|----------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Volunteer Firefighter | 4765-20-06 (B) | 70 | 70% | 1 hr. 45 min. |
| Firefighter I | 4765-20-06 (B) | 100 | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| Firefighter I and II | 4765-20-06 (B) | 130 | 70% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| Fire Safety Inspector | 4765-20-06 (D) | 100 | 70% | 3 hrs. |
| Hazard Recognition Officer | 4765-20-06 (F) | 80 | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| Fire Instructor Knowledge | 4765-21-05 (B) | 130 | 80% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| Fire Safety Inspector Knowledge | 4765-21-05 (D) | 100 | 80% | 3 hrs. |

| RECIPROCITY** | OAC | NUMBER OF ITEMS | MINIMUM PASSING CRITERIA | MAXIMUM TIME LIMIT |
|-----------------------|------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Volunteer Firefighter | 4765-20-10 | 70 | 70% | 1 hr. 45 min. |
| Firefighter I | 4765-20-10 | 100 | 70% | 2 hrs. |
| Firefighter I and II | 4765-20-10 | 130 | 70% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |
| Fire Instructor | 4765-21-09 | 130 | 80% | 2 hrs. 30 min. |

***No Reinstatement offered for Assistant Fire Instructor**

****No Reciprocity offered for Fire Safety Inspector or Hazard Recognition Officer**