



State of Louisiana
Louisiana Department of Health
Office of Public Health
Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
Emergency Medical Services Certification Commission

CRIMINAL BACKGROUND PROCEDURE MODIFICATION

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On July 1, 2021, Louisiana became the twenty-first state to join the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice which requires criminal background checks for all initial EMS Practitioner licenses. The EMS Certification Commission recognizes that the acquisition of the criminal background check from Louisiana State Police is contributing to the EMS workforce shortage.

Pursuant to Administrative Rule Chapter 46, Section 301, and to help improve the timeliness of employing the newly licensed EMS Practitioners, the EMS Certification Commission has implemented the following procedure which is effective immediately and will continue through February 28, 2022.

- A 30-day provisional license will be issued to all applicants who do not have affirmative answers on the application's criminal background questions.
 - Any applicant who has affirmative answers to the criminal background questions, will be required to proceed with the process that is currently in place.
- Within the thirty days of issuance of the provisional license, the applicant must attach one of the following:
 - A copy of the LSP criminal background; or
 - A receipt from LSP indicating that they have applied and paid for an LSP criminal background; or
 - A mailing receipt indicating that they have mailed the fingerprint cards to LSP.

Once the receipt is attached, a full license will be issued.

- Once the criminal background information is obtained, it must be uploaded to the applicant's account in the Bureau of EMS Information Management System.

Applicants are encouraged to answer the application's criminal background questions truthfully to the best of their knowledge. If the need arises, this process will be re-evaluated before the expiration date.

Jeffrey Elder, MD
Chair, EMS Certification Commission

August 24, 2021
Date