

Response to Act 483 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session

2025 Licensing of Emergency Medical Services Practitioners

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Office of Public Health

Bureau of Emergency Medical Services and Emergency Medical Services Commission

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Emergency Medical Service Occupational Licenses – Executive Summary

The Louisiana Department of Health, Office of Public Health, Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (BEMS) coordinates, develops, improves, and maintains a comprehensive and dynamic emergency medical services system. This system ensures prompt, effective, and unimpeded service by providing appropriately educated and licensed Emergency Medical Services (EMS) practitioners and licensed EMS providers to all residents and visitors of this state.

As a vital component of health care services, public health, and public safety, EMS responds to calls for help 24 hours a day, seven days a week. EMS protects individuals from life-threatening emergencies, such as heart attacks and strokes. EMS treats injuries due to motor vehicle crashes, shootings, stabbings, and other violence, and provides care for many other illnesses and injuries daily. EMS also provides care for chronic illnesses and preventive care through community paramedicine and mobile integrated health care programs.

Pursuant to [Act 483 of the 2022 Regular Legislative Session](#), the following report provides data relative to the requirements needed to obtain an initial EMS practitioner license in the State of Louisiana. In compliance with Act 483 of the 2022 Legislative Session, specific licensing boards are mandated to publish occupational licensing data on their websites. This law requires annual information updates and the submission of formal summaries to ensure transparency and regulatory oversight. Also included is a link to the number of initial licenses and renewed licenses issued by the parish of residence for the calendar year 2025.

In 2025, application processing volumes mirrored 2024 levels, with total actions reaching 17,828 (compared to 17,825 in 2024). A year-over-year breakdown shows a slight uptick in initial applications (6,832 vs. 6,536), while renewals and revisions stayed relatively stable. Throughout this period, efficiency remained a hallmark of the process; standard applications continued to be finalized within an average of two business days.

The licensed EMS workforce is further defined by a demographic breakdown consisting of 35% female and 65% male practitioners. These figures provide a clear snapshot of the current gender distribution within the state's emergency medical services sector.

Section 1 – EMS Licensing Requirements

Subsection 1.1 – Initial License

EMS practitioners are required to do all of the following to qualify to obtain an initial EMS practitioner license in the State of Louisiana:

- Successfully complete an EMS practitioner course in a state-approved educational program (R.S. 40:1133.6);
- Successfully complete the National Registry of EMTs (NREMT) cognitive and psychomotor certification exam (Emergency Medical Responder level option);
- Complete an EMS practitioner license application and pay the required fees; and
- Obtain the criminal background information as outlined in R.S. 40:1141 (not required at Emergency Medical Responder level).
 - If answering affirmatively to criminal background questions, the practitioner must comply with the requests of the EMS Certification Commission.

Subsection 1.2 – Renewal License

EMS practitioner license renewal requires the licensee to do all of the following:

- Successfully complete the continuing education requirements listed on the NREMT website;
- Renew National Registry certification (Emergency Medical Responder optional); and
- Complete an EMS practitioner license renewal application and pay the required fees.
 - If answering affirmatively to criminal background questions, the licensee must comply with the requests of the EMS Certification Commission.

The number of EMS practitioner initial licenses and renewed licenses by parish of residence can be found at: [Act 483 Compliance: 2025 EMS Licensing Data | La Dept. of Health](#)

Section 2 – EMS Licensing by Parish and License Type

In 2025, the Bureau approved over 12,200 license applications with Louisiana residency—a total that reflects a decline of more than 1,500 approvals relative to the previous year.

Table 1 – EMS Licensing by Parish and License Type				
Parish	Initial License	Renewal License	Denials	Total
Acadia	116	117	0	233
Allen	44	80	0	124
Ascension	282	299	0	581
Assumption	14	40	0	54
Avoyelles	28	34	0	62
Beauregard	27	52	0	79
Bienville	13	29	0	42
Bossier	258	209	0	467
Caddo	212	318	0	530
Calcasieu	179	186	0	365
Caldwell	27	12	0	39
Cameron	3	7	0	10
Catahoula	12	9	0	21
Claiborne	14	22	0	36
Concordia	22	14	0	36
DeSoto	26	16	0	102
East Baton Rouge	307	417	0	724
East Carroll	1	3	0	4
East Feliciana	23	41	0	64
Evangeline	29	53	0	82
Franklin	34	34	0	68
Grant	22	34	0	56
Iberia	109	70	0	179
Iberville	42	58	0	100
Jackson	60	25	0	88
Jefferson	510	452	0	962
Jefferson Davis	33	30	0	63
Lafayette	422	333	0	755
Lafourche	120	135	0	255
LaSalle	31	14	0	45
Lincoln	32	45	0	77
Livingston	500	365	0	865
Madison	7	3	0	10
Morehouse	5	20	0	25
Natchitoches	32	39	0	71
Orleans	207	277	0	484
Ouachita	163	239	0	402

Plaquemines	26	36	0	92
Pointe Coupee	29	35	0	64
Rapides	140	195	0	335
Red River	21	10	0	31
Richland	35	25	0	60
Sabine	18	39	0	57
St. Bernard	62	67	0	129
St. Charles	44	111	0	155
St. Helena	4	7	0	11
St. James	39	41	0	80
St. John the Baptist	80	36	0	116
St. Landry	88	94	0	182
St. Martin	109	47	0	156
St. Mary	92	66	0	158
St. Tammany	608	451	0	1059
Tangipahoa	245	219	0	464
Tensas	5	2	0	7
Terrebonne	72	117	0	189
Union	31	72	0	103
Vermilion	22	73	0	95
Vernon	55	36	0	91
Washington	108	46	0	154
Webster	29	33	0	62
West Baton Rouge	50	66	0	116
West Carroll	18	14	0	32
West Feliciana	33	24	0	57
Winn	0	8	0	8
Total	6119	6104	0	12223

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