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1  
2 An act relating to emergency medical services;  
3 amending s. 381.0034, F.S.; deleting a requirement  
4 that emergency medical technicians, paramedics, and  
5 911 public safety telecommunicators complete an  
6 educational course on HIV and AIDS; amending s.  
7 401.23, F.S.; redefining the terms "basic life  
8 support" and "advanced life support" for purposes of  
9 the Raymond H. Alexander, M.D., Emergency Medical  
10 Transportation Services Act; amending s. 401.24, F.S.;  
11 revising the period for review of the comprehensive  
12 state plan for emergency medical services and  
13 programs; amending s. 401.27, F.S.; revising  
14 requirements for the certification and recertification  
15 of emergency medical technicians and paramedics;  
16 revising requirements for the certification of  
17 emergency medical technicians and paramedics trained  
18 outside the state; revising the time limit by which  
19 applicants trained outside the state must complete the  
20 certification examination without having to submit a  
21 new application and meet all eligibility and fee  
22 requirements; amending s. 401.2701, F.S.; revising  
23 requirements for institutions that conduct approved  
24 programs for the education of emergency medical  
25 technicians and paramedics; revising requirements that  
26 students must meet in order to receive a certificate  
27 of completion from an approved program; providing an  
28 effective date.  
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30 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

31  
32 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 381.0034, Florida  
33 Statutes, is amended to read:

34 381.0034 Requirement for instruction on HIV and AIDS.—

35 (1) The Department of Health shall require each person  
36 licensed or certified under ~~chapter 401~~, chapter 467, part IV of  
37 chapter 468, or chapter 483, as a condition of biennial  
38 relicensure, to complete an educational course approved by the  
39 department on the modes of transmission, infection control  
40 procedures, clinical management, and prevention of human  
41 immunodeficiency virus and acquired immune deficiency syndrome.  
42 Such course shall include information on current state Florida  
43 law on acquired immune deficiency syndrome and its impact on  
44 testing, confidentiality of test results, and treatment of  
45 patients. Each such licensee or certificateholder shall submit  
46 confirmation of having completed the said course, on a form  
47 provided by the department, when submitting fees or application  
48 for each biennial renewal.

49 Section 2. Subsections (1) and (7) of section 401.23,  
50 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

51 401.23 Definitions.—As used in this part, the term:

52 (1) "Advanced life support" means assessment or treatment  
53 by a person qualified under this part ~~of life-threatening~~  
54 ~~medical emergencies~~ through the use of techniques such as  
55 endotracheal intubation, the administration of drugs or  
56 intravenous fluids, telemetry, cardiac monitoring, ~~and~~ cardiac  
57 defibrillation, and other techniques described in the EMT-  
58 Paramedic National Standard Curriculum or the National EMS

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59 Education Standards ~~by a qualified person~~, pursuant to rules of  
60 the department.

61 (7) "Basic life support" means the assessment or treatment  
62 by a person qualified under this part ~~of medical emergencies by~~  
63 ~~a qualified person~~ through the use of techniques ~~such as patient~~  
64 ~~assessment, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), splinting,~~  
65 ~~obstetrical assistance, bandaging, administration of oxygen,~~  
66 ~~application of medical antishock trousers, administration of a~~  
67 ~~subcutaneous injection using a premeasured autoinjector of~~  
68 ~~epinephrine to a person suffering an anaphylactic reaction, and~~  
69 ~~other techniques~~ described in the EMT-Basic National Standard  
70 Emergency Medical Technician Basic Training Course Curriculum or  
71 the National EMS Education Standards of the United States  
72 Department of Transportation and approved by the department. The  
73 term ~~"basic life support"~~ also includes the administration of  
74 oxygen and other techniques that ~~which~~ have been approved and  
75 are performed under conditions specified by rules of the  
76 department.

77 Section 3. Section 401.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
78 read:

79 401.24 Emergency medical services state plan.—The  
80 department is responsible, at a minimum, for the improvement and  
81 regulation of basic and advanced life support programs. The  
82 department shall develop, and biennially revise every 5 years, a  
83 comprehensive state plan for basic and advanced life support  
84 services, the emergency medical services grants program, trauma  
85 centers, the injury control program, and medical disaster  
86 preparedness. The state plan shall include, but need not be  
87 limited to:

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88 (1) Emergency medical systems planning, including the  
89 prehospital and hospital phases of patient care, and injury  
90 control effort and unification of such services into a total  
91 delivery system to include air, water, and land services.

92 (2) Requirements for the operation, coordination, and  
93 ongoing development of emergency medical services, which  
94 includes: basic life support or advanced life support vehicles,  
95 equipment, and supplies; communications; personnel; training;  
96 public education; state trauma system; injury control; and other  
97 medical care components.

98 (3) The definition of areas of responsibility for  
99 regulating and planning the ongoing and developing delivery  
100 service requirements.

101 Section 4. Subsections (4) and (12) of section 401.27,  
102 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

103 401.27 Personnel; standards and certification.—

104 (4) An applicant for certification or recertification as an  
105 emergency medical technician or paramedic must:

106 (a) Have completed an appropriate training program ~~course~~  
107 as follows:

108 1. For an emergency medical technician, an emergency  
109 medical technician training program approved by the department  
110 as ~~course~~ equivalent to the most recent EMT-Basic National  
111 Standard Curriculum or the National EMS Education Standards  
112 ~~emergency medical technician basic training course~~ of the United  
113 States Department of Transportation ~~as approved by the~~  
114 ~~department;~~

115 2. For a paramedic, a paramedic training program approved  
116 by the department as equivalent to the most recent EMT-Paramedic

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117 National Standard Curriculum or the National EMS Education  
118 Standards ~~paramedic course~~ of the United States Department of  
119 Transportation ~~as approved by the department;~~

120 (b) Certify under oath that he or she is not addicted to  
121 alcohol or any controlled substance;

122 (c) Certify under oath that he or she is free from any  
123 physical or mental defect or disease that might impair the  
124 applicant's ability to perform his or her duties;

125 (d) Within 2 years ~~1-year~~ after program ~~course~~ completion  
126 have passed an examination developed or required by the  
127 department;

128 (e)1. For an emergency medical technician, hold ~~either~~ a  
129 current American Heart Association cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
130 course card or an American Red Cross cardiopulmonary  
131 resuscitation course card or its equivalent as defined by  
132 department rule;

133 2. For a paramedic, hold a certificate of successful course  
134 completion in advanced cardiac life support from the American  
135 Heart Association or its equivalent as defined by department  
136 rule;

137 (f) Submit the certification fee and the nonrefundable  
138 examination fee prescribed in s. 401.34, which examination fee  
139 will be required for each examination administered to an  
140 applicant; and

141 (g) Submit a completed application to the department, which  
142 application documents compliance with paragraphs (a), (b), (c),  
143 (e), (f), (g), and, if applicable, (d). The application must be  
144 submitted so as to be received by the department at least 30  
145 calendar days before the next regularly scheduled examination

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146 for which the applicant desires to be scheduled.

147 (12) An applicant for certification as ~~who is an out-of-~~  
148 ~~state-trained~~ emergency medical technician or paramedic who is  
149 trained outside the state must provide proof of current  
150 emergency medical technician or paramedic certification or  
151 registration based upon successful completion of a training  
152 program approved by the department as equivalent to the most  
153 recent EMT-Basic or EMT-Paramedic National Standard Curriculum  
154 or the National EMS Education Standards of the United States  
155 Department of Transportation ~~emergency medical technician or~~  
156 ~~paramedic training curriculum~~ and hold a current certificate of  
157 successful course completion in cardiopulmonary resuscitation  
158 (CPR) or advanced cardiac life support for emergency medical  
159 technicians or paramedics, respectively, to be eligible for the  
160 certification examination. The applicant must successfully  
161 complete the certification examination within 2 years ~~1 year~~  
162 after the date of the receipt of his or her application by the  
163 department. After 2 years ~~1 year~~, the applicant must submit a  
164 new application, meet all eligibility requirements, and submit  
165 all fees to reestablish eligibility to take the certification  
166 examination.

167 Section 5. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and subsection  
168 (5) of section 401.2701, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

169 401.2701 Emergency medical services training programs.—

170 (1) Any private or public institution in Florida desiring  
171 to conduct an approved program for the education of emergency  
172 medical technicians and paramedics shall:

173 (a) Submit a completed application on a form provided by  
174 the department, which must include:

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175 1. Evidence that the institution is in compliance with all  
176 applicable requirements of the Department of Education.

177 2. Evidence of an affiliation agreement with a hospital  
178 that has an emergency department staffed by at least one  
179 physician and one registered nurse.

180 3. Evidence of an affiliation agreement with a current  
181 ~~Florida-licensed~~ emergency medical services provider that is  
182 licensed in this state. Such agreement shall include, at a  
183 minimum, a commitment by the provider to conduct the field  
184 experience portion of the education program.

185 4. Documentation verifying faculty, including:

186 a. A medical director who is a licensed physician meeting  
187 the applicable requirements for emergency medical services  
188 medical directors as outlined in this chapter and rules of the  
189 department. The medical director shall have the duty and  
190 responsibility of certifying that graduates have successfully  
191 completed all phases of the education program and are proficient  
192 in basic or advanced life support techniques, as applicable.

193 b. A program director responsible for the operation,  
194 organization, periodic review, administration, development, and  
195 approval of the program.

196 5. Documentation verifying that the curriculum:

197 a. Meets the ~~course guides and instructor's lesson plans in~~  
198 ~~the~~ most recent Emergency Medical Technician-Basic National  
199 Standard Curriculum or the National EMS Education Standards  
200 approved by the department ~~Curricula~~ for emergency medical  
201 technician programs and Emergency Medical Technician-Paramedic  
202 National Standard Curriculum or the National EMS Education  
203 Standards approved by the department ~~Curricula~~ for paramedic

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204 programs.

205 b. Includes 2 hours of instruction on the trauma scorecard  
206 methodologies for assessment of adult trauma patients and  
207 pediatric trauma patients as specified by the department by  
208 rule.

209 ~~e. Includes 4 hours of instruction on HIV/AIDS training~~  
210 ~~consistent with the requirements of chapter 381.~~

211 6. Evidence of sufficient medical and educational equipment  
212 to meet emergency medical services training program needs.

213 (5) Each approved program must notify the department within  
214 30 days after ~~of~~ any change in the professional or employment  
215 status of faculty. Each approved program must require its  
216 students to pass a comprehensive final written and practical  
217 examination evaluating the skills described in the current  
218 United States Department of Transportation EMT-Basic or EMT-  
219 Paramedic, National Standard Curriculum or the National EMS  
220 Education Standards and approved by the department. Each  
221 approved program must issue a certificate of completion to  
222 program graduates within 14 days after ~~of~~ completion.

223 Section 6. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.