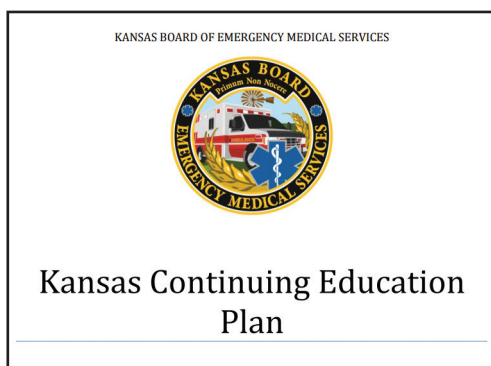




# New Continuing Education Plan Adopted in Kansas

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By now, you have probably received a letter from the Kansas Board of EMS announcing changes to the Continuing Education regulations and information on



adopting the new Kansas Continuing Education Plan (KCEP). These documents are available on the Kansas Board of EMS website, [www.ksbems.org](http://www.ksbems.org). You will find the regulations under the legal drop-down tab/regulations, and the KCEP is a featured link in the center of the homepage. These links are also listed at the conclusion of this article.

**These changes/requirements go into effect for renewal of certification after January 31, 2017.** This means:

- If your card expires 12-31-2016, KCEP category requirements do not apply to you this renewal cycle, but will for the 2017-2018 cycle.
- If your card expires 12-31-2017, hours you are earning now fall under the requirements of the new plan for the current recertification cycle.

## **Continuing Education regulation changes that you need to be aware of**

**Acceptable forms of continuing education are:**

1. Programs presented by a sponsoring

organization with a single program provider or long-term program provider approval.

2. Initial course of instruction provided by a sponsoring organization and approved by the board. (Initial course of instruction is an EMR, EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic course)
3. Programs approved or accredited by CECBEMS. The board presumptively accepts these courses unless the board determines that a particular program does not meet board requirements.

These are the *only* sources approved to earn Continuing Education (CE) hours without needing to apply to KSBEMS for retroactive CE hours. Academic courses are no longer automatically accepted for CE hours – you must apply for retroactive approval if you wish to use academic courses.

If you take courses outside of this list, you will need to apply for retroactive CE hours and receive approval for the hours to count. Retroactive approval is defined in KAR 109-5-5 and requires that the request be submitted to the board office within 90 days of completion of the course.

### **Continuing education documentation and other limitations:**

- You are required to keep documentation of completion for approved continuing education (CE certificates) for at least three (3) years and shall provide this documentation to the board upon request by the executive director.
- You may earn no more than twelve (12) hours of CE during one calendar day.

## Continuing education hours requirements (for renewal after January 31, 2017):

- Paramedic – 60 hours
- AEMT – 50 hours
- EMT – 40 hours
- EMR – 20 hours

## Things to be aware of in the Kansas Continuing Education Plan

The KCEP is divided into three sections; Kansas Core Component, Local Component, and Individual Component.

**Kansas Core Component** – Required categories are **Airway/Respiration/Ventilation, Cardiovascular, Trauma, Medical,** and **Operations** with subtopics in each area. Paramedic (30 hours), AEMT (25 hours), EMT (20 hours), and EMR (10 hours) are the minimum required hours in the Core Component areas. Specific hour requirements listed for all general categories must be met in each area. All subtopics for core areas must be taught, but there are no specific time requirements placed on individual subtopic areas. Subtopics must be included in course objectives. You may earn all required recertification hours in the core component categories.

**Local Component** – Local component can be up to 50% of the required hours for renewal. Local component topics are chosen based upon specific local needs, protocol, and procedures.

**Individual Component** – Individual component allows you to have some flexibility for a portion of the hours required if desired. CE hours obtained by participating in state exams as assistants are allowed in this category. The individual component hours are limited to no more than 25% of the total hours required for renewal.

## Another way to renew in lieu of hours \*new this year\*

Thanks for sticking with me this far! There is another way for you to renew your certification. New regulations allow any attendant, within the 11 months

prior to their expiration date, to (1) pass the board approved cognitive (written) assessment exam and (2) to pass either a board approved psychomotor skills assessment or a validation of psychomotor skills by the Medical Director affiliated with an ambulance service or sponsoring organization.

This means you can challenge the state written exam and have your Medical Director validate your skills instead of meeting category hours – *but* you can only do this in the last 11 months of your certification period, and you will have to pay the cost of the exam.

## One last note for EMR, EMT, and AEMT levels

The board is currently re-evaluating total required CE hours for these levels. If a decision is made to reduce total hours, Core Component required hours will be unchanged. Any decrease in total hours would be reflected in the local and individual component sections. They are supposed to discuss this at the April Kansas Board of EMS meetings. 🌟

### More Information

1. Kansas Board of EMS: <http://www.ksbems.org> - (KAR 109-5-1, 109-5-1a, 109-5-1b, 109-5-1c and 109-5-1d)
2. Kansas Continuing Education Plan: <http://ksbems.org/html%20pages/Kansas%20Continuing%20Education%20plan.pdf>



Find archives of the KEMSA Chronicle magazine in the members only section of the KEMSA web site -

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