

 THE
EMS COMPACT

Standardizing EMS Licensing
Expanding EMS Practitioner Mobility
Enhancing Public Protection



About

The Recognition of EMS Personnel Licensure Interstate Compact (“REPLICA”), also known as the **EMS Compact**, has been adopted into law by 25 states. The **EMS Compact** standardizes the licensure requirements for EMS personnel, reduces barriers and expands EMS practitioner mobility across state jurisdictions, and enhances public protection.

History

Over a decade ago, the need for standardization and to address the challenge of EMS personnel operating across state lines led the Department of Homeland Security and the National Association of State EMS Officials (NASEMSO) to collaborate on a solution. The REPLICA Model Legislation was introduced in 2104, with two states enacting it by 2015. By 2017, the EMS Compact had grown to ten member states. Activated on March 10, 2020, the Compact has since been instrumental in expanding EMS Practitioner mobility and access to Emergency Medical Services. Since its activation, EMS personnel with the Privilege to Practice have supplemented critical staffing in rural areas, addressed urgent staffing needs during the COVID pandemic, and aided the rapid mobilization of EMS teams for wildland fire incidents. The Compact simplifies the movement of qualified EMS professionals, strengthens the authority of State EMS Offices, and underscores the essential contributions of local EMS agencies.

Key Features

- **Enhanced State Cooperation:** The EMS Compact promotes interstate cooperation with unified legislation, allowing qualified EMS personnel to operate in multiple states with minimal bureaucracy.
- **Privilege to Practice:** Through the EMS Compact, over 400,000 EMS personnel *immediately* have a Privilege to Practice valid in 25 states. This privilege is extended to eligible EMS practitioners at no cost.
- **Governance:** Overseen by the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice, a governmental body instituted by state law, the EMS Compact emphasizes transparency, stakeholder engagement, effective coordination, and consistent implementation. This approach ensures standardized and accountable EMS practices across member states.
- **National EMS Coordinated Database:** Serving as the primary source database, the EMS Compact's National EMS Coordinated Database eradicates duplicate licensing data, providing an authoritative list of licensed EMS practitioners nationwide.

EMS COMPACT FACTS

The 25 EMS Compact Member States have legislatively unified:

- EMS Personnel Licensure Standards
- Background Checks
- Public Protection & Investigation Standards

Over 400,000 EMS Personnel have access to a **Privilege to Practice** valid in 25 states.

The Privilege to Practice is provided at **no cost** to all eligible EMS practitioners.

The EMS Compact is governed by the Interstate Commission for EMS Personnel Practice, a **governmental body** formed by state law.

The **National EMS Coordinated Database** is the only primary source database that has de-duplicated licensed EMS Practitioners in the United States.

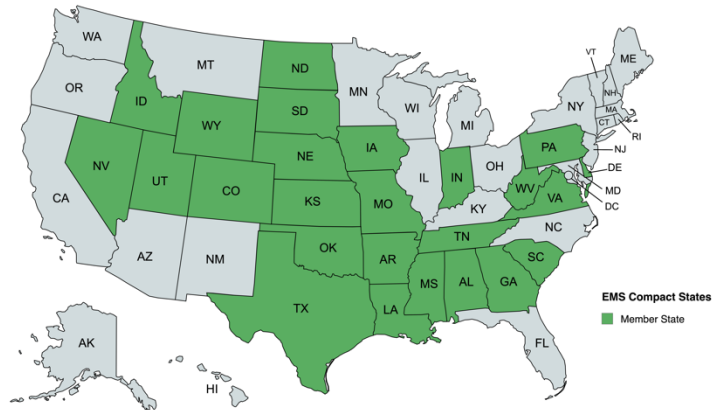
The EMS Compact was instrumental in expediting **EMS practitioner mobility** during the COVID-19 pandemic and wildland fires.

State EMS Offices **gain legislative authority** to regulate all EMS Practitioners working in their jurisdiction.

The Privilege to Practice is only extended to individual EMS Practitioners who:

- Have an unrestricted EMS license issued by a Member State.
- Are properly affiliated with an EMS Agency.
- Have a physician medical director.
- Operate in accordance with the EMS Compact regulations.

25 States Have Enacted the EMS Compact Legislation



Member State Requirements

- Use the NREMT Exam for all new EMT & Paramedic licenses issued by the State EMS Office.
- Requires an FBI background check for initial licensure.
- Notifies the Commission of adverse action (license discipline).

EMS Practitioner Discipline

- All discipline cases are reported to the Coordinated Database within two business days of being imposed.
- State discipline cases are also reported to the National Practitioner Data Base (NPDB)

Other State Laws & Rules

- EMS Practitioners must know and abide by all applicable statutes, rules, and regulations for the jurisdiction(s) in which they are operating (many of which may alter the scope of practice for the practitioner).

EMS ID Number

- EMSID numbers are issued for all EMS practitioners in the United States at no charge.
- Use the EMS ID number to view/validate Privilege to Practice on www.EMSCompact.gov

Privilege to Practice (PTP) Requirements

- Have a current unrestricted license as an EMT, AEMT, or Paramedic (or a state-recognized and licensed level with a scope of practice and authority between EMT and paramedic) issued by an EMS Compact Member State and
 - At least 18 years of age.
 - Practice under the supervision of a physician (MD/DO) medical director.
 - Affiliated with an EMS agency authorized in the Remote State
- No time limitations are imposed on the Privilege to Practice under the Compact legislation.
- If an EMS Practitioner meets the criteria for the Privilege to Practice, the Compact requires a participating state to recognize the privilege for qualified purposes.

Scope of Practice

- The scope of practice of an EMS practitioner operating under the Privilege to Practice defaults to the provider's Home State.
- Remote states may modify providers' scope of practice under a Compact Privilege.

EMS Agency / Employer

- EMS Agencies must comply with all rules and regulations established by the jurisdiction where they are operating.
- The EMS Compact applies to EMS personnel but does not apply to EMS Agencies or employers.

The Seven Legislative Declarations of the EMS Compact

The legislative purpose of the EMS Compact is to enhance the effectiveness and responsiveness of emergency medical services personnel across state lines. This Compact legislation establishes seven key objectives to improve public health and safety, ensure professional accountability, and facilitate the mobility of EMS personnel. The purposes of the EMS Compact, as defined in legislation, include:

- Increase public access to EMS personnel;
- Enhance the state's ability to protect the public's health and safety, especially patient safety;
- Encourage the cooperation of member states in the areas of EMS personnel licensure and regulation;
- Support licensing of military members who are separating from an active-duty tour and their spouses;
- Facilitate the exchange of information between member states regarding EMS personnel licensure, adverse action, and significant investigatory information;
- Promote compliance with the laws governing EMS personnel practice in each member state and
- Invest all member states with the authority to hold EMS personnel accountable through the mutual recognition of member state licenses.