Candidate Study Guide for the Illinois
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Licensure Examination

The following information is intended to help you prepare for the Illinois Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) Licensure Examination. Part I of this study guide contains general information about testing procedures. Part II provides a content outline, lists competencies covered in the examination, and identifies reference materials that support this examination. Part III includes sample questions to help candidates prepare for this test.

Part I General Information

PURPOSE OF THE EXAMINATION
This examination has been developed in collaboration with Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and representatives of the 11 Illinois EMS regions. EMT licensure is granted only to candidates who demonstrate sufficient knowledge of the U.S. Department of Transportation National Standard Curriculum for EMT as approved by IDPH.

TEST VALIDITY
The time limit for this examination is 2½ hours. This examination has been developed to meet strict standards of test fairness and validity to protect the health and safety of the public.

PHOTO ID
Each candidate must present a current and valid photo ID to be admitted to an examination. Only a valid Driver's License, Secretary of State ID card, consular ID or current passport is acceptable as photographic identification. If the name on the photo ID does not match the name on the scheduled appointment, proof of legal name change also must be presented before the candidate can be admitted to the test.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS
Any candidate who needs special accommodations in test-taking procedures because of a disabling condition must communicate that need in writing with his or her application. No accommodations can be arranged on the day of a test.

SCORING THE EXAMINATION
Candidates who pass this examination and meet licensing criteria will receive their license as an EMT from IDPH.

MISSING AN EXAMINATION
There are no "make-up" examinations. You may re-register when you receive your score report from CTS stating “consent” and pay any additional required fees.

RE-EXAMINATION
Candidates who fail the test for licensure will receive information to help them identify content areas on which they need to improve their performance to pass on a subsequent attempt. Candidates must register to take the test again. Candidates are limited to three (3) attempts within one (1) year after completing the EMT education program.

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After CTS approves your application, you must schedule a test date **within 90 days** at an approved PSI Test Center. You may schedule a test using PSI’s online system at [www.psiexams.com](http://www.psiexams.com) or by calling PSI at 1-800-733-9267. All regular testing appointments must be scheduled at least two business days prior to the desired test date. You must reapply and pay a new test fee if you do not test within the 90-day window.

**Locations of Approved PSI Centers**

PSI Test Centers in Carbondale, Champaign, downtown Chicago, East Peoria and Peoria, Galesburg, Glen Ellyn, Springfield, Westmont and Evansville, IN, are proctored by onsite personnel. Other locations use remotely proctored testing stations that monitor candidates with three digital cameras, an on-screen chat window and a sensitive built-in microphone. Proctors in these locations communicate with candidates on-screen during the test and pause the exam whenever unauthorized persons or activity appear on video monitors or in audio recordings. The proctor will pause the exam whenever a candidate leaves the testing station or an interruption occurs. The proctor may end the test if an interruption is not corrected appropriately. Each remotely proctored test station also is equipped with noise-cancelling headphones to help candidates screen out distractions if they wish to use them. All other rules are the same for examinations in on-site proctored and remotely proctored locations.

Directions and other information about each test location follow and are available on the PSI website. Testing locations are subject to change. Candidates should verify the location of each test center in their admission notice after they schedule an examination.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City/State</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Driving Directions</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Carbondale, Illinois</td>
<td>Southern Illinois University, 605 Agriculture Dr., MC 4722 Room 781 (7th floor)</td>
<td>Morris Library is in the center of campus. More information about parking for the new center in Morris Library is available online at <a href="http://lib.siu.edu/directions">http://lib.siu.edu/directions</a>.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Champaign, Illinois</td>
<td>Parkland College 2400 W Bradley Ave, U203</td>
<td>From I-72 East, take N Country Fair Drive. Turn left onto W Bradley Ave. RM U203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chicago Heights, Illinois</td>
<td>Prairie State College 202 S. Halsted Street Room 3211</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Prairie State College is located at South Halsted Street and Vollmer Road in Chicago Heights. The campus is about three miles south of Interstate 80 on Halsted. Testing is in room 3211 of the main building.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Galesburg, Illinois</td>
<td>Carl Sandburg College 2400 Tom L Wilson Blvd</td>
<td>Exit Interstate 74 onto Hwy 34 West (toward Monmouth). Proceed to Hwy 150 West (Carl Sandburg College Exit toward Alpha). Turn left at stoplight onto South Lake Storey Road. 1 mile to CSC entrance on the left. The entrance to Carl Sandburg College will be to your left. Turn left onto Tom L Wilson Blvd. Upon entering campus from Lake Storey Rd, turn right at the electronic marquee sign. Enter the door with the large B above it. Once in the lobby, turn right and go through glass door. The Testing Center check-in is immediately located to the right in room B-07.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Niles, Illinois</td>
<td>Real Estate Institute 6203 W Howard Street Exam Room</td>
<td><strong>Two remotely proctored test stations.</strong> REI is located at the corner of Howard Street and Merrimac Avenue in Niles, between Caldwell and Lehigh.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oak Forest, Illinois</td>
<td>South Suburban College - Oak Forest Center 16333 S. Kilbourn Avenue, Room 5130</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Exit I-57 on 167 East to Kilbourn Avenue. Turn left on Kilbourn and drive three blocks to South Suburban College campus. Park in front of building. The campus also is served by bus routes 364-159th Street and 354 Harvey-Oak Forest Loop.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rockford, Illinois</td>
<td>ROCKFORD OSF Center For Health, 5510 E. State St, Room 284 (back of the building)</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> From I-90 W, take the US-20 Bus/State St exit. Merge onto US-20 Bus W/E State St toward Rockford. The building is on the righthand side after passing the main hospital.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Schaumburg, Illinois</td>
<td>Schaumburg - Harper College Professional Center, 650 E. Higgins Road, Suite 2W</td>
<td><strong>Two remotely proctored test stations.</strong> North side of Higgins Rd, between Roselle and Plum Grove, just west of the McDonalds. When you enter the drive, turn right and park. Our new Suite 2W is on the northeast end of the building.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Remotely proctored test centers are indicated. All others are proctored by on-site personnel.

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<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Skokie, Illinois</td>
<td>Oakton Community College 7701 North Lincoln Avenue Room A135</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Oakton Colleges Skokie campus is between Howard and Niles Center Road on Lincoln in Skokie. Park in student lot in front of campus. Test center is Room A135.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield, Illinois</td>
<td>PSI Springfield 3223 South Meadowbrook Road, Suite B</td>
<td>Follow I-55 south to I-72 toward Jacksonville, exit at IL 4 (Veterans Parkway) and go north to Wabash and turn Left on Wabash and then Left again on S. Meadowbrook Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Stream, Illinois</td>
<td>College of DuPage Carol Stream Campus 500 N Kuhn Road</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Center is on the west side of Kuhn Rd, north of North Ave and south of Lies Rd. From North or South: Exit from I-355 at Route 64/North Ave, and head west to Kuhn Rd (second stoplight past Gary Ave.) Turn right on Kuhn Rd north to the center on the west side of the street. From East or West: Exit from I-88 at Route 59 and go north to Route 64/North Ave. Turn right on Route 64/North Ave heading east to Kuhn Rd (next stoplight past County Farm Rd). Turn left heading north to the center located on the west side of the street. The center is also accessible from I-88 via I-355 North. Follow north/south directions above after exiting from I-88 to I-355 North.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glen Ellyn, Illinois</td>
<td>College of DuPage Glen Ellyn Campus 425 Fawell Blvd, BIC 2A08</td>
<td>Enter the College of DuPage Main Campus on Fawell Blvd. Enter the Student Services Center (SSC) Building. Please go to the Berg Instructional Center (BIC) Specialized Testing Services - Room 2A08. The SSC and BIC buildings are attached.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Naperville, Illinois</td>
<td>College of DuPage Naperville Campus 1223 Rickert Drive</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Naperville Center is located on the south side of Rickert Drive. Rickert Drive is accessed by turning north from 75th Street two miles west of Washington Street. From Route 59, travel east on 75th Street to Rickert Drive and turn north.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westmont, Illinois</td>
<td>College of DuPage - Westmont Center 650 Pasquinelli Drive</td>
<td>Westmont Center is located on the west side of Pasquinelli Drive. Pasquinelli Drive is accessed by turning north from Ogden Ave one block west of Route 83. The center entrance is immediately north of the bank.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grayslake, Illinois</td>
<td>College of Lake County Grayslake Campus, 19351 West Washington Street Room B150</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> The Testing Center is located in Room B150 on the first floor of the Grayslake Campus.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waukegan, Illinois</td>
<td>College of Lake County Waukegan Campus 33 N. Genesee Street</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Take Belvidere (Route 120), Grand or Washington east to Genesee Street. The CLC Lakeshore Campus is on Genesee north of Washington and west of Sheridan Road. 2nd floor room N203.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Remotely proctored test centers are indicated. All others are proctored by on-site personnel.

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<tr>
<td><strong>ILLINOIS CENTRAL COLLEGE TEST CENTERS (2)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE TEST CENTERS (2)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joliet, Illinois</td>
<td>Joliet Junior College 1215 Houbolt Road</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> Exit I-55 onto Route 52 East (Exit 253) to Houbolt. Turn right (South) to college entrance. Report to Academic Skills Center in A-1138.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romeoville, Illinois</td>
<td>Joliet Junior College (Romeoville Campus) 1125 W 135th Street</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> The testing center is located in the Resource Center, room NC 80.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PSI TEST CENTERS OUTSIDE ILLINOIS (2)</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis, Missouri</td>
<td>PSI Test Center 11100 Mueller Road Suite 7 &amp; 8</td>
<td><strong>One remotely proctored test station.</strong> From St. Ann: Drive I-270 South and exit onto MO-21 (Tesson Ferry Rd). Drive east for about one and a half miles. From Tesson Ferry Rd, turn right onto US-50 (Lindbergh Blvd) for approximately a quarter mile. From Lindbergh Blvd, turn left onto Mueller Rd. The building is located behind McDonalds and a Mobile gas station.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Evansville, Indiana</td>
<td>Ivy Technical Community College, 3401 N First Ave</td>
<td>Testing is in the Workforce Certification and Assessment Center. From Kentucky (South): Take Hwy 41 N to the Diamond Ave exit. Exit, going West to First Avenue turn right going North. You will travel through 2 stoplights before reaching Wendy's restaurant. Turn right at Wendy’s; our parking lot is immediately to the left. From the airport: Take a left on Hwy 57 To Hwy 41. Go left going South on Hwy 41 to the Diamond Avenue Exit, going West to First Avenue turn right going North.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Instructions for scheduling a test using PSI’s 800 number

PSI provides an automated system to schedule your test via the telephone without having to speak with a Customer Service Registrar.

1. Call 800-733-9267, then Press 5
2. Stay on the line until you hear the system begin (about 30 seconds)
3. You will be asked what you want to do: schedule, confirm, or retake a test
4. You will be asked if you know your ID# (this is your social security number)
5. The system will find your record and confirm the first few letters of your last name
6. The system will confirm the test
7. You will be asked what you want to do: schedule or request a bulletin
8. The system will use your zip code to find the closest test center
9. You will be given the closest test center
10. You will be given the available dates and times when you could take the test
11. You will select the date and time and the system will schedule you
12. You will be emailed a confirmation including the date and time of your testing appointment; the email includes directions to the PSI Test Center

If you prefer to speak to a Customer Service Registrar, they are available Monday through Friday, between 6:30 am and 7:00 pm and Saturday, between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm, Central Time.

- Call 800-733-9267, Select 5, then select * (star).
- A PSI staff member will answer to help you schedule your CTS exam.

Instructions for scheduling a test online at www.psiexams.com

   - If you are a new user at PSI, click on “Create an Account”.
   - If you have already created an account in the PSI system, type in your email address and password.

   **VERY IMPORTANT STEP** You must enter your email address, your password and the spelling of your name in these screens EXACTLY as you submitted them on your application to CTS because that is what CTS sent to PSI.
2. If you already have an account in the PSI system, check the box “Check here to attempt to locate existing records for you in the system”.

3. Complete the following steps as shown below.

Select Government/State Licensing Agencies under Select Organization.

Select Illinois in Select Jurisdiction.

Select IL Department of Public Health in the box marked Select Account.

Enter your Social Security Number.

Click on Submit.
4. You are now ready to schedule. Click on *Schedule for a test.*

5. Enter your zip code or the city where you live. Click on the Search button.

You will see a list of the testing sites, starting with the one that is closest to you. Select the *Test center* you prefer from the list, then click on *Continue.* If you want to select a center that is not shown, enter the name of the city or the zip code where that test center is located.
You will now see a list of available test dates and times based on your eligibility expiration date. Click on the date and time of your choice and select Schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Test Center</th>
<th>Available Date</th>
<th>Start Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CHICAGO (ROOM A), Illinois</td>
<td>08/17/2013</td>
<td>8:30 AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICAGO (ROOM A), Illinois</td>
<td>09/03/2013</td>
<td>12:30 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHICAGO (ROOM A), Illinois</td>
<td>09/03/2013</td>
<td>3:00 PM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- If there are no dates available, please call 800-733-9267 for assistance.

6. A confirmation will appear that you can print by clicking on the Print Details button. This message also includes directions to the test center.

7. You also will receive an email from PSI to confirm the test center, date and time you have selected to take your test.
PSI CONFIRMS BY EMAIL
PSI sends each candidate an email to confirm the date and time of his/her testing appointment; the email includes directions to the PSI Test Center.

RESCHEDULING
A testing appointment may be rescheduled up to two business days before the scheduled test date. Candidates who fail this examination must reapply after complying with the requirements for retesting based on the number of their prior attempts.

MISSING AN APPOINTMENT
Candidates who miss a testing appointment forfeit all fees and must reapply before they are eligible to schedule a new test date.

TEST SCORES
Candidates at on-site proctored test centers will receive an unofficial score report before they leave the PSI Test Center. Candidates in all other test centers will see their results on-screen at the end of the test. None of these score reports can be used to apply for a license or certificate. All candidates will receive their official score reports from CTS by mail after their test date. Candidates who pass will receive an application to apply for licensure with their CTS score report. Candidates who fail will receive a diagnostic report in their CTS score report indicating content areas in which they need to improve their scores.
Part II       Testing Procedures

YOU WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO TAKE THE EXAM IF YOU DO NOT HAVE ONE OF THESE FORMS OF ID. ALL CANDIDATE IDS ARE SUBJECT TO SECURITY SCREENING TO VERIFY THEIR AUTHENTICITY.

- A valid US Driver’s License or State ID issued by one of the 50 states or US Territories.
- A valid US Passport or Military Active Duty ID.
- A valid consular ID

All candidates must agree to abide by PSI Test Center Rules:

- Video monitoring of each candidate occurs throughout the test.
- Video tapes may be reviewed if suspicious behavior occurs during a test.
- Name and address on the candidate ID must match the CTS application and PSI candidate registration records.
- **ALL NAME OR ADDRESS CHANGES MUST BE SUBMITTED TO CTS IN WRITING AT LEAST 10 DAYS BEFORE THE TESTING APPOINTMENT.**

No candidate may take this test if he/she:

- Does not present required photo ID when asked
- Refuses to sign the PSI Examinee Agreement
- Does not follow all PSI Test Center rules
- Tries to use prohibited items, including but not limited to books, notes, cell phones, cameras, pagers or other electronic devices during a test
- Gives or receives help during a test or test breaks
- Tries to record or copy any test questions
- Fails to follow PSI Test Center staff instructions
- Disrupts testing for other candidates

Test Center check-in procedures include:

- Cell phones, pagers or other electronic devices are **NOT PERMITTED** in the testing room.
- Personal items (purses, coats, etc.) MUST be secured outside the testing room.
- A digital photograph and a digital fingerprint will be taken during check-in.
- Candidates must sign in and out of the test center for all personal breaks during testing.
- The test timer continues during any candidate’s personal breaks.

Before you start the test, you will be asked to enter your social security number. It must be identical to the social security number you submitted in your application to take this examination.
You will be required to read and agree to the security agreement before the test will begin.

**PSI SECURITY AGREEMENT FOR EXAMINATIONS**

Test Center Location: ___________________________  State: ___________________________

**SECURITY AGREEMENT:**

I HAVE READ THE FOLLOWING PSI SECURITY AGREEMENT AND CONSENT TO TAKE THE LICENSING EXAMINATION UNDER THE CONDITIONS STATED HEREIN:

- I will not give or receive assistance while taking the test, including the use of unauthorized study material or unauthorized notes. I acknowledge that I have not taken any unauthorized study material or unauthorized notes into the testing area.
- I will maintain the confidentiality of the test.
- I will not have in my possession a cell phone, pager, or other unauthorized materials.
- I will inform the proctor when needing to use the rest room, but I understand that leaving the building at any time before completing the exam is prohibited.
- I understand that violating the confidential nature of the licensing test can result in severe civil or criminal penalties, invalidation of test scores, reports to the authorized agency.

Note: If a candidate refuses to consent to the conditions of this PSI Security Agreement, the proctor will notify the candidate that he/she will not be authorized to take the examination. PSI headquarters will be so informed. This form is retained as a permanent part of the candidate file.

**AGREE**  **DISAGREE**

You will be asked to confirm your name, social security number and the examination for which you are registered before you can begin.

Before you start your examination, an introductory tutorial to the computer will be available on the computer screen. The time you spend on this tutorial DOES NOT count as part of your examination time. Candidates may repeat the tutorial as many times as they like until they are ready to start the test.

**Examination Screen**
The Status Bar

The Status Bar at the top of the examination screen gives the status of the test.
- “Question 3 of 40” indicates that you are on QUESTION 3 out of 40 total questions.
- “Answered” and “Unanswered” indicate that you have answered 2 questions and left one question unanswered.
- “Marked” means that you have marked 0 questions to review later.
- “View” indicates that all questions on the test are available to you for VIEWING. (See GOTO Button)
- “Time Left” indicates how many minutes the candidate has remaining on this exam.

The Item or Question

Each question or test item appears on the screen ONE ITEM AT A TIME.

Choosing an Answer

Use the mouse to click on the option you believe is the best answer to the question. The answer you select will show a check mark or a filled button. Your answer is recorded when you click on NEXT. The computer then moves you to the next question. Since there is no penalty for wrong answers, you should answer every question by choosing what you think is the best response.

Calculator Button and Calculator

An on-screen calculator is available to perform simple calculations. Use the mouse to click on numbers and symbols.
Mark Button

The candidate may choose to mark a question to review later with the Mark button above the Status Bar. The candidate can review marked items by clicking on the GoTo button.

Comments Button

The Comments button offers the option to give a comment or feedback about the question in the screen that appears below.

GoTo Button

The GoTo Button takes the candidate to the following screen.

The candidate may use this screen to find:
- Marked questions
- Unanswered questions
- All questions
- A specific question identified by question number

View on the Status Bar will change to indicate which questions the candidate is viewing: For example, if the candidate chooses Marked Questions on the GoTo screen, the status will change to View: Marked.
Help Button

The **HELP** Button provides summary of each button’s functions. The candidate can click on **HELP** at any time.

Practice Questions or Sample Test

The Sample Test provides a few questions to help the candidate confirm how to mark answers to questions on the test. Sample Items are not scored and do not count toward the final result. They are provided for the candidate to become familiar with the computer prior to starting the scored portion of the exam.

On the last Sample Question, the candidate will see a series of messages.

![Message](image)

Click **Next** to continue to the full exam or **Back** to return to sample questions.

![Message](image)

The third screen confirms that the candidate is ready to begin the full exam.

![Message](image)
Ending the Exam

The End button starts the sequence for ending either the sample items or the full exam.

Candidates will see the following screens at the end of the examination.

**Survey Items**

A short survey of your exam experience appears onscreen at the end of these to provide feedback about the test center and the exam.

**Score Reports**

Candidates who achieve a score of 70 or higher receive a preliminary report at the test center. An official CTS letter will confirm the candidate’s test results and provide further instructions for obtaining an EMT license from the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Candidates who achieve a score below 70 will receive a preliminary report at the test center. An official CTS letter will confirm their test results and provide further instructions about scheduling future attempts to take the EMT examination.
Part III Test Content & Reference Information

This examination was developed in collaboration with a committee of representatives of the 11 Illinois Emergency Medical Service regions and staff from the Illinois Department of Public Health. Content areas on the test are outlined below. The examination reflects the U.S. Department of Transportation National Standard Curriculum for EMT as adapted and approved by the Illinois Department of Public Health.

Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

1. Preparation and Operations (18 questions)
   A. EMS Systems & Research
   B. Safety & Wellness
   C. Documentation
   D. System & Therapeutic Communications
   E. Medical, legal & ethical issues
   F. Multiple & Mass Casualties

2. Pharmacology (7 questions)
   A. Pharmacology Principles
   B. Medication Administration

3. Airway Management, Ventilation and Oxygen Therapy (12 questions)
   A. Airway Management
   B. Physiology of Respiration
   C. Artificial Ventilation

4. Patient Assessment (14 questions)
   A. Scene Size-up
   B. Primary Assessment
   C. History Taking
   D. Secondary Assessment
   E. Reassessment
   F. Monitoring Devices

5. Medical Emergencies (40 questions)
   A. Neurology
   B. Abdominal Disorders
   C. Immunology
   D. Infectious Diseases
   E. Endocrine Disorders
   F. Psychiatric Disorders
   G. Cardiovascular Disorders
   H. Toxicology
   I. Respiratory Emergencies
   J. Hematology
   K. GI/Renal
   L. Gynecology
6. **Shock & Resuscitation** (5 questions)
   Shock & Hemorrhage Management

7. **Trauma** (33 questions)
   A. Trauma Assessment
   B. Bleeding
   C. Chest Trauma
   D. Abdominal & GU Trauma
   E. Orthopedic Trauma
   F. Injuries to the Head, Neck, Face & Spine
   G. Nervous System Trauma
   H. Environmental Trauma
   I. Multi-System Trauma

8. **Special Populations** (17 questions)
   A. Pregnancy/Obstetrics
   B. Neonatal Care
   C. Pediatrics
   D. Geriatrics
   E. Special Challenges

**Recommended Study Materials**

The following references support questions on this examination. These books may be available in retail stores or online. All candidates should prepare for this examination by studying one or more of these references.


**Medications List for EMT-B from US DOT Curriculum**

Albuterol (patient assist in using MDI)
Epinephrine (Epi Pen) for adults and children for application in treatment of allergic reactions and anaphylaxis
Nitroglycerin (patient assist)
Abbreviations

The following abbreviations may appear in the EMT-Basic Examinations.

ABCs  airway, breathing/ventilation, circulatory status
ADA  Americans with Disabilities Act
AED  automated external defibrillator
AIDS  acquired immune deficiency syndrome
ALS  Advanced Life Support
APGAR  appearance, pulse, grimace, activity, respirations
ANSI  American National Standards Institute
AVPU  Mental status responsiveness check:
        alert, responds to verbal or painful stimuli, unresponsive
BLS  Basic Life Support
BP or B/P  blood pressure
BPM  beats per minute
BSI  body substance isolation
BVM  bag valve mask
cc  cubic centimeter
c-collar  cervical collar
CDC  Center for Disease Control
CHEMTREC  Chemical Transportation Emergency Center
CISD  critical incident stress debriefing
c-spine  cervical spine
cm  centimeter
c/o  complains of or complaining of
CO  carbon monoxide
CO₂  carbon dioxide
COBRA  Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act (federal legislation providing
        for EMTALA and continuation of health insurance)
COPD  chronic obstructive pulmonary disease
CPR  cardiopulmonary resuscitation
CQI  continuous quality improvement
D₅W  5% dextrose in water
DCAP-BTLS  deformities, contusions, abrasions, punctures/penetrations,
            burns, tenderness, lacerations, swelling
DCFS  Department of Children and Family Services
dl or dL  deciliter
DNR  do not resuscitate
DOT  Department of Transportation
ED  emergency department
EMD  emergency medical dispatcher
EMS  Emergency Medical Services
ER  emergency room
°F  degrees Fahrenheit
GCS  Glasgow Coma Score
gtt/min  drops per minute
Hazmat  hazardous materials
HEPA mask  high efficiency particulate airborne mask
HIPAA  Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act
HIV  human immunodeficiency virus
HR  heart rate
Abbreviations (continued)

ICS  incident command system
IMS  incident management system
IV  intravenous
J  joules
KED  Kendrick extrication device
kg  kilogram
L  liter
lbs  pounds
L/min or lpm  liters per minute
MCI  multiple casualty incident
mg  milligram
min  minute
mL or ml  milliliters
mmHG  millimeters of mercury
MSDS  Material Safety Data Sheet
MVC  motor vehicle collision or crash
NFPA  National Fire Protection Association
NRM  non-rebreather mask
O2  oxygen
OB  obstetric
OPA  oropharyngeal airway
OPQRST  onset, provokes, quality, radiation, severity, time
OSHA  Occupational Health and Safety Administration
P  pulse
PASG  pneumatic anti-shock garment
PCR  patient care report
Peds  pediatrics
PERRL  pupils equal and round, regular in size, react to light
pH  partial pressure of hydrogen (hydrogen ion concentration)
PPE  personal protective equipment
psi  pounds per square inch
R  respirations
RR  respiratory rate
Rule of nines  Each 9%  Whole head, chest, abdomen, anterior each leg, posterior each leg,
               upper back, lower back/buttocks, whole arm
               1%  Perineum
SAMPLE  symptoms, allergies, medications, past medical history,
         last oral intake, events surrounding the incident
SCBA  self-contained breathing apparatus
SIDS  sudden death infant syndrome
START  simple triage and rapid treatment
TB  tuberculosis
TIA  transient ischemic attack
VS  vital signs
y/o  year old
Part IV Sample Questions

All questions on this examination are multiple-choice with one correct answer. Each question is supported by study materials cited in this bulletin. The answer key appears after these questions.

1. Which of these is the next step an EMT should complete after ensuring scene safety?
   A. Provide transport
   B. Quality assurance
   C. Provide documentation
   D. Gain access to the patient

2. Which of these refers to actions and care that are legally allowed by state law?
   A. Standard of care
   B. Scope of practice
   C. Duty to act
   D. Medical direction

3. Which of these attributes is generally NOT used to describe a patient's breathing?
   A. Duration
   B. Rhythm
   C. Quality
   D. Rate

4. Which of these is the best estimate of systolic pressure when palpating the femoral pulse of a patient?
   A. At least 50 mm/Hg
   B. At least 60 mm/Hg
   C. At least 70 mm/Hg
   D. At least 80 mm/Hg

5. Which of these patients does NOT require administration of supplemental $O_2$?
   A. A 24 y/o woman who is breathing 28 times per minute after an argument with her spouse
   B. A 6 y/o child with a history of asthma whose breath sounds are silent and who is drowsy
   C. A 31 y/o male who is unresponsive due to an overdose of narcotics
   D. A 60 y/o patient with a history of COPD who cannot speak more than 2-3 words without taking another breath
6. For which of these patients is an oropharyngeal airway contraindicated?

A. A cancer patient without a valid DNR who is in cardiac arrest
B. A suspected stroke patient who has no gag response
C. An unresponsive patient with a blood sugar of 30
D. A trauma patient who is awake and responsive

7. A 4 y/o child was struck by a vehicle and is unresponsive with an apparent head injury. The EMT detects increasing resistance to ventilation with a BVM. What should the EMT do next?

A. Check the rate of ventilation.
B. Verify that the airway is open.
C. Switch to a flow-restricted oxygen-powered ventilation device.
D. Stop ventilations for one to two minutes to allow trapped air to escape.

8. Which of these is NOT part of the initial assessment?

A. Starting CPR
B. Assessing the airway
C. Splinting open fractures
D. Forming a general impression

9. Where must an Illinois EMT report suspected elder abuse?

A. The local police
B. The elder abuse hotline
C. The local states attorney
D. Emergency department staff

10. Which of these is most appropriate to communicate with a patient who does not speak English?

A. Ask for assistance from a person who can translate.
B. Speak more softly with numerous hand movements.
C. Talk slowly to help the patient understand English.
D. Don’t speak at all while administering care to the patient.

11. Why is oral glucose administered between the patient’s cheek and gum?

A. It minimizes the taste.
B. It prolongs the drug’s action.
C. It is absorbed more easily there.
D. It is easier for the patient to swallow.
12. Which of these refers to the loss of elasticity of the alveoli leading to a form of COPD?

A. Pneumonia  
B. Emphysema  
C. Chronic bronchitis  
D. Pulmonary edema

13. A 55 y/o patient c/o breathing difficulty with sudden sharp stabbing chest pain after coughing vigorously. The patient has a severe cold and a history of emphysema. VS: P 110, R 30/min and labored, BP 98/70; breath sounds are absent on the right and present on the left. What should the EMT suspect?

A. Pneumonia  
B. Chronic COPD  
C. Acute bronchitis  
D. Spontaneous pneumothorax

14. Which of these is most commonly associated with acute coronary syndrome?

A. Normal pulse and blood pressure  
B. Warm, dry, blue-tinged skin  
C. Pink, frothy sputum  
D. Chest discomfort or pain

15. Which blood glucose value is consistent with hypoglycemia?

A. 60  
B. 90  
C. 100  
D. 150

16. Which of these indicates severe hypothermia?

A. The patient shivers intensely.  
B. The patient is no longer shivering.  
C. The patient complains of chest pain.  
D. The patient complains of intense limb pain and tingling.

17. Which of these is LEAST likely to cause behavioral emergencies?

A. Hypoxia  
B. Hypoglycemia  
C. Hyperglycemia  
D. Drugs or alcohol
18. What does meconium in the amniotic fluid indicate?
   A. The neonate may be in distress.
   B. Postpartum hemorrhage is likely.
   C. A precipitous delivery may occur.
   D. The delivery is progressing normally.

19. When should an APGAR assessment be completed on a newborn?
   A. 1 and 10 minutes after delivery
   B. 5 and 10 minutes after delivery
   C. 3 and 6 minutes after delivery
   D. 1 and 5 minutes after delivery

20. A patient presents with abdominal pain after falling from a third-floor window. VS: BP 84/60, P 110, RR 32. The EMT should suspect which stage of shock?
   A. Irreversible
   B. Retractable
   C. Compensated
   D. Decompensated

21. A conscious adult patient presents with red, painful skin on the entire back and the entire posterior of both legs after a day at the beach. Using the Rule of Nines, how much of the body surface area is burned?
   A. 27%
   B. 36%
   C. 45%
   D. 54%

22. Which of these is NOT a common complication of bone fractures?
   A. Swelling
   B. Hemorrhage
   C. Osteoporosis
   D. Nerve damage

23. Which of these should be included in the usual treatment for head injuries?
   A. Apply the PASG to increase perfusion to the brain.
   B. Transport the patient in the Trendelenburg position to treat for shock.
   C. Administer high-concentration O₂ to help reduce brain tissue swelling.
   D. Hyperventilate the patient to blow off CO₂ and restore brain cell function.
24. Which of these is an indication for leaving a helmet in place on a patient?
   A. The helmet fits snugly.
   B. The helmet is fitted improperly.
   C. The helmet interferes with immobilization.
   D. The helmet interferes with access to the airway.

25. Which of these most accurately describes a patient with two or more adjacent ribs fractured in two or more places?
   A. Tension pneumothorax
   B. Pneumothorax
   C. Flail segment
   D. Hemothorax

26. Which of these is NOT among the ways that infants and children differ from adults?
   A. The child has a proportionally larger head than an adult.
   B. Children have a larger total circulating blood volume than adults.
   C. Infants have proportionally larger tongues than adults.
   D. The child has a larger body surface to mass ratio than adults.

27. Which of these is the most common cause of cardiopulmonary arrest among children?
   A. Respiratory arrest
   B. Poisoning
   C. Seizures
   D. Sepsis

28. Which of these biological agents would lead to nausea, vomiting and “food poisoning” symptoms?
   A. Ricin
   B. Anthrax
   C. Botulism
   D. Salmonella

Answers for EMT Sample Questions

EMT Practice Test

CTS offers a 100-question practice test for EMT candidates that uses questions from the EMT Item Bank. All practice test questions have been validated and are supported by the same references that support questions on the full EMT examinations. Candidates will receive an email with instructions for taking the practice test after they complete the eligibility requirements for this examination. Each candidate receives one free attempt on the practice test each time he/she registers for the full EMT examination. Additional attempts on the practice test also are available for $10 each.

Each practice test score report provides information about how the candidate performed in each content area on the test. Candidates who score below 70 percent in any content area may benefit from further study in those sections before they take the full 150-question EMT examination at a PSI test center.