

### **Iowa EMS Certification Renewal Guidance**

### Renewal Requirement

An lowa EMS certification must be renewed <u>prior</u> to the certification's expiration date to maintain an active status. Failure to complete the renewal process prior to the expiration date will result in the lowa EMS certification's status to change from active to inactive. An lowa emergency medical care clinician may only provide emergency medical care with an active lowa EMS certification.

### Renewal of an Iowa EMS Certification with Continuing Education

To be eligible to renew an lowa EMS certification with continuing education, a minimum number of core topic continuing education hours (CEHs), based on the level of certification, must be completed prior to the certification's expiration date. The table below identifies the minimum number of CEHs, by core topic, and lowa EMS certification level, that must be obtained prior to the certification expiration date.

All core continuing education hours used to renew an Iowa EMS certification must have a sponsor number by an authorized Iowa EMS Training Program, the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, the Iowa Board of Nursing, the Iowa Board of Medicine, or the Commission on Accreditation for Prehospital Continuing Education (CAPCE) before the emergency medical care clinician attends the offering.

Along with obtaining the minimum number of core continuing education hours the clinician must also complete the online renewal process and pay any applicable renewal fees prior to the certification expiration date.

Core Topics	EMR/FR	EMT/EMT-D	AEMT	Paramedic
Airway, Respirations,	1	1	2	3
Ventilations				
Cardiology	2	6	7	9
Trauma	1	2	3	3
Medical	3	6	8	9
Operations	1	5	5	6
Totals	8	20	25	30

### Nationally Recognized and Sponsored Education Programs

An lowa EMS clinician who has completed one or more of the following nationally recognized and approved educational programs during their certification period may apply the awarded continuing education hours (CEH) when renewing their lowa EMS certification without obtaining a sponsoring number utilizing the following guidelines:

- The program must be completed in its entirety during the certification period being renewed
- The completed program must be recognized by the national sponsoring agency
- A certificate/card of program completion must be provided identifying the total number of CEHs awarded

### Single Core Topic Area

The lowa EMS Clinician may choose to apply all the awarded CEHs from the nationally recognized program to a single identified core topic area identified by an "X" in the following chart. As an example: An Iowa EMS Clinician completes a nationally recognized CPR program and receives a certificate of completion for 3 CEHs. The clinician applies all 3 CEHs to the Medical core topic area. Looking down the left-hand column, locate the CPR program, moving from left to right the core topic areas of AVR, Cardiology, Medical, and Operations are marked with an "X" indicating the completed program CEHs can be applied to these topic areas, Trauma is marked with "N/A" indicating the CPR program CEHs could not be applied to this core topic area.

### Multiple Core Topic Areas

The Iowa EMS Clinician may choose to "split" the awarded CEHs between two or more of the identified core topic areas by program. As an example: An Iowa EMS Clinician completes a nationally recognized CPR program and receives a certificate of completion for 3 CEHs.

Looking down the left-hand column, locate the CPR program, moving from left to right the core topic areas of AVR, Cardiology, Medical, and Operations are marked with an "X" indicating the completed program CEHs can be applied to these topic areas, Trauma is marked with "N/A" indicating the CPR program CEHs could not be applied to this core topic area. The clinician can apply 1 of the 3 CEHs to the Medical core topic area, another CEH to the Cardiology core topic area, and the final CEH to the Operations core topic area (total of 3 CEHs applied). When applying CEHs from a single program to two or more core topic areas the total number of CEHs applied may not exceed the total number of CEHs awarded.

## Nationally recognized/sponsored programs approved for Iowa EMS continuing education

Program	AVR	Cardiology	Trauma	Medical	Operations
ABLS	Х	N/A	X	Х	X
ACLS	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
ADLS	N/A	N/A	X	Х	X
ALS	Х	X	X	Х	X
AMLS	Χ	X	X	X	X
APLS	Χ	X	X	X	X
ASLS	Χ	X	X	X	X
ATLS	Х	X	X	Х	X
BDLS	N/A	N/A	X	Х	X
CEVO	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
CPR/BLS	Х	X	N/A	Х	X
EMPACT	Х	X	X	Х	X
EMS Safety	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
ENLS	Χ	X	X	X	X
EPC	Χ	X	X	X	X
EVOC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X
GEMS	Χ	X	X	X	X
HazMat	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 100	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 200	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 300	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 400	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 700	N/A	N/A	X	X	X
IS 800	N/A	N/A	Χ	X	X
ITLS	Χ	X	X	X	X
NRP	Χ	X	X	X	X
PALS	Χ	X	X	X	X
PEARS	Χ	X	X	X	X
PEPP	Х	X	Х	Х	X
PHTLS	Χ	X	X	X	X
TCCC	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
TECC	Х	Х	Х	Х	Х
TIMS	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	X

### Nationally recognized/sponsored continuing education programs

ABLS - Advanced Burn Life Support

ACLS – Advanced Cardiac Life Support

ADLS - Advanced Disaster Life Support

ALS – Advanced Life Support

AMLS - Advanced Medical Life Support

APLS – Advanced Pediatric Life Support

ASLS – Advanced Stroke Life Support

ATLS – Advance Trauma Life Support

BDLS - Basic Disaster Life Support

CEVO - Coaching the Emergency Vehicle Operator

CPR/BLS - Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation

EMPACT – Emergency Medical Patients: Assessment, Care and Transport

ENLS - Emergency Neurological Life Support

EPC - Emergency Pediatric Care

**EVOC – Emergency Vehicle Operator Course** 

GEMS – Geriatric Education for EMS

HazMat – Hazardous Materials

IS 100 – Introduction to Incident Command System

IS 200 – Basic Incident Command System

IS 300 – Intermediate ICS for Expanding Incidents

IS 400 – Advanced ICS Command

IS 700 – Introduction to the National Incident Management System

IS 800 – National Response Framework, An Introduction

ITLS – International Trauma Life Support

NRP – Neonatal Resuscitation Program

PALS – Pediatric Advanced Life Support

PEARS - Pediatric Emergency Assessment, Recognition and Stabilization

PEPP – Pediatric Education for Prehospital Professionals

PHTLS – Prehospital Trauma Life Support

TCCC – Tactical Combat Casualty Care

TECC – Tactical Emergency Casualty Care

TIMS – Traffic Incident Management System

### Renewal of an Iowa EMS Certification with NREMT Certification

An lowa emergency medical care clinician may renew their lowa EMS certification with a current and valid NREMT certification that exceeds their lowa EMS certification expiration date instead of renewing with CEHs. The clinician must complete the online renewal process, pay any applicable renewal fees, and provide the Bureau with verification of a current, valid NREMT certification prior to their lowa EMS certification expiration date. The renewed lowa EMS certification's expiration date will not exceed the expiration date of the NREMT certification utilized for renewal.

### Extension of an Iowa EMS Certification

An lowa emergency medical care clinician who is unable to attain all continuing education requirements within the certification period may request a one-time 45-day extension to complete the continuing education requirements and renewal process. lowa emergency medical care clinicians who wish to apply for an extension must submit a completed application for extension and application fee to the Bureau at least 7-days prior to their certification's expiration date, but no more than 90-days prior to their certification's expiration date. An application for extension and instructions can be downloaded from the Bureau's web page <a href="Emergency Medical Services">Emergency Medical Services</a> | Health & Human Services.

### Late Renewal of an Iowa EMS Certification

An lowa emergency medical care clinician who completed all the required continuing education during their certification period but failed to either submit the EMS renewal of certification or pay applicable fees prior to their certification's expiration date may be eligible for a late renewal of their lowa EMS certification only if the late renewal process is completed within the month following the certification's expiration date. lowa EMS clinicians who did not complete the required continuing education during their certification period are not eligible for late renewal but may be eligible for reactivation of an inactive certification.

### Late Renewal Process

lowa EMS clinicians who meet the eligibility for late renewal of their lowa EMS certification must complete the following steps before the last day of the month following their certification's expiration date:

- Completed the online EMS renewal process in AMANDA
- Pay a \$30 late fee plus any applicable certification renewal fee
- Submit a completed <u>EMS Audit Report Form</u> to the Bureau documenting the completion of all required continuing education prior to their certification's

expiration date. If any of the courses completed are not sponsored by an Iowa Authorized EMS Authorized Training Program, you will need provide copies of the certificates of completion. The <u>EMS Audit Report Form</u> which can be found on the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services, Bureau of Emergency Medical and Emergency Trauma Services web page <u>Emergency Medical Services | Health & Human Services</u>.

Failure to complete all components of the late renewal process by the last day of the month following the certification's expiration date will result in the certification status remaining inactive.

### Reactivation of an Inactive Iowa EMS Certification Status

lowa emergency medical care clinicians whose lowa EMS certification status is inactive may not provide emergency medical care until their certification status is active. Clinicians with an inactive lowa EMS certification may be eligible to reactivate their certification based on the amount of time since the certification became inactive. Reactivation of an inactive certification information and application can be downloaded from the Bureau's web page <a href="Emergency Medical Services">Emergency Medical Services</a> | Health & Human Services.

Additional questions can be addressed to:

Iowa Department of Health and Human Services

Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services

321 East 12th Street

Des Moines, Iowa 50319

515-631-0100 or lowaHHSbemts@hhs.iowa.gov

Please reference IAC 131.6(7) Continuing education renewal. 131.6(7) Continuing education renewal.

a. The table below illustrates the minimum number of core CEHs by topic area for each level of emergency medical care provider to renew an Iowa EMS certification.

Core Topics	EMR/FR	EMT/EMT-D	AEMT	PM
Airway,	1	1	2	3
Respirations,				
Ventilations				
Cardiology	2	6	7	9
Trauma	1	2	3	3
Medical	3	6	8	9
Operations	1	5	5	6
Totals	8	20	25	30

- b.All core continuing education hours used to renew an Iowa EMS certification must have a sponsor number by an authorized Iowa training program, the department, the board of nursing, the board of medicine, or CAPCE before the emergency medical care provider attends the offering.
- c.An emergency medical care provider who is registered with the NREMT may renew the provider's Iowa EMS certification by meeting the NREMT's requirements. The emergency medical care provider must submit the Iowa affirmative renewal of certification application and all appropriate fees.
- d.An emergency medical care provider shall be deemed to have complied with the continuing education requirements during periods in which the provider serves honorably on active duty in the military services or for periods in which the provider is a government employee working as an emergency medical care provider and assigned to duty outside the United States. The emergency medical care provider must submit the lowa affirmative renewal of certification application, all appropriate fees and documentation of assignment.
- e. The emergency medical care provider shall maintain a file containing documentation of CEHs accrued during each certification period for four years from the end of each certification period.
- f. A group of emergency medical care providers will be audited for each certification period.

Emergency medical care providers to be audited will be chosen in a random manner or at the discretion of BETS. Falsifying reports or failure to comply with the audit request may result in formal disciplinary action. Those audited will be required to submit a department-provided audit report form within 45 days of the request. If audited, the emergency medical care provider must provide the following information:

- (1)Date of program.
- (2)Program sponsor number.
- (3)Title of program.
- (4) Number of approved hours.
- 131.6(8) Continuing education approval. The following standards shall be applied for approval of continuing education:

a. CEHs shall have an assigned sponsor number from CAPCE, an authorized EMS training program, the board of nursing, the board of medicine or the department.

b. Human health-related college courses may be approved in advance by BETS at one quarter credit equal to 10 CEHs, one semester credit equal to 15 CEHs.

131.6(9) Out-of-state continuing education. Out-of-state continuing education courses shall be

accepted for CEHs if all criteria in subrule 131.6(7) are met and if the courses have been approved for emergency medical care personnel in the state in which the courses were held. A copy of course completion certificates (or other verifying documentation) shall, upon request, be submitted to the department.

## INSTRUCTIONS TO APPLY FOR EMS CERTIFICATION RENEWAL ON AMANDA

Use the following link to access the online licensing system: https://amanda-portal.idph.state.ia.us/adpereh/portal/#/dashboards/index

For assistance with finding a username or resetting a password, contact the Department of Management Information Technology Help Desk: 515-281-5703 or 1-800-532-1174.

These instructions assume you have already created an A&A account & set up your Profile Page.

NOTE: You must use either Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge when renewing online.

If you need assistance with questions in the application after reviewing these instructions, contact the Iowa Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services at 515-631-0100 or IowaHHSbemts@hhs.iowa.gov.

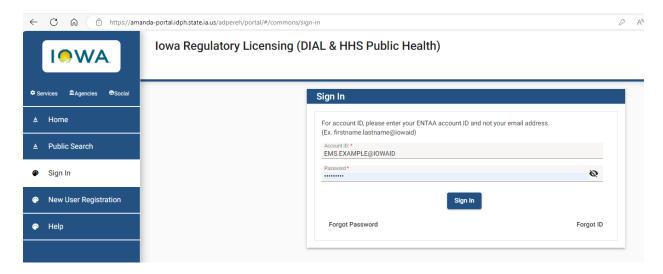
### STEP 1: SIGN IN

Sign In on the portal if you are not already signed in.

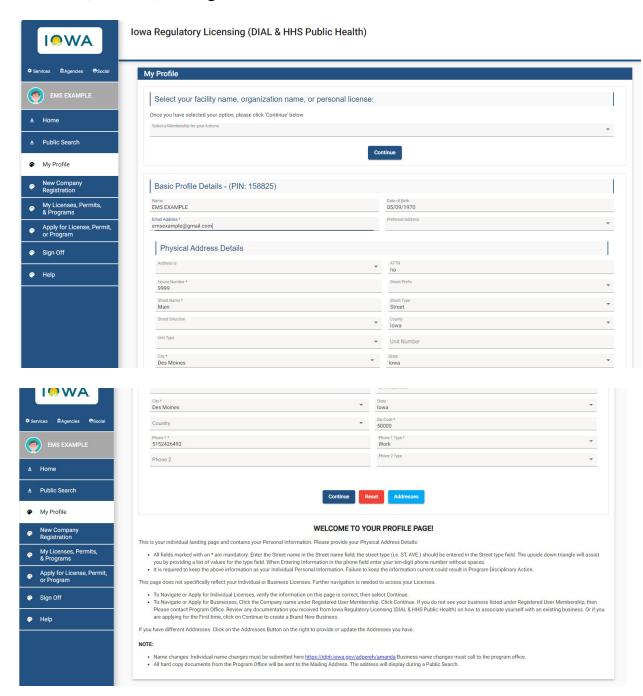
For assistance with finding a username or resetting a password, contact the Department of Management Information Technology Help Desk: 515-281-5703 or 1-800-532-1174.



Enter your Account ID (ends in "@IOWAID") and password.



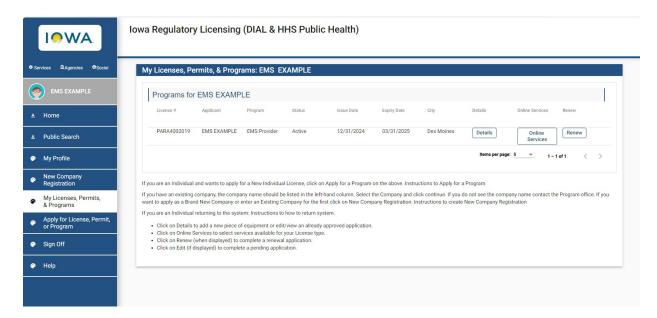
After signing in, you will be taken to the **My Profile** page. Click **Continue** or click on **My Licenses, Permits, & Programs**.



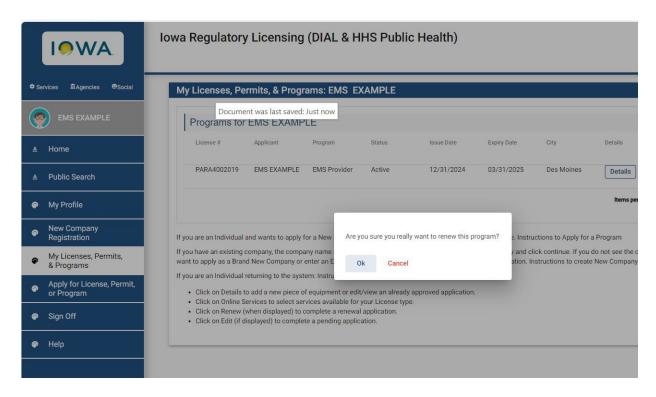
### STEP 2: RENEW

If you clicked **Continue**, you will be taken to your **My Licenses, Permits, & Programs** page.

If you have an EMS certification that is active and it is within 90 days of your certification expiration date, you can click on the **Renew** option.



When you click **Renew** a pop-up message will appear. Click **OK** to continue with the application.



## STEP 3: APPLICATION FORM Affirmation

Questions with a \* (red asterisk) are mandatory. Click on the down arrows to expand each section of the Application Form.

All questions in this section are required. If you answer "Yes" to any of these questions, provide a brief description of all relevant activities into the text box provided below. You may need to provide additional details in an attachment. (See STEP 6: ATTACHMENTS)

You can also reference **EMS Application Affirmation Question Guidance** starting on **page 28** of this document.





# STEP 4: APPLICATION FORM Personal Information Provider Disaster Questions

The Gender selection is a required field. When you renew, this field may already be filled in but there is a drop-down field to view and update.

The two Provider Disaster Questions are required, and you must respond with a "Yes" or "No."

When you are renewing, the responses may already be filled out but can change the responses at this time.

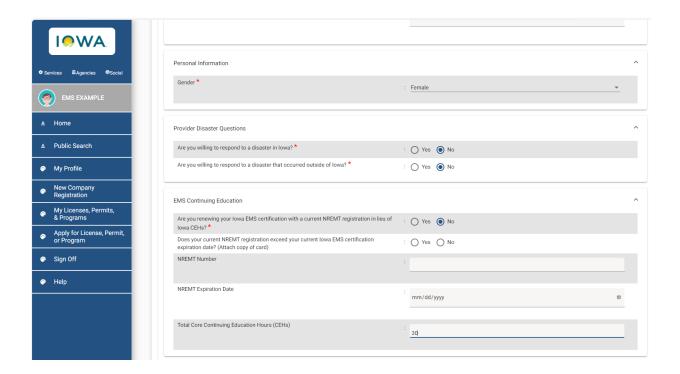


# STEP 5: APPLICATION FORM EMS Continuing Education

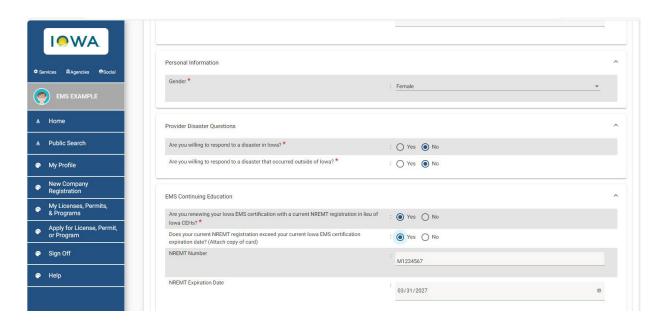
In lowa there are **2** (two) ways to meet EMS renewal requirements.

Option 1 for meeting EMS renewal requirement: If you do not have a current NREMT registration, or, if you do and don't plan to renew it, please answer "No" to the question: "Are you renewing your lowa EMS certification with a current NREMT registration in lieu of lowa CEHs?" Then skip the next 3 (three) NREMT related questions and complete the field for "Total Core Continuing Education Hours (CEHs)."

For additional information on CEHs, go to **lowa EMS Certification Renewal Guidance** starting on page **1** of this document.

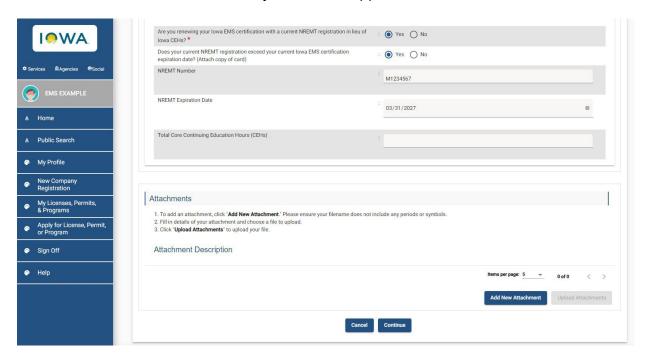


<u>Option 2 for meeting EMS renewal requirement</u>: If you have a NREMT registration that expires <u>after</u> your current lowa EMS certification, please answer "Yes" to the question: <u>"Are you renewing your lowa EMS certification with a current NREMT registration in lieu of lowa CEHs?"</u> Then answer the next 3 (three) NREMT related questions. Please include a copy of your NREMT cared in the attachments. (See STEP 6: ATTACHMENTS)

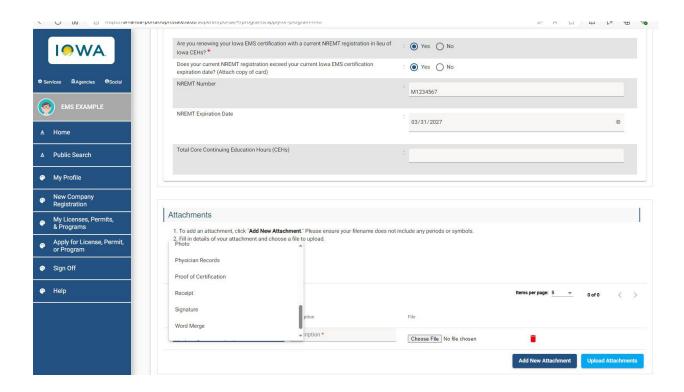


## STEP 6: ATTACHMENTS (OPTIONAL)

If you want or need to include attachments with your renewal application, click the **Add New Attachment** button at the very end of the application form.

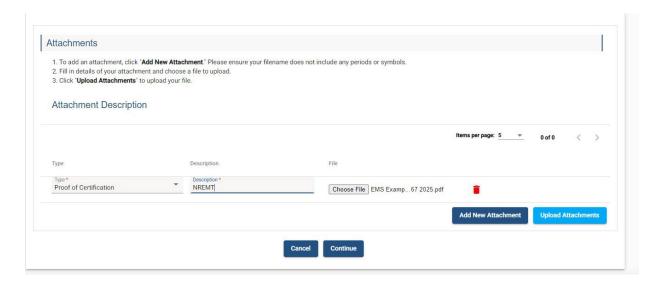


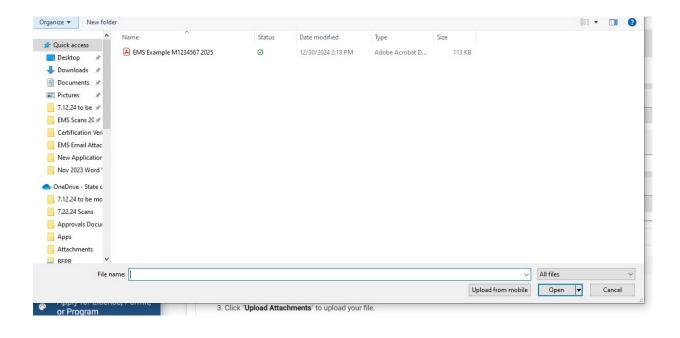
Click in the **Type** field for the drop-down menu. Select the type of attachment.

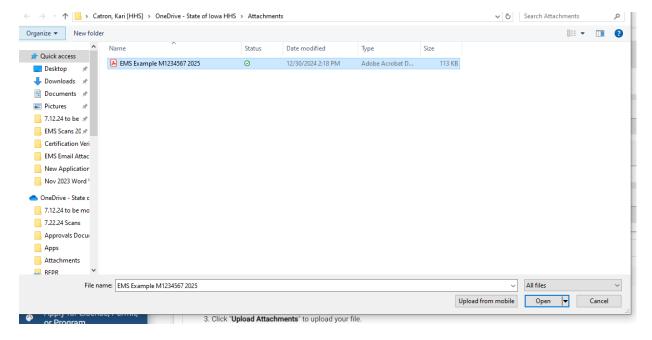


Include a short **Description** of the attachment.

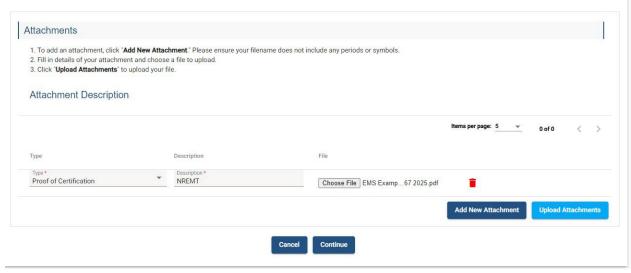
Then, click Choose File and select a document from your files.







### Click Upload Attachments.

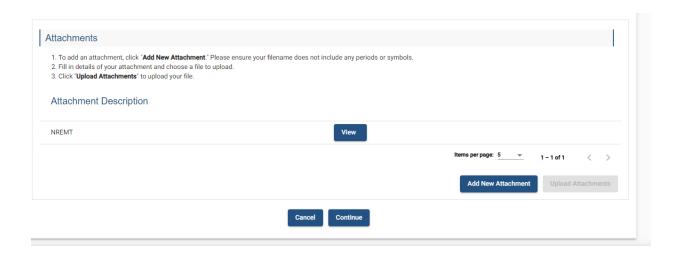


**NOTE:** If you attach a document in error, <u>it cannot</u> <u>be removed by you</u>. You will need to contact the EMS Program staff to have it removed.

If you need to gather information, or add additional documentation, you can leave the application webpage and return later to complete when you select "Edit" instead of Renew. You will need to complete the sign in process and go to your My Licenses, Permits and Programs to see "Edit" option.

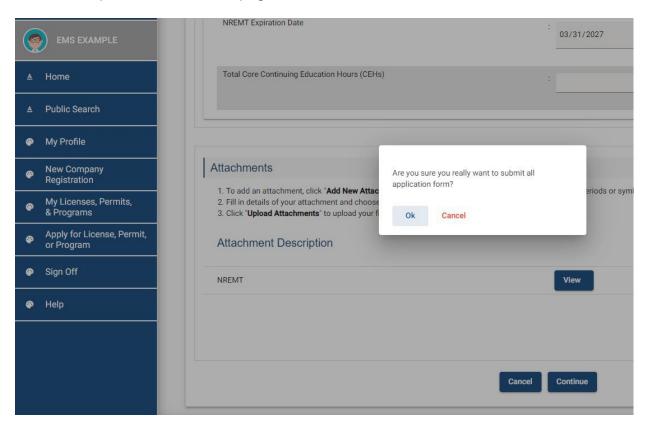
**IF YOU CLICK CANCEL** – this will void your entire renewal application, and you will need to start over again by clicking "Renew" like you did in Step 2.

# WHEN ALL SECTIONS OF THE FORM ARE COMPLETE, CLICK <u>CONTINUE</u>.



When you click **Continue**, a pop-up message will appear.

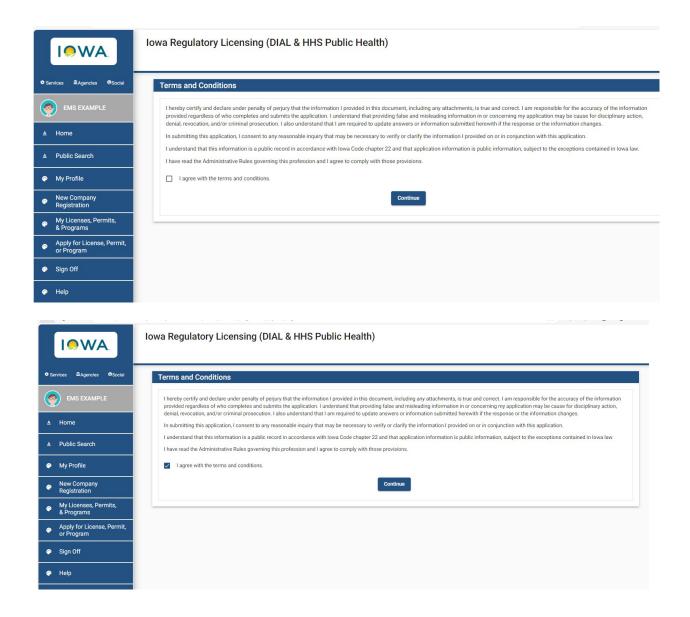
Click **OK** to proceed to the next page.



### STEP 7: TERMS AND CONDITIONS

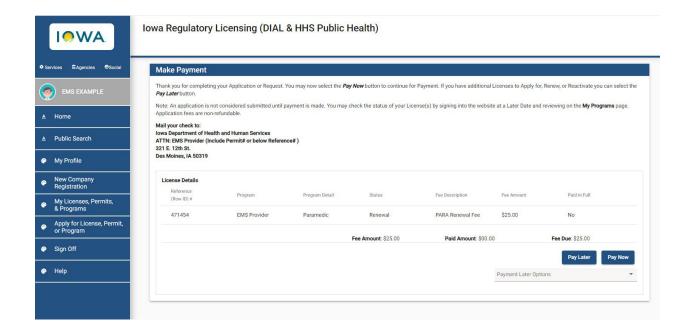
Please read the terms and conditions. If you agree, click the box next to the "I agree with the terms and conditions."

Then click Continue.



### STEP 10: MAKE A PAYMENT

If you are renewing your EMR or EMT before the expiration date, there are no renewal fees.

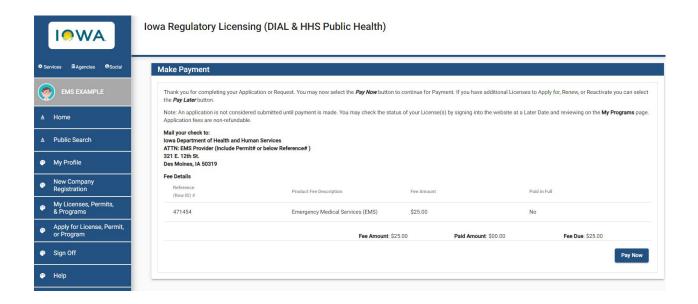


If you are a an AEMT or Paramedic select **Pay Now** if you are ready to pay.

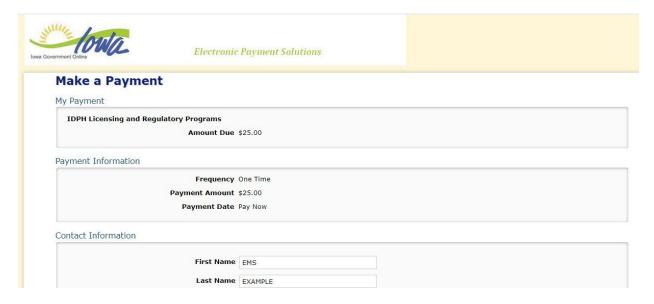
If you are not ready to make a payment, or need to attach additional documents, click the **Pay Later** button to be returned to your programs page.

When you are ready to pay, you will need to go to the AMANDA portal and sign in with your account ID and password. Click <u>Details</u> next to your renewal application to view your application and/or add additional attachments. Click **Make a Payment** and follow the steps. (**Note**: your application is not considered submitted until payment is made.)

When you click on **Pay Now**, the next screen you come to will also give you the option to click **Pay Now** again. Click **Pay Now** if you are ready to pay.



You will be taken to a different site to make the payment. Follow the prompts here to complete the payment. Make sure to record your confirmation number.



### STEP 11: NOTIFICATION OF RENEWAL COMPLETION

Once all the Iowa EMS certification renewal requirements are met, the Iowa Bureau of Emergency Medical and Trauma Services will activate your EMS certification in AMANDA.

You will receive an email notification of Iowa EMS certification activation with a wallet card attached to the email.

### EMS Application Affirmation Questions Guidance

The following information has been established to provide consistent guidance to EMS applicants when completing an EMS renewal application as required by the Bureau.

Specific questions regarding potential background disqualifiers, or how a prior criminal offense or conviction may affect an EMS applicant's ability to obtain Iowa EMS certification, should be directed to Travis Clark at (515) 322-6161 or travis.clark@hhs.iowa.gov.

1: Do you have a medical condition, which in any way currently impairs or limits your ability to perform the duties of this profession? Medical Condition: means any physiological, mental, or psychological condition, impairment, or disorder, including drug addiction and alcoholism.

### Guidance

- This question does **NOT** require a student to disclose acute or chronic medical conditions which will not impede the individual from performing the duties of an EMS clinician. The intent of this question is to determine if there is a specific medical condition, as diagnosed by a physician, which will *impair or limit* the ability of the individual to provide EMS care. As an example, if the student has migraine headaches they would only need to disclose this information if it will in some way impair or limit their ability to provide EMS care. Corrected vision, asthma, do NOT need to be disclosed.

## 1.1 : If yes, provide a statement and a copy of relevant documentation including records from a physician or treatment program.

- If the student answers "yes" to the previous question the EMS student application will not be processed until a letter from a physician is received, reviewed and approved by the Department or the Department's medical director indicating the identified medical condition will not impair or limit the ability of the EMS clinician to provide patient care.

## 2: Have you, within the past five years, engaged in the illegal or improper use of drugs or other chemical substances?

### Guidance

- This question addresses the illegal or improper use of any drug or chemical substance. Illegal or improper use means the use of any drug or substance which is prohibited by state or federal law from use, possession or manufacture without a valid prescription. Additionally, improper use includes the excessive use, or use in consistent with the direction, of prescribed medications prescribed to yourself or to another.

## 2.1: If yes, provide a statement and copy of relevant documentation including records from a physician or treatment program.

- If the student answers "yes" to the previous question the EMS student application will not be processed until a documentation surrounding the incident is received, reviewed and approved by the Department or the Department's medical director indicating the previous or current usage will not impair or limit the ability of the EMS clinician to provide patient care. An EMS student applicant may be required to submit to a substance abuse evaluation, at the student's cost, prior to becoming eligible for lowa certification.
- 3: Have you ever been convicted of a misdemeanor or felony crime? (You do not need to answer yes if your sole conviction or convictions are for minor traffic violations with fines under \$250). In answering this question, note that a conviction means a finding, plea, or verdict of guild made or returned in a criminal proceeding, even if the adjudication of guilt id deferred, withheld, or not entered. This means you must answer yes if a finding or verdict of guilt was

returned against you in a criminal proceeding or if you plead guilty, entered a plea of nolo contendere, or entered an Alford plea in a criminal proceeding, even if the court expunged the matter or the court deferred judgment. You must submit the complaint and judgement of conviction for each offense.

### Guidance

- This question should include criminal charges or traffic offenses, including an incident which has been expunged or deferred, which exceed the referenced fine amount of **\$250**. Arrests for public intoxication, driving while barred, theft or similar criminal offenses would be reportable. A speeding ticket, failure to yield, parking ticket, or other common traffic offense need not generally be disclosed. For the purpose of this question a "fine" is to be considered under \$250 if the *total* amount of the citation, including court costs and surcharge, is equal to or less than \$250.
- 3.1: If yes, include the date, location, charging orders, court disposition and current status (i.e. probation) for each charge.
- If the student answers "yes" to the previous question **an in-depth explanation which provides details of the incident is required.** Simply stating "yes", "deferred", "theft" or "2005 in Dubuque" is not a sufficient response. Additionally, the documents which should be submitted are able to be retrieved from the clerk of court in the county where the offense occurred, an attorney used during the incident or from the arresting or charging law enforcement agency. A printed copy of documents from lowa Courts Online summary is insufficient.
- 4: Has any state or other jurisdiction of the United States or any other nation ever limited, restricted, warned, censured, placed on probation, suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined a professional license, permit, registration, or certification issued to you?

### Guidance

- This question is soliciting information regarding a **professional license issued by a licensing board or body**, not a driver's license, driver's permit or vehicle registration. Some examples of a professional license would be an EMS license, a nursing license, an electrician's license, plumbing license, or a medical license.

### 4.1 : If yes, include the date, location, reason and resolution.

- A "yes" answer to the previous question should involve submission of any documentation or sanctions issued by the respective licensing board and any documentation from any incident leading to the action taken by the respective licensing board or body.

## 5: Have there ever been judgments or settlements paid on your behalf as a result of a professional liability case?

### Guidance

- This question requires an answer if you were a defendant in a professional liability case. An example of this would be if you were named as a defendant in a lawsuit in which you hold, or held, a **professional license** (see 4 above). This question does not apply to being party to a divorce or other civil proceeding in which you were a named party.

### 5.1 : If yes, include the date, location, reason and resolution.

- A "yes" answer to the previous question should involve submission of any documentation from the respective licensing board or body, as well as any court or mediator involved with the incident.

6: Have you ever had a license, permit, registration, or certification denied, suspended, revoked, or otherwise disciplined by a certification body?

### Guidance

- This question is soliciting information regarding a professional license issued by a licensing board or body, not a driver's license, driver's permit or vehicle registration. Some examples of a professional license would be an EMS license, a nursing license, an electrician's license, plumbing license, or a medical license.

### 6.1: If yes, provide a description of the circumstances.

- A "yes" answer to the previous question should involve submission of any documentation or sanctions issued by the respective licensing board and any documentation from any incident leading to the action taken by the respective licensing board or body.