

[First Reprint]

ASSEMBLY, No. 476

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

222nd LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2026 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman GABRIEL RODRIGUEZ

District 33 (Hudson)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblyman Angelozzi

SYNOPSIS

Establishes EMT Workforce Development Partnership in DOH.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As reported by the Assembly Health Infrastructure Committee on October 15, 2026, with amendments.



(Sponsorship Updated As Of: 10/15/2026)

1 AN ACT concerning EMTs¹**[,] and¹** supplementing Title 26 of the
2 Revised Statutes¹**[, and making an appropriation]¹.**
3

4 **BE IT ENACTED** *by the Senate and General Assembly of the State*
5 *of New Jersey:*
6

7 1. As used in this act:

8 “Department” means the Department of Health.

9 “Emergency medical technician” means a person trained in basic
10 life support care and validly certified or recognized by the
11 Commissioner of Health in accordance with the standards for
12 emergency medical technician certification as set forth at N.J.A.C.
13 8:40A.
14

15 2. a. The Commissioner of Health, in coordination with the
16 Commissioner of Education, the Secretary of Higher Education, and
17 hospitals licensed pursuant to P.L.1971, c.136 (C.26:2H-1 et seq.)
18 ¹and subject to the availability of funds¹, shall establish the EMT
19 Workforce Development Partnership, through which students in
20 secondary schools and institutions of higher education, and
21 residents of the communities served by the institutions of higher
22 education, may enroll in a training course, as approved by the
23 Department of Health, that will lead to certification as an
24 emergency medical technician.

25 b. A licensed hospital, agency, organization, or entity that has
26 been certified by the department as an emergency medical
27 technician training agency, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 8:40A-3.1, shall
28 conduct the training and administer the standardized examination
29 required by the department for certification as an emergency
30 medical technician. In the case of a course for students enrolled in
31 secondary school, the training class shall be taught during the
32 school day.

33 c. (1) In order to enroll in a training course offered through the
34 EMT Workforce Development Partnership, a minor student shall be
35 at least 16 years of age by the first training class, and shall meet the
36 conditions established under N.J.A.C. 8:40A-5.2.

37 (2) The department shall provide provisional certification as an
38 emergency medical technician to a minor who has successfully
39 completed the requisite training course and has attained a passing
40 score on the standardized examination for emergency medical
41 technicians, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 8:40A-7.4.

42 d. A hospital, agency, organization, or entity that has been
43 certified by the department as an emergency medical technician
44 training agency, a secondary school, or an institution of higher

EXPLANATION – Matter enclosed in bold-faced brackets **[thus]** in the above bill is
not enacted and is intended to be omitted in the law.

Matter underlined thus is new matter.

Matter enclosed in superscript numerals has been adopted as follows:

¹Assembly AHN committee amendments adopted October 15, 2026.

1 education that participates in the EMT Workforce Development
2 Partnership shall not assess a fee for the cost of the emergency
3 medical technician training course or the standardized certification
4 exam for a student of a participating secondary school or institution
5 of higher education, or a resident of a community served by a
6 participating institution of higher education, provided the student or
7 resident:

8 (1) successfully completes the training course;

9 (2) attains a passing score on the standardized exam required by
10 the department for certification as an emergency medical
11 technician; and

12 (3) serves, for a period of no less than two years, as either a paid
13 or a volunteer emergency medical technician with a first aid,
14 ambulance, or rescue squad located in the municipality or county in
15 which the student's or resident's primary residence is located.

16 e. The Commissioner of Health shall establish a process by
17 which a student of a participating secondary school or institution of
18 higher education, or a resident of a community served by a
19 participating institution of higher education, who does not fulfill the
20 provisions of subsection d. of section 2 of this act, shall reimburse
21 the emergency medical technician training agency for the cost of
22 the emergency medical technician training course or the
23 standardized certification exam, or both.

24
25 3. The Commissioner of Health, in consultation with the
26 Commissioner of Education and the Secretary of Higher Education
27 ¹and subject to the availability of funds¹, shall develop and implement
28 an emergency medical technician recruitment campaign to inform
29 licensed hospitals, agencies, organizations, or entities that are certified
30 by the Department of Health as an emergency medical technician
31 training agency, secondary school educators, institutions of higher
32 education, and the public about the important role that emergency
33 medical technicians play in their communities, and about the benefits
34 of participating in the EMT Workforce Development Partnership.

35
36 4. The Commissioner of Health, the Commissioner of
37 Education, and the Secretary of Higher Education, shall, in
38 accordance with the "Administrative Procedure Act," P.L.1968,
39 c.410 (C.52:14B-1 et seq.), adopt rules and regulations as necessary
40 to implement the provisions of this act.

41
42 ¹**5.** There is appropriated \$1,500,000 from the General Fund to
43 the Department of Health to implement the provisions of this act. ¹**1**

44
45 ¹**6.] 5.**¹ This act shall take effect immediately.