



EMS Information Bulletin- #055

DATE: February 28, 2008
SUBJECT: National Ski Patrol
TO: All EMS Organizations & Personnel
FROM: Bureau of Emergency Medical Services
Pa Department of Health
(717) 787-8740

The Bureau of Emergency Medical Services (EMS) is pleased to announce the inclusion of persons certified by the National Ski Patrol (NSP) in Outdoor Emergency Care into Pennsylvania's EMS System. The following shall be effective immediately:

1. A person who is currently certified in NSP's Outdoor Emergency Care (OEC) can receive reciprocity as a Pennsylvania Department of Health First Responder (FR). The OEC/FR will be required to maintain continuing education requirements for each discipline in order to maintain both certifications (dual certification is voluntary).
2. A Pennsylvania Department of Health FR is responsible for completing 16 hours of continuing education for their respective three year certification period to maintain this level of certification.

Future Objectives of the Program:

1. Work with the Pennsylvania Emergency Health Services Council (state advisory council) and NSP to develop a bridge program from the content of the OEC program to meet the requirements for certification as a Pennsylvania EMT-B.
2. Encourage the coordination of combined OEC/EMT-B courses for ski patrol personnel to gain dual certification as an OEC Technician and EMT-B.