

Re-credentialing Requirements

Communication Assistive Technology

Introduction

31 July 2013

The Communication Assistive Technology credential recognises that Equipment and Modification Services (EMS) Assessors undertaking assessments with people who have communication assistive technology needs require specialist knowledge and training. This knowledge allows the EMS Assessor to provide appropriate advice and recommendations related to communication and assistive technology solutions.

The EMS accreditation framework is managed by Enable New Zealand on behalf of the Ministry of Health

Once an EMS Assessor obtains a credential under the Ministry of Health's Equipment and Modification Services Accreditation Framework it remains valid for three years from the date of issue (see below regarding re-credential timeframe).

The following requirements for re-credentialing have been developed in consultation with the Communication Assistive Technology credentialing panel.

EMS Assessors seeking re-credentialing for level 2 are not required to also meet the requirements for re-credentialing for level 1.

Process

All EMS Assessors will be allocated a renewal date of either 30 June or 31 December. This renewal date will be calculated by whether your initial credentialing was approved in the first or second half of the year. Within the six months before to the renewal date of the credential, the EMS Assessor and their supervisor or employer must confirm they have completed the minimum requirements for renewal of the relevant credential.

Re-credentialing requirements (as outlined below) are an internally (assessor service) monitored process. There is no requirement for evidence to be submitted to Enable New Zealand or the credentialing panel other than audit processes.

There is no compulsory requirement to re complete the EMS core module however this is a recommendation as updates may have occurred.

It is the responsibility of the EMS Assessor to have available written evidence that demonstrates their meeting of the level 1 or 2 re-credentialing requirements:

- to enable their supervisor or employer to endorse re-credentialing.
- for auditing purposes (if required), eg evidence of attendance at courses and learning as part of the EMS Assessor's professional development portfolio.

Attestation of meeting re-credentialing requirements will be by the employer via the EMS Assessor online system, go to:

[EMS Assessor Online](#)

Minimum Requirements

Level 1 - Communication Assistive Technology Re-Credentialing

The following requirements apply to any EMS Assessor wishing to renew the credential irrespective of whether the EMS Assessor is working full or part time.

Level 1-Assessment requirements	Level 1-Professional development and training requirements
<p>A minimum of 9 assessments over 3 years for people who have level 1 Communication Assistive Technology needs</p> <p>Note the following areas can be included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sole need is complex communication or they are emergent communicators. 2. The requirement for low to mid technology communication solutions (e.g. static display devices, keyboard devices that do not require complex programming knowledge). <p>The assessment does not need to result in an application for Ministry of Health funded equipment and may be the result of a review where adjustments/modifications were required to meet changed needs.</p>	<p>A minimum of 12 hours of professional development and training over the 3 year period specific to Communication Assistive Technology.</p> <p>Professional development and training can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attendance at relevant conferences with documentation of applied learning ▪ Attendance at practical training courses and workshops ▪ In-depth product inservices with documentation of learning objectives ▪ Webinars ▪ Product displays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ may only account for a maximum of 4 out of the 12 hours of professional development and training over 3 year period ▪ Literature reviews resulting in a presentation to peers at inservice training.

Level 2 - Communication Assistive Technology Re-Credentialing

The following requirements apply to any EMS Assessor wishing to renew the credential irrespective of whether the EMS Assessor is working full or part time.

Level 2-Assessment requirements	Level 2-Professional development and training requirements
<p>A minimum of 15 assessments over 3 years for people who have level 2 Communication Assistive Technology needs. Assessment may include:</p> <p>Highly complex equipment that requires technical knowledge and support</p> <p>School students who require joint assessments as per the protocol between the Ministry of Health and Ministry of Education</p> <p>People living in community houses or residential care</p> <p>People with deteriorating conditions where needs are changing over time and require solutions that will continue to meet these changing needs.</p> <p>Assessment can include reviews where equipment is adjusted to suit the person's changing needs.</p> <p>The assessment does not need to result in an application for Ministry of Health funded equipment.</p>	<p>A minimum of 12 hours of professional development and training over the 3 year period specific to communication assistive technology.</p> <p>Professional development and training can include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attendance at relevant conferences with documentation of applied learning ▪ Practical training courses and workshops ▪ In-depth product inservices with documentation of learning objectives ▪ Webinars ▪ Product displays <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ may only account for a maximum of 4 out of the 12 hours of professional development and training over 3 year period ▪ Literature reviews resulting in a presentation to peers at inservice training.

Those EMS Assessors unable to meet the re-credentialing requirements (as above) within the required time frames will need to recommence all credentialing requirements to gain the Communication Assistive Technology Level 1 credential as applicable.

For further information about the Equipment and Modification Services Accreditation Framework visit: www.disabilityfunding.co.nz/ems-assessors

Or contact Enable New Zealand:

call **0800 17 1981**

email **assessor.info@enable.co.nz**