



The EHSF would like to remind EMS agencies the Department of Health is the lead regarding information about the Coronavirus. The EHSF will continue to disseminate information provided by the Bureau of EMS for EMS agencies as quickly as possible. Information and guidance are changing rapidly.

## Regional Status

As of the time this document was written (Tuesday, 04/07/2020 at 2030 hours), there are 14,559 confirmed cases of COVID-19 throughout Pennsylvania and 240 reported deaths. Please know the number of cases can change frequently.

County	Confirmed Cases	Deaths
Adams	28	0
Cumberland	77	2
Dauphin	155	1
Franklin	39	0
Lancaster	490	14
Lebanon	145	0
Perry	9	1
York	218	2
<b>EHSF Total</b>	<b>1,161</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Pennsylvania Total</b>	<b>14,559</b>	<b>240</b>

You can monitor the coronavirus in Pennsylvania at this link:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

## Updates from the Governor's Office/Department of Health:

Continue practicing social distancing.

Non-essential businesses and public schools will remain closed indefinitely.

A stay at home order is in effect for all counties in Pennsylvania.

General public was requested to wear a mask when leaving their homes.

## Updates from the Bureau of EMS

Here is the link to a listing of EMS Information Bulletins (EMSIBs): <https://www.ehsf.org/ems-information-bulletins/>.

### - **Previous EMSIBs**

- EMSIB 2020-01 Novel coronavirus 2019-nCoV
- EMSIB 2020-02 Infection Control
- EMSIB 2020-06 Protocol and Policy Updates Related to COVID-19
- EMSIB 2020-07 Alternate Pathway for Psychomotor Testing
- EMSIB 2020-08 Issued Extension to EMS Certification Expiration Dates



- EMSIB 2020-09 Out of State Licensed EMS Agencies
- EMSIB 2020-10 EMS Providers Obtaining Nasopharyngeal Swabs
- EMSIB 2020-11 Level I EMS Staffing Exceptions
- EMSIB 2020-12 PCR Data Collection for Exemptions Outlined in EMSIB 2020-11
- EMSIB 2020-13 Alternatives to Nebulized Bronchodilators During COVID-2019

- **New EMSIBs**

- EMSIB 2020-14 COVID-19 Lapse of Registration Regulatory Exception
- EMSIB 2020-15 Signatures on Transfer of Care Forms

**EMSIB 2020-14 COVID-19 Lapse of Registration Regulatory Exception**

The Bureau of EMS will permit exceptions to the reinstatement requirements in attempt to increase the number of providers available to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Until October 15, 2020, any expired EMS provider whose certification expired after December 31, 2014, may apply for reinstatement without having to complete the con-ed or testing requirements.

The certification will be valid until October 15, 2020. If the provider wishes to maintain certification beyond October 15, 2020, then they will need to complete the reinstatement requirements identified in EMSIB 2020-05 Issued Regulator Exceptions to the Lapse of Registration Process.

If an expired provider wishes to submit an application for reinstatement, they need to log into to the PA EMS Registry and go to their provider practitioner record. Under the “Manage My Certifications” section, they will select “Covid-19 Temporary” from the dropdown menu. After answering the criminal history/disciplinary actions questions and reading the acknowledgement, they will be able to submit the application.

Additional questions can be directed to Diana Carmody at [dcarmody@ehsf.org](mailto:dcarmody@ehsf.org) or 717-316-0797.

**EMSIB 2020-15 Signatures on Transfer of Care Forms**

The Bureau of EMS provided the transfer of care form is still required to be completed. However, the EMS provider does not need to obtain a signature from the receiving facility staff. The EMS provider should write the name of the individual receiving the patient.

**State EMS Webinar**

The Bureau of EMS will be hosting a statewide EMS webinar on Friday, April 10, 2020, at 1500 hours. The webinar will not provide continuing education credits.

Registration is required and is limited to 1,000 people. They request you limit one registration per agency.

To register in advance go to: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_sn85RnnDSmuS8d88c6Z5gg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_sn85RnnDSmuS8d88c6Z5gg)



## Regional EMS Agency Conference Call

Just a reminder of the weekly EHSF conference calls. The calls will separate counties into groups to include representation from the County EMA, County PSAP, and hospitals. Conference calls are anticipated to last 30 minutes.

County	Weekday	Time	Call In Information
Adams	Thursday	1400	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445
Cumberland	Wednesday	1400	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445
Dauphin	Wednesday	0900	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445
Franklin	Thursday	1400	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445
Lancaster	Friday	1000	Provided through Lancaster County EMS Council
Lebanon	Wednesday	0900	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445
Perry	Wednesday	1400	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445
York	Thursday	0900	571-317-3122 Access Code: 888-434-445

If you are unable to attend your specific counties call, you are welcome to join another county's call. However, local information provided by the EMA, PSAP, and hospitals may be missed.

## EHSF Activities to Date

- Conference Calls:
  - o Medical Command Facility Directors
  - o County Council Presidents
  - o SCTF
  - o EMS County Council Meetings
  - o Regional 9-1-1 Centers (PSAPs)
  - o Dr. Alvin Wang Regional Medical Director, Montgomery County EMS Council
- Finalized Regional COOP Plan Revisions
  - o Prepares the region to request exceptions and make provisions if workforce or resources reach critical levels
  - o Sharing plan with necessary stakeholders
  - o Developing documents to request exceptions if needed
- Generated Best Practice Documents for the following:
  - o EMS Operations and General Information
  - o QRS Response Guidance
  - o Fire Services on EMS Incidents
  - o Screening Providers
  - o No Work / Return to Work Eligibility
  - o PPE is Key
- Monitor staffing levels of EMS agencies and PSAPs
- Sent treatment consideration for ALS Protocol change to Bureau of EMS



- Currently under consideration
- Developed tool to assist with no transport/treat at home with self-care for influenza-like illness patients
- Developed reporting tool for minimum staffing exceptions

## Communication Pathway

We encourage EMS agency leadership to communicate with the respective County Council President. We will be sharing information to them to share with the EMS agencies. We will also be communicating with them frequently to evaluate the status and needs of each county.

<b>County</b>	<b>County Council President</b>
Adams	Eric Zaney
Cumberland	Duane Nieves
Dauphin	Jason Campbell
Franklin	Doug Bitner
Lancaster	Darrell Fisher
Lebanon	Steve Mrozowski
Perry	Wes Smith
York	Mark Moody

## Helpful Information:

You can learn more about the coronavirus on the CDC's website at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

You can reference documents shared by the EHSF at:

<https://www.ehsf.org/index.php/resource/coronavirus-update>