



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

Based on data from the Department of Health, there are 40,049 confirmed cases of COVID-19 throughout Pennsylvania and 1,537 reported deaths. The Department of Health has adjusted their case numbers since yesterday resulting in a decrease total count in some counties.

County	Confirmed Cases	Deaths
Adams	113	1
Cumberland	250	8
Dauphin	492	18
Franklin	181	1
Lancaster	1,501	74
Lebanon	592	7
Perry	26	1
York	578	8
EHSF Total	3,733	118
Pennsylvania Total	40,049	1,537

You can monitor the coronavirus cases in Pennsylvania at this link:
<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/disease/Pages/Coronavirus.aspx>

You can monitor the Hospital Preparedness Dashboard at this link:
<https://www.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/85054b06472e4208b02285b8557f24cf>

You can monitor the confirmed cases on a map at a county level or by zip code at this link:
<https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/bc92e33cfd5d417795f7a7a1a5cb3b1d/>

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

A stay at home order is in effect for all counties in Pennsylvania until 08 May 2020.

The Governor's office released a roadmap to open businesses in the future based on data from regions across the Commonwealth.

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**
 - o 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
 - EMSIB 2020-14 COVID-19 Lapse of Registration Regulatory Exception
 - EMSIB 2020-15 Signatures on Transfer of Care Forms
 - EMSIB 2020-16 PPE Reminders
 - EMSIB 2020-17 Temporary Statewide BLS Non-Transport of Patients with Suspected COVID-19
 - EMSIB 2020-18 Cardiac Arrest Treatment by EMS of a Patient with Suspected COVID-19
- **New EMSIBs**
- none

Grant Opportunity

FEMA announced available funding for Assistance to Firefighters Grant – COVID-19 Supplemental Program (AFG-S) to help with personal protective equipment during the pandemic. They will begin accepting AFG-S applications on Tuesday, April 28, 2020. The deadline to apply is Friday, May 15, 2020 at 1700 hours.

To learn more about the AFG-S opportunity, go to: <https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/187460>.

PPE Reminder: Don't Forget Eye Protection

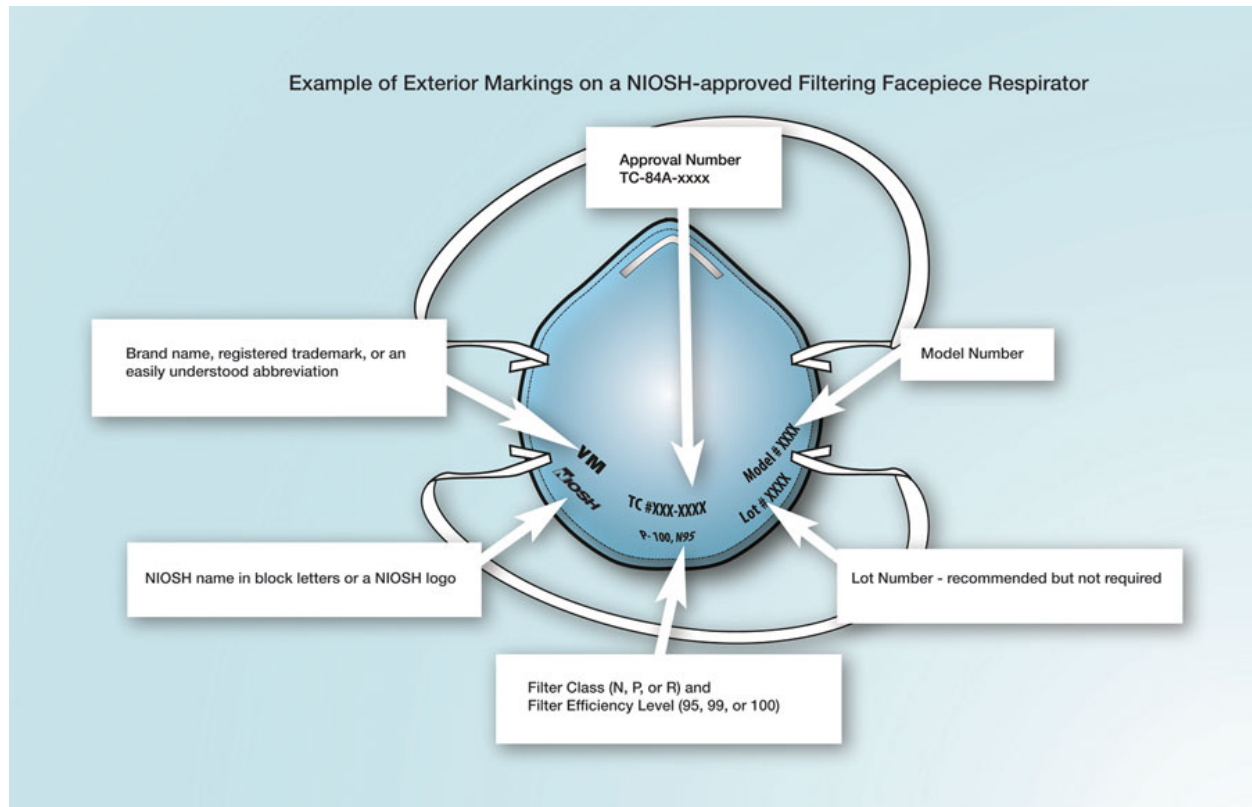
The EHSF would like to remind EMS providers to remember eye protection when wearing PPE for a suspected COVID-19 patient. All mucous membranes need to be covered for adequate protection. Goggles or safety glasses should be worn. Regular eyeglasses do not provide adequate eye protection. Providers are encouraged to wear goggles or safety glasses over eyeglasses.

Counterfeit N95 Masks

As EMS agencies attempt to secure N95 masks from nontraditional vendors or through donations, they need to be cautious the N95 masks are real and not counterfeit. The CDC announced counterfeit respirators are being falsely marketed and sold as NIOSH-approved, and they may not be capable of providing appropriate respiratory protection. To learn signs a respirator may be counterfeit and see images go to: <https://www.cdc.gov/niosh/npptl/usernotices/counterfeitResp.html>.



Example of the Correct Exterior Markings on a NIOSH-Approved Filtering Facepiece Respirator



Mental Health Mondays

The EHSF will continue posting mental health resources on social media every Monday. Here are four resources the EHSF will be sharing over the next four weeks:

- Webinar to learn how stress impacts our bodies, strategies to lower stress, and ways leaders can help decrease stress for their front-line providers: <https://info.lexipol.com/webinar-coronavirus-stress-management>
- All Clear Foundation to support first responders and their families: <https://allclearfoundation.org/resources/>
- National Volunteer Fire Council Fire/EMS Help Line: 1-888-731-FIRE (3473)
- Responder REL8 – a peer to peer app providing peer-to-peer chat: <https://responderrel8.com/0>

AAP Minutes Matter Campaign

The American Ambulance Association developed a Minutes Matter Campaign to encourage citizens to not hesitate calling 9-1-1 for emergencies. Information can be found at:

<https://ambulance.org/2020/04/23/minutesmatter-campaign-dont-hesitate-to-call-911/>.



Regional EMS Agency Conference Call Schedule

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
 - o EMS Agencies
- 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
 - o Reduce Exposure to COVID-19
- Monitor staffing levels of EMS agencies and PSAPs
- Sent treatment consideration for ALS Protocol change to Bureau of EMS
- 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.

County	County Council President
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>

ACEP COVID-19 Field Guide:

<https://www.acep.org/corona/covid-19-field-guide/cover-page/>

AAMC: COVID-19 Clinical Guidance Repository

www.aamc.org/covid19guidance