



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 45,763 confirmed cases of COVID-19 throughout Pennsylvania and 4,460 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	137	4
Cumberland	343	16
Dauphin	584	25
Franklin	284	6
Lancaster	1,765	104
Lebanon	676	9
Perry	30	1
York	641	9
EHSF Total	4,460	174
Pennsylvania Total	45,763	2,292

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 counties across the Commonwealth. The plan is to review data and open county-by-county.

Some outdoor recreational activities will begin opening 01 May 2020, such as golf courses, marinas, guided fishing trips, and privately owned campgrounds.



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
- 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**

- EMSIB 2020-19 Revised Interim Guidance for Cardiac Arrest Treatment by EMS of a Patient with Suspected COVID-19

EMSIB 2020-19 Revised Interim Guidance for Cardiac Arrest Treatment by EMS of a Patient with Suspected COVID-19

The Bureau of EMS released an EMSIB to replace EMSIB 2020-18, which provides an update on interim guidance for cardiac arrest treatment by EMS for a patient with suspected COVID-19. The guidance in this EMSIB provides a summary of considerations for patients with suspected COVID-19. The EMSIB encourages EMS agencies to work with their agency medical medication to determine which recommendations best fits their local operations.

Reporting COVID-19 EMS Agency Status

The EHSF is asking EMS agencies to report how the COVID-19 pandemic is impacting their agency. The EHSF developed a short reporting tool, which is available on the EHSF website. Go to www.ehsf.org. At the top of the website in the sitewide alert banner, click on "Submit an EMS Agency Status Report".

The reporting form is asking for the number of EMS providers:

- In quarantine from COVID-19
- Tested for COVID-19



- Tested positive for COVID-19
- Hospitalized from COVID-19
- Tested for antibodies for COVID-19
- Tested positive for antibodies from COVID-19

Thermometers

The thermometers have arrived! The infrared, no-touch thermometers were purchased for frontline transport capable EMS vehicles. The EHSF e-mailed the EMS agency leadership providing the distribution plan for each county. Thermometers will be distributed tomorrow (Friday, 01 May 2020)

Volunteer Loan Assistance Program (VLAP)

The Governor announced payments for the Volunteer Loan Assistance Program can be deferred for the months of April, May, and June. VLAP has been available for volunteer fire companies and ambulance services to update equipment and vehicles. Agencies temporarily deferring payments will not receive interests or penalties. Agencies wishing to decline deferment should notify the Office of the State Fire Commissioner via lesinclair@pa.gov. More information can be found at www.osfc.pa.gov.

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



- EMS Agencies
- Finalized Regional COOP Plan Revisions
 - Prepares the region to request exceptions and make provisions if workforce or resources reach critical levels
 - Sharing plan with necessary stakeholders
 - Developing documents to request exceptions if needed
- Generated Best Practice Documents for the following:
 - EMS Operations and General Information
 - QRS Response Guidance
 - Fire Services on EMS Incidents
 - Screening Providers
 - No Work / Return to Work Eligibility
 - PPE is Key
 - 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>



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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

Mental Health Resources

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>