



State of Maryland

**Maryland
Institute for
Emergency Medical
Services Systems**

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Executive Order Relating to Emergency Medical Services issued March 19, 2020 & Actions Taken Pursuant to the Executive Order

On March 19, 2020, Governor Hogan issued an Executive Order specific to Emergency Medical Services (EMS) in Maryland and the state of emergency and catastrophic health emergency due to the spread of COVID-19 in the State. Based on that Executive Order, the State EMS Board and the Executive Director of the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services System (MIEMSS) have taken certain Actions. The following is a summary of the Executive Order and the Actions taken.

I. The Governor’s Executive Order Number 20-03-19-03 Augmenting the Emergency Medical Services Workforce

The Governor’s Executive Order underscored the need to maximize the availability of EMS personnel to respond to COVID-19. The Executive Order authorized the Chair of the State EMS Board and the Executive Director of MIEMSS to take action to suspend the effects of any provision contained in:

- Certain sections of Maryland’s EMS statute (Education Article of the Maryland Code)
 - §13-515 – Commercial Ambulance Services licensing
 - §13-516 – Licensing and certification of EMS personnel
 - §13-517 – Public Access AED Program; and
- Maryland’s EMS regulations (Title 30 of the Code of Maryland Regulations)

The Executive Order requires that in suspending any provision, the EMS Board Chair and MIEMSS Executive Director must determine that the suspension will augment the EMS workforce and improve response to the COVID-19 emergency, while not endangering public health, welfare or safety.

The Executive Order also authorizes the EMS Board Chair and MIEMSS Executive Director to issue additional, revised, or supplemental procedures or protocols for EMS licensing, certification, or scope of practice.

The Executive Order is effective until the state of emergency is terminated and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded (“the emergency period”). **Governor’s Executive Order Number 20-03-19-03**

II. MIEMSS / EMS Board Action under the Executive Order – March 26, 2020

On March 26, 2020, the EMS Board Chair and MIEMSS Executive Director took the following actions under the Governor’s Executive Order. The Public Notice of actions taken is at: www.miemss.org.

1. Authorization of a new EMS Provisional Status Certification / License that is valid from the date of issue until 30 days after the end of the emergency period.

The new Provisional status is available to (A) applicants who are licensed / certified as EMS clinicians in another state, (B) students in EMS educational courses, and (C) individuals with expired Maryland licenses / certifications. Applicants for Provisional status do not need a current affiliation with an EMS Operational Program. However, Provisional EMS clinicians must function under appropriate medical direction and must notify MIEMSS once they obtain any EMS affiliation or other employment using their Provisional license or certificate.

(A) Provisional Status for Out of State Applicants (Reciprocity) - MIEMSS will issue Provisional status to personnel who hold current EMS licenses / certifications in states other than Maryland. The Provisional status will be valid from the date of issue until 30 days after the termination of the Governor's Declared State of Catastrophic Health Emergency.

For Provisional EMT Certification, there is no requirement to complete a 12-hour skills refresher or protocol review and system orientation.

For Provisional Paramedic Licensure, there is no requirement to complete a Maryland protocol review session or pass a paramedic protocol exam.

Provisional EMT applicants may include those certified as an Advanced EMT in another state.

To apply:

- Go to miemsslicense.com to create an account. Complete and submit the provisional reciprocity application.
- Provide proof of out-of-state certification (you may upload documentation in the application). Out of state certification must be current and valid in the state that issued the certification.

(B) Provisional Status for Students in EMS Educational Programs - MIEMSS will issue a Provisional status Certification / Licensure to EMS students as shown below. The Provisional status will be valid from the date of issue until 30 days after the termination of the emergency period.

EMR students who successfully complete an EMR educational course between January 2020 - July 2020 at an approved educational program, but who have not successfully completed Psychomotor Testing or testing by the National Registry of EMTs.

EMT students who successfully complete an EMT educational course between January 2020 - July 2020 at an approved educational program, but who have not successfully completed an internship, Psychomotor Testing, or testing by the National Registry of EMTs.

Paramedic students who successfully complete a Paramedic educational course between January 2020 - July 2020 at an approved educational program, but who have not successfully completed a Protocol examination, or testing by the National Registry of EMTs.

To apply:

- Go to miemsslicense.com to create an account. Complete and submit the provisional BLS or ALS student application.
- MIEMSS will verify successful course completion with course instructors.

Note: In order to receive full Maryland Certification or Licensure, students must complete all unfinished requirements within two years of course completion.

(C) Provisional Status for Expired Maryland Certification / License - MIEMSS will issue Provisional Status to individuals shown below. The Provisional Status will be valid from the date of issue until 30 days after the termination of the emergency period.

EMR -- individuals whose Maryland EMR certification expired within the past ten years (i.e., from 2010 to present).

EMT -- individuals whose Maryland EMT certification expired within the past ten years (i.e., from 2010 to present).

CRT -- individuals whose Maryland CRT license has expired within the past five years (i.e., from 2015 to present).

Paramedic -- individuals whose Paramedic license has expired within the past five years, (i.e., from 2015 to present).

To apply:

- Log in to your account at miemsslicense.com
- Complete and submit the provisional BLS or ALS reinstatement application.

2.Suspension of requirements to re-activate Maryland EMS licenses or certifications. Maryland EMS clinicians currently on Inactive Status may re-activate their certification or licensure without affiliating with an EMS Operational Program, attending a skills review session, and, if an Inactive ALS Clinician, attending an approved ALS training program.

To re-active:

- Log in to your account at miemsslicense.com
- Complete and submit the provisional inactive clinician application.

3.Modification of Mobile Integrated Community Health (MIH) Program Optional Supplemental Protocols. The Maryland Medical Protocols are modified to permit:

- staffing for approved MIH teams to be either a nurse practitioner / registered nurse and experienced paramedic or a single experience paramedic; and
- the Paramedic to perform an abuse/neglect evaluation, conduct a home safety check, perform vital sign acquisition (i.e., temperature, pulse, RR, BP, pulse oximetry); the individual assessment, medication reconciliation/compliance, make referrals, interface with the primary health care professional/physician, and makes recommendations to the patient.