

## **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 Maryland Institute for EMS Systems (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 MIEMSS Executive Director to take action to suspend the effects of any provision contained in Maryland's EMS statute and 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 that are needed.

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effective until the state of emergency is terminated and the proclamation of the catastrophic health emergency has been rescinded ("the emergency period").

### **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.

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 Licensure / Certification is now available to (A) applicants who are licensed / certified as EMS clinicians in another state, (B) students in approved EMS educational courses, and (C) individuals with expired Maryland licenses / certifications.
2. Suspension of requirements to re-activate Maryland EMS licenses or certifications during the emergency period. 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.
3. Modification of Mobile Integrated Community Health (MIH) Program Optional Supplemental Protocols during the emergency period. MIH Programs may staff a MIH team with a single experienced Paramedic.

Specific information is available at [www.miemss.org](http://www.miemss.org) on each of the MIEMSS/EMS Board Actions.