

Georgia OEMS Update – COVID-19 - Friday, 3/27/2020

Reminders

- OEMS Updates on our website – www.ems.ga.gov
- Make sure Emails are up to date in LMS for all your personnel
- Agencies must update rosters

PPE

- Requests (ReadyOp form to complete PPE requests) – check with your Regional EMS Director
- Guidelines – please follow latest CDC, DPH and OEMS Guidelines on PPE use and optimization

WebEOC Survey

- More information to come on this

Extension of Expiration Dates

- As of 3/27/2020
- Just a few days left! Must renew or extend before 4/1/2020

Emergency Rule 511-9-2-0.2-.20 Emergency Medical Services Rules for COVID-19 Response

- EMS Workforce
- Temporary License
- Provisional License
- Reinstatement
- Air Ambulance Staffing
- Ground Ambulance Staffing
- Data Reporting Requirements

Temporary License (will expire on 6/30/2020)

- **Who is eligible?**
 - Currently licensed in **good standing** in another U.S. State or Territory
 - A person previously licensed in GA with a 2017 (2,574), 2018 (808), 2019 (1,773) or 2020 expiration date
- **NOTES:**
 - Must be sponsored by an EMS Agency, hospital, or acute care medical facility
 - No charge for license application
 - “Good Standing” as used in this rule refers to a license that is unrestricted, not on probation or suspension and is not currently under investigation and has had no adverse actions taken against that are still in effect.
 - Will expire on 6/30/2020

Provisional License

- Due to social distancing requirements, NR has cancelled all Psychomotor exam (AEMT, Paramedic), and therefore has instituted a policy to issue provisional certification to those who pass CBT
- Notes:
 - Same fee, \$75
 - Background check still required
 - Expiration Date will be set to NR provisional cert expiration date
 - Not-renewable → must convert to full license before expiration date

Reinstatement – must be done by 6/30/2020

- **Who is eligible?**
 - Previously licensed in GA in **good standing** with a 2017 (2,574), 2018 (808), or 2019 (1,773) expiration date
- **NOTES:**
 - Same fee as normal, \$75
 - Background check still required
 - Current BLS (all levels) and ACLS (CT or Paramedic)
 - Expiration date will be 3/31/2022
 - Full license = Renewable

Air Ambulance & Ground Ambulance

- No more than 1 temporary license on the transport
- Ground Ambulance
 - Either 2 medics (only 1 can have temporary license) OR 1 medic and 1 RN/PA/MD/DO (only 1 can have temporary license)
 - During significant staffing shortage, a ground ambulance agency may request to allow a firefighter or peace officer be the driver

Data Reporting Requirements for EMS Agencies

- Dispatch Log – with the following data, when applicable
 - Date call received;
 - Time call received;
 - Source of call;
 - Call back telephone number;
 - Location of Pt;
 - Apparent problems;
 - Unit and crew dispatched and time of dispatch;
 - Time arrived at scene;
 - Time left scene;
 - Time arrived at transferring facility;
 - Time left transferring facility;
 - Time arrived at Pt's destination or receiving facility; and
 - Destination of Pt.

Electronic Pt Care Reports

- Crews (medics, RN, etc) are required to complete the ePCR themselves *before* the end of their current work shift
- Agencies must submit to GEMSIS Elite within 24 hours of call completion
- Data must be valid and accurate
- Agencies must correct failed imports (this is not considered a failure of the software)
- Agencies must use the correct destination codes
- Software/Hardware failures must be submitted to OEMS within 12 hours, and kept on a log; once failure is corrected, must submit within 24 hours
- Must have a narrative that describes the “story” – can’t just say “see nurses note” or “see chart”

Abbreviated PCRs

- If agency can get full ePCR (electronic, faxed, printed) to the hospital before the crew leaves, that is perfect
- ...if they can't, then the crew is required to leave an abbreviated PCR at the hospital before they depart the facility, and it must contain the following elements:
 - Pt first name, last name, gender, and date of birth;
 - EMS Agency name & incident #, crew members that transported
 - Date/Time when the call was received
 - Date/Time when the transporting unit arrived on scene, left the scene and arrived at the destination
 - Date/Time when the Pt was injured, last known to be well, had ROSC
 - Date/Time of FMC
 - List of other first responder agencies;
 - Pt H&PE, C/C, Tx
 - Any other information available to the EMS Agency that is necessary for the continued care of the Pt at the receiving facility.

Quick Report Form

- Posted on www.ems.ga.gov in both Excel and PDF formats
- Meets the minimum abbreviated PCR requirements

Personnel Roster

- EMS Agencies must submit additions to their roster of any driver (excluding helicopter pilots), medic, nurse, physician assistant or physician **prior to** the person being permitted to staff an ambulance or medical first responder vehicle
- EMS Agencies must submit deletions or modifications to their roster within 96 hours of the employment status change.
- Help us help you!

Emergency Administrative Order

- dph.georgia.gov, and scroll down

EMS Educational/Licensing Pipeline

- NR (see NREMT COVID-19 page)
 - Provisional Certifications
 - Extension of Expiration Dates
 - Removal of Max Distance Learning
- Pearson Vue
 - Some testing centers are open – candidates can check status when they go to the website and search for a testing site
- Fingerprints
 - Some are open – may have to drive further than normal

Next call – Friday, April 3, 2020 @ 11am – contact your Regional EMS Director for the login/call-in information.