



Department of Public Safety
Office of the EMS Medical Director

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COVID-19 FAQ's for EMS/Fire/Law Enforcement

Meetings and Training

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- 1) What should I do for meetings and trainings?
 - a. All meetings and training should follow social distancing guidelines.
 - a. Ideally, limit trainings to small groups whenever possible, consider technology platforms for hosting larger meetings across stations/membership, etc.
 - b. Seat personnel at least 6 feet from each other
 - c. If unable to sit at least 6 feet, participants should wear facial coverings or masks.
 - b. Most banquets, conferences, and large professional meetings have been cancelled. Each large event should be taken on a case-by-case basis based on the prevalence of disease, the venue, and the activities planned.
- 2) What about training at the PSTF?
 - a. Training at the PSTF has been restarted, albeit on a limited basis in order to comply with social distancing and educational institution best practices. All personnel training at the PSTF are expected to follow MCC guidelines for attendance, masking, cleaning procedures, etc.
- 3) Should I change my personnel staffing?
 - a. At this time, no. Routine staffing arrangements are appropriate. If we begin seeing widespread illness, it may become desirable to cohort working groups.
- 4) What do I do about personnel whose EMS Certification is about to expire?
 - a. Individuals should make every effort to complete their recertification using on-line means, even if the agency is not participating in fully on-line CME content.
 - b. Should the individual not be able to recertify despite documentation of all efforts to do so, the state has extended all EMS certifications by one year from the original date of expiration. Agencies can verify expirations through the Health Commerce System or contact the MLREMS Program Agency at the University of Rochester Division of Prehospital Medicine.
- 5) What about EMT and Paramedic Certification?
 - a. The Bureau of EMS has indicated that computer based testing for EMTs and Paramedics will remain available and PSE's will be held using social distancing and infection control practices.

Additional Information

These FAQs, all associated documents, and links to CDC resources can also be found at:

<https://www.mlrems.org/provider/covid-response/>