



Department of Public Safety
Office of the EMS Medical Director

Monroe County, New York

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

Meetings and Training

Last Updated 4/1/2020 2:58 PM

- 1) What should I do for meetings and trainings?
 - a. Cancel or eliminate community outreach programs such as safety courses, fire prevention programs, etc that engage schools, group homes, high occupancy dwellings, churches, etc.
 - b. Cancel or eliminate banquets, conferences, and meetings with more than 25, frankly even 10 attendees.
 - c. Perform only essential training, and when doing so, limit training to small groups whenever possible and follow social distancing guidelines.

- 2) What about training at the PSTF?
 - a. All training at the PSTF is cancelled until further notice. The PSTF will be closed and secured except for personnel directly involved in the emergency response effort to COVID-19. The start of future training is currently unknown.

- 3) Should I change my personnel staffing?
 - a. Given that responders should be wearing PPE as directed, and we are now in a period of community spread, one of our greatest risks is just that: community spread. Particularly for emergency services, keeping groups/stations/personnel together helps cohort that group. This way in case one of them gets sick from either an occupational or community exposure and subsequently exposes others, it limits the exposure to just that group/station. For that reason, whenever possible, minimize personnel floating/swapping from group to group or station to station. We understand the effects on staffing, however at the same time a single individual who becomes ill having worked with different stations or groups during a time of infectivity could very well result in far more than just one individual or group going into quarantine.

- 4) What do I do about personnel whose EMS Certification is about to expire? **(UPDATED 4/1)**
 - 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 authorized continued practice at their level of certification during this declared Public Health Emergency for one year or until the provider is able to recertify.
 - c. At this time, it appears that all EMS certifications are being extended by one year, but we await further policy confirmation by the state.



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- 5) What about EMT's that are currently in a class, PSE's and testing is cancelled – how do they test?
 - a. The Bureau of EMS has indicated that computer based testing for EMT and Paramedics will be available after 3/20/2020.

- 6) Brief trainings are available for area online learning vendors, this training is accurate as of 3/24/2020 and is not an endorsement:
 - a. <https://info.targetolutions.com/acton/media/29198/coronavirus-101-what-you-need-to-know-video>
 - b. Login to your University of Rochester Division of Prehospital Medicine Account
<https://collabornation.net/login/urdpm>
Click Course Catalog
COVID-19: What You Need to Know (New York)

Additional Information

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

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